

DRAFT

Nelson Community Council

Ordinary Meeting held on 13th July 2023 beginning at 7:00 pm at Nelson Institute

Present:

Cllr. G Davies
Cllr. A Gray
Cllr B Jenkins
Cllr B Miles
Cllr E ap Llwyd Dafydd (Chair)
Cllr S Morgan
Cllr L Dufty
Mr L John (Clerk)

Also present:

N Sargent, Coalfields Regeneration Trust
PCSOs: H Widlake; Vicky Williams

No declarations of interest were received.

1 To Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. R Powell and Cllr. A John

2 To Receive a Report from the Community Police Representative

Members noted receipt of the report. The following was noted:

- There had been 25 reported crimes
- Violence without injury is the category with the highest number
- Vehicle crime remains an issue
- The police have responded to 9 anti-social behaviour calls

Team initiatives and operations, and Community engagement events were referred to.

The detail of the Police surgeries were shared.

The queries raised at the last meeting were referred to and shared with members.

Members questioned the powers of the police to act in the event of dangerous parking. It was explained that obstructions are dealt with by CCBC and it is challenging to intervene as it has to be witnessed and whether something is dangerous is open to interpretation.

Members commented that there was no police representation at a recent Heddlu Bach presentation at the junior school which was disappointing. The police promised to provide feedback.

3 To Receive an update on agreed actions

An update was received in relation the actions as per actions sheet. See Appendix A.

A member reiterated the need for transparency and the concern about how leases may have changed ownership during the period.

- 4 To consider actions related to Summer activities**
Actions were considered and reviewed as per Appendix.

Songs of Praise

Members provided feedback from the Songs of Praise which was well-received. Donations of £115 were received for the Chair's Charity.

Newsletter

Members discussed the need for all members to contribute to the delivery of newsletters. Members resolved to post newsletters to outlying farms to ensure delivery if necessary.

It was noted that a reduced quote had been received for printing and editing work for members to consider at a future meeting.

Members commented that the newsletter needs more information on the work of the Council and its activities including images.

- 5 To Receive and approve minutes:**

a. Ordinary meeting on 8th June 2023

The minutes of the meeting were approved as an accurate record.

b. Activities meeting 22nd June 2023

The minutes of the meeting were approved as an accurate record.

c. Notes of Community meeting 15th June 2023

The minutes of the meeting were approved as an accurate record.

Matters arising:

It was confirmed that historical correspondence can be accessed using the filter options.

- 6 To receive a report from the Chair**

There was no report to consider.

- 7 To receive the report of the Internal Auditor**

It was explained that there had been a delay in balancing the accounts and that the VAT still needs to balance. Members agreed to defer this to the next meeting to allow time for this to happen.

- 8 To approve the 2022/2023 Statement of Accounts**

This was deferred.

- 9 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 discussed the Community Infrastructure Levy.

It was confirmed that an amount had been paid to the Council. A CCBC Officer had agreed to attend a future meeting to explain the related terms and conditions.

b Finance available [here](#). Members resolved for the payments to be made in the period.

c Members noted planning applications submitted during the period.

10 To consider actions in relation to Nelson Institute:

a. Contact with CCBC re: exterior wall

An update had been provided within the Actions.

b. Maintenance

It was confirmed that work had started on the front door and would continue.

c. Lease

An update had been provided within the Actions.

11 To consider submitting a voluntary Local Impact Report (LIR) and/or representations to PEDW in response to the Twyn Hywel Energy Park

- N Sargent, Development Manager of Coalfields Regeneration Trust (CRT) was introduced to members. The work of CRT and its focus on support for communities who are affected by related developments was explained.
- A member explained that another development is ongoing in Upper Rhymney and another location in CCBC and CCBC are looking to produce guidance to support communities and other stakeholders when considering developments of this nature.
- A member noted that Local Planning Authorities have to enter a Local Impact Report. There is also an opportunity for Community Councils to enter a Local Impact Report and make representations.
- The detail of the Local Impact Report was shared with Members. Members proposed contributing to the process in this way and there are 5 weeks from the date of the application being accepted. The report can indicate requested conditions of development. Subsequent representations can then be made to support the content of the report and the views of residents.
- It was confirmed that CCBC has received the application. It is thought that the information will be published when the consultation process starts. It is thought that RCTBC has published the information.
- Members suggested that an objective should be to ensure transparency of the extent of the project and who will benefit. It is unclear if the developments, such as the synchronous condenser, will be linked in some way at some point. Members continued by noting that other developments have experienced challenges relating to community benefit which has

reduced since an initial promise. Members discussed the need to understand if any of companies had received funding to support their developments.

- Members discussed the need for legal advice to support any agreement for community benefit. A member added that they would be seeking advice at CCBC.
- It is thought that the Solar Farm development will also be developed by Bute Energy.
- The Clerk confirmed that:
 - o the Council had not received confirmation that the application had been progressed.
 - o Planning Aid Wales had been approached for advice in developing a LIR.
 - o A request to delay the process would be considered but usually only approved when there have been problems with the process.
- Members considered requesting delaying the process.
- Members agreed to link with all Community Councils to ensure they are aware of the opportunity to contribute to the process.
- Members commented on the perceived lack of interest from the media. Others confirmed that it appeared several times in the Caerphilly Observer.
- Members added that there are meetings next week in Pontypridd for residents.
- Members discussed the motivation of WG in their commitment to renewable energy and noted that WG are establishing their own energy company.
- Members discussed the limited components that could be sourced locally. Local steel manufacturers produce a different type of steel needed for production.
- A member commented that they are in favour of renewable energy developments on balance but the development needs considerations.
- Members discussed the potential negative impacts resulting from the construction, the visible effect of them and the impact on the water table.
- Residents referred to the behaviour of staff in discussing development of residents and a discussion about the trustworthiness of developers ensued.
- Residents were advised to make contact Cllr Morgan if they were having problems with a delay in Bute Energy's response.

Members resolved to:

- Write to other Community Councils who may be impacted.
- Develop representations and continue to consider a Local Impact Report
- Request to defer the process on the grounds this the summer recess and other stakeholders have been given more time to review the documents as they had been published on neighbouring LA websites.
- Request a meeting with Bute Energy to discuss community benefit
- Seek residents' views to inform the Council's representation to PEDW.
- Convene a special meeting of Council on 3rd August, 7pm at Nelson Institute.

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

- To consider concerns raised via email about grass-cutting.

Members discussed the need for residents to log the issue with CCBC's portal to ensure their attention and suggested a contact at Parks who could be contacted to advise.

Appendix

| Meeting | Action | Resp. | Status | Note |
|-----------|---|-------|---------|--|
| 16-Mar-23 | Support to maintain toilet facilities to be requested from Bute Energy | RP | Ongoing | |
| 16-Mar-23 | Review risk assessments in place at Nelson Institute | BJ | Ongoing | D Gray to provide cleaning details- cleaning materials are available at Nelson Institute. |
| 16-Mar-23 | Seek an update on dispute to remedy damp issue on side wall | LJ | Ongoing | Confirmation that CCBC adopted the land in 2012. Meeting is being arranged between Alun Ford and David Haines. DH to attend site Thursday 20th April and will update on works to be completed. Awaiting contact from David. Contacted Ben Winstanley on advice from Cllr Morgan. 21/6/23 BW to get back to me. 30/6/23 Spoke with BW, he is awaiting a decision. Members resolved to ask CCBC to review the property condition survey. |
| 11-May-23 | Seek further information about newly acquired defibrillators and ask about potential for access to more | RP | | |
| 24-May-23 | Check certificates; cards | AG | Ongoing | AG has established a list of required items. |
| 24-May-23 | Buy black felt pens; plastic covering (for flower table); scissors; paper if appropriate | AG | Ongoing | |
| 24-May-23 | Ask Dai Astley to provide van for tables | RP | Ongoing | |
| 24-May-23 | Ask Tylers for Reservation. | GD | Ongoing | Members agreed to reserve for 14 people. This has provisionally booked. A price is still to be confirmed. |

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| 24-May-23 | Ask Bethel about re-freshments. | EaLD | Ongoing | Bethel are still to confirm. 22/6 Agreed, with 2 volunteers so far. People may be at school 08:30-12:30, 2:15-3:30pm |
| 22-Jun-23 | Purchase medals with logo- different style for each place- 20 of each place. | RP | | |
| 11-May-23 | Contact Ty Du developments about plan for road | LJ | | Need to clarify which road specifically it relates to. |
| 8-Jun-23 | Seek quote or free advice relating to the leasing agreement for Nelson Institute. Look for papers relating to exchanges of leaseholds. | LJ | Ongoing | Spoke to solicitor who is reviewing the lease. They will come back to me to let me know how much advice will cost and in what format. 9/7/13 Can advise on both implications of our leases and sub-leases and advice on process for leases exchanging hands at £255 per hour plus VAT (estimated 3 hours) |
| 13-Jul-23 | Engage Coalfield Regeneration Trust to support in understanding the history of the lease and exchange of subsequent leaseholds as a precursor to seeking other legal advice. | LJ | | |
| 22-Jun-23 | Seek quotes for family entertainers | AG | | |
| 22-Jun-23 | Ask St John's Ambulance to provide first aid | LJ | | Have completed online form request. |
| 22-Jun-23 | Add 'Children must be accompanied by adults' to promotional material | LJ | Complete | Have added to version 2 |
| 22-Jun-23 | Consider risk assessment | RP/LJ | | |
| 22-Jun-23 | Contact Jo Stock/Rosemary | LD | Complete | Jo Stock has been confirmed as a judge. |
| 22-Jun-23 | Consider plastic sheets | AG | Complete | Agreed to purchase plastic sheets for the floral displays |
| 22-Jun-23 | Purchase paper rolls | AG | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | To get a contact for a judge for vegetable categories | GD | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | To purchase cards with stickers to replace differently coloured cards | AG | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | To contact A Portlock to ensure access in the summer | AG | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | Order judge's comment cards | LJ | | |

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| 13-Jul-23 | Provide a sample of judge's comment cards | AG | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | Confirm with Rod confirmation of access to site and toilets | LJ | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | Source bags for refreshments x 200 | LJ | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | Send link for potential bag source | BM | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | Source refreshments | | | Crisps, fruit, sugar-free drink carton, plain cake. Children to help themselves. To be sourced locally. |
| 13-Jul-23 | Respond to resident with details of how to report to CCBC directly and inform of key contact | LJ | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | Contact Town and Community clerks to inform them of the PEDW process and their right of representation | LJ | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | Seek advice on developing a Local Impact Report from CCBC; OVW; Planning Aid Wales | LJ | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | Request a meeting with Bute Energy to discuss community benefit | LJ | | |
| 13-Jul-23 | Request a delay to the PEDW process on the grounds that there is a summer recess and that Nelson residents are at a disadvantage as documents were available prematurely on neighbouring LA's websites. | LJ | | |

Signed.....
CHAIRMAN