

Nelson Community Council

Ordinary Meeting held on 12th January 2023 beginning at 7:00 pm at Nelson Institute

Present: Cllr. G Davies
Cllr. A Gray
Cllr. E Ap Dafydd
Cllr. S Morgan
Mr. L John (Clerk)

Also present: PC Thomas Bolton

No declarations of interest were received.

1 To Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. L Dufty, Cllr. R Powell, Cllr. B Miles and Cllr. A John. In the absence of the Chair and vice-Chair, Cllr. E ap Dafydd was nominated and elected to Chair the meeting.

2 To Receive a Report from the Community Police Representative

Members noted receipt of the report and thanked the police for their comprehensive report.

The following was also noted:

- There were 27 crimes in total. The breakdown by category was noted.
- The number of incidents in neighbouring areas were shared. It was noted that the number of Ystrad Mynach incidents included those related to the custody suite.
- There was 1 ASB incident.
- *Your Voice* priorities will be shared online this month.
- Police surgeries were referred to.
- A rota is being developed to ensure more regular attendance at Community Council meetings.

Councillors asked if there was a trend in the number of crimes at Maes y Dderwen as they seemed to be increasing. It was suggested by the police officer that the numbers were not concerning and the number of reported crimes is volatile and can depend on the individuals that are present there at the time. There was a discussion about the data but it is not thought there are any trends that are concerning. It was confirmed that the building houses vulnerable people who need support.

Councillors asked what the attendance is like at the police surgeries. It was noted that they are low and people who need to report crimes would do so separately. It was noted that the next surgeries are being held at the library.

Councillors raised the concern of anti-social behaviour in Llanfabon. It was noted that police continue to patrol the area but struggle to witness crimes being committed.

3 To Receive and approve minutes:

a. Activities meeting on 8th December 2022

The minutes of the Activities meeting were approved.

Matters arising:

2. Members noted that there was a new entertainer. Members discussed the appropriateness of the event for infants given the volume. It was noted that the event was not targeted at infants.

2. The Salvation Army gave feedback that the Christmas event went very well.

b. Ordinary meeting on 8th December 2022

The minutes of the ordinary meeting were approved.

Matters arising:

3.3. A member claimed that a Cabinet member had mentioned Nelson residents in the discussion at Cabinet but it is claimed following review of the meeting and minutes that it was not. The member reasserted her view that Nelson residents need representation and that it has been confirmed that Cllr G. Davies would represent Nelson residents at the next meeting of Bryn Liaison Group on 30th January.

Members discussed the representation of Nelson Community Council and agreed that there should be. A member commented that there was no formal representation by any Community Council; that the terms of reference do not specify the residents to be represented; and H David MS has the responsibility to appoint residents to the committee in a fair and balanced manner. It was confirmed that the Chair of the committee is Nigel George, the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services.

A member confirmed that it is normal practice for the committee to confirm and extend terms of reference at the initial meeting which has not been held yet.

Councillors resolved to ask H David MS for representation of Nelson Community Council on the Committee and, if it was agreed, for Cllr A Gray to represent.

8. It was confirmed that feedback had not yet been received from United Welsh following their recent attendance at a meeting. The Clerk agreed to chase a response.

4 To receive a report from the Chair

There was no report to consider.

5 To receive a report from the Clerk

The Clerk provided a verbal report. The following was noted: -

a Details of correspondence available online [here](#)

Members noted the correspondence during the period.

b Finance available [here](#)

The members resolved for the payments to be made in the period.

c Members noted planning applications submitted during the period.

Members discussed sharing planning applications online. It was noted that neighbouring Councils draw reference to all applications which some Councillor said was useful communication. A Councillor suggested that it was not

appropriate to draw specific attention to all of them as many were the specific interest of immediate neighbours only.

6 To consider 2023/24 Budget & Precept Report 2023

Members agreed that this item is not treated as a public part of the meeting.

A Member commented on the proposed budget of CCBC and noted that 7.9% increase in Council Tax had been proposed despite reserves. It was confirmed that CCBC holds 1/3 of a annual council budget only.

Members resolved to freeze the precept given the reserves held. Members noted that increased costs are expected in utilities and members' expenses.

Members resolved for the Clerk to enquire about improving the interest on the reserve by investing in another account.

Cllr S Morgan left the meeting.

7 To consider any actions following an update on Toilet Facilities

The Clerk confirmed that he had sought advice about use of Chair's expenses and provided the information to him.

It was confirmed that there had not been any feedback regarding the toilet facilities. Residents' concerns about not having access to a facility were noted.

8 To consider actions relating to a new defibrillator

It was resolved for the Clerk to make contact with the OVW lead and report back on the process for acquiring one.

9 To consider actions in relation to Nelson Institute:

Cllr. Morgan declared an interest at the beginning of the meeting. He was not present at the meeting at this stage.

a. Contact with CCBC re: exterior wall

It was confirmed that following a conversation with CCBC they are unaware of who owns the land adjacent to the building. Members discussed the next course of action and resolved to ask A Ford to meet on site to help resolve the situation.

b. Security and change of door locks

Members resolved for the Clerk to seek quotes and engage a contractor to undertake the following work:

- Install the same new Yale-style locks on the front door and internal door to downstairs room.
- Install a lock to the downstairs back ROOM
- Restore and paint the front door in a similar colour to the existing colour

- Install a hook system at the rear of the front door to allow for it to be kept open when needed.
- Install a substantial, chrome style letter box

c. Other

Members discussed the ownership of Nelson Institute and the need for clarity within the lease to ensure there is clear responsibility. The Clerk agreed to pursue with CCBC and land registry.

10 To receive any questions from members of the public/report by Members

A concern from a resident was noted relating to the proposed wind farm. Members resolved to remind them of the consultation processes open to them.

Members noted that a member represented the Community Council at the recent funeral of the late Colin Luckwell, prominent member of the community and, formerly, Nelson Community Council.

A recent presentation on the metro line was received at a recent OVW meeting which informed participants on the plans for electrifying the railway lines. It was confirmed that the line relating to the Rhymney valley would be the last to be updated. A discussion was held about whether the freight line will be included in the developments and a member resolved to enquire and provide feedback.

Members resolved to confirm attendance of L Cadwallader at a meeting to present on the role of One Voice Wales following his agreement at a recent meeting.

Signed.....
CHAIRMAN