

**Nelson Community Council**  
**Ordinary Meeting held on 12th October 2023 beginning at 7:00 pm**  
**at Nelson Institute**

Present:

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

Also present:  
PCSOs: T Bolton

No declarations of interest were received.

**1 To Receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr S Morgan, Cllr A John, Cllr L Duffy.

**2 To Receive a Report from the Community Police Representative**

Members noted receipt of the report and were invited to ask questions. The following was noted:

- The range and number of crimes reported in the last month were referred to.
- There were no unusual trends to report
- The custody suite in Ystrad Mynach was closed in September so numbers may be skewed slightly.
- Miscellaneous crimes related to the Maesydderwen site were noted but there are no real concerns at the site.
- The details of some of the crimes were shared.
- The number of calls relating to anti-social behaviours were shared.
- There are now 2 CSOs with changes in staff mentioned.
- The surgery times were also shared.
- There will be an Officer present at the Remembrance Day Service but there is no budget for a wreath at Nelson. It was noted that wreaths will be available at some other services.

Members noted their disappointment and suggested that a cross could be used as an alternative.

Members asked about a reference to an assailant awaiting to be arrested. It was confirmed that no one had been arrested in reference to the incident.

Members noted that ASB incidents were quite high. Members asked if the firework incident in Hengoed would be categorised as ASB or a crime. It was explained that the investigation is ongoing and it cannot be commented upon.

Residents referenced a road traffic accident and raised concerns about the speed limit alongside their property. It was explained that speed limits are not within the remit of the police. A resident acknowledged that but suggested that an investigation should have been undertaken and logged. It was agreed a report should have been made.

Members asked how residents can access CCTV footage from the village. It

was explained that an insurance company or the police can apply to access the footage but residents cannot access the footage directly.

Residents raised concerns that police presence has declined whilst payments for the service seem to have increased.

### **3 To consider an update from National Grid**

The Clerk relayed that apologies had been given by the National Grid but that they are keen to meet, preferably online, during the day to allow key people to attend quicker.

Members discussed the need for a meeting in person as soon as possible. The clerk agreed to request options.

Members observed that there was no agenda item relating to a recent meeting with WelshPower.

A summary was provided:

The following visitors were in attendance:

M Duckler  
D Palmer  
C Kosaner, Lichfields

Members informed the parties present of the resident concerns.

The following questions were asked with the subsequent responses:

Q Why have you not agreed to meet with residents?

A They responded that they have agreed to meet with the Council only at this stage.

Q Who advised you to buy Fairview House?

A No advice was given in relation to the purchase.

Q Will you be compensating local residents?

A They did not know but it was not relevant to the planning processes.

The following was also noted:

- The location of the synchronous condenser is determined by the National Grid.
- It will not be generating electric.
- There are 6 similar projects ongoing.
- There is no alternative plan if the project is not agreed.
- There are no emissions or noise.
- The 2 planned buildings will be adjacent to each other.

Members suggested that Nelson is of more significance to developers because of the need for access. It was suggested that a County Councillor confirmed that the planning committee will consider the application.

Residents questioned why the Planning Committee had not yet considered the application and suggested that the planning committee process was not transparent.

Members acknowledged the ongoing PEDW process and aspects relating to NRW and requests for more information, including an ornithology report.

**4 To Receive an update on agreed actions**

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

Defibrillators- Members discussed the need to pursue the defibrillator strategy. The Clerk agreed to ask Cllr Powell about the initial and contact Phil Hill about the potential for training.

**5 To Receive and approve minutes:**

**a. Ordinary meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

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

**6 To receive a report from the Chair**

The Chair referred to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and suggested the improvement of a specified route. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact Members to ask for other suggestions for consideration at the next meeting.

**7 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 referenced PEDW correspondence which outline a delay to the process

Residents asked if there were any observations relating to a change in the specified height of the turbines. A discussion followed. Surprise was expressed that this would be considered given CCBC's concerns about the visual impact.

Residents expressed disappointment that there was no promise of compensation to local residents considering the impact on their property and quality of life.

Further concern was expressed about the public's general positive attitude towards green energy without fully understanding the full costs involved in these projects.

Residents claimed that some of the questions which were asked of Bute Energy, and remain unanswered, were not within the minutes- one related to a director's query. The resident agreed to share the questions via email.

Residents suggested that development restrictions would not allow the required concrete works given the need for continuous pour for 24 hours.

Residents raised concerns of the number of new houses planned for a local development.

Members commented that it is hoped that the representations may have made an impact on the development plans.

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

Members discussed income. The rent for the Boxing Club and the Dog Groomers. The Clerk agreed to review the Terms & Conditions related to charging for groups and agenda an item for discussion.

- c. Members noted that there were no planning applications submitted during the period up to the sending of the agenda.

There is, however, a recent application in relation to an anaerobic digester. The detail, for which was discussed. It was noted that the planning application stipulates the need to support a local CCBC site. Members expressed surprise that there is a proposed partnership given resident concerns.

Members discussed the concerns of residents relating to:

- an increase in vehicular traffic as a result of the development at Bryn Holdings.
- The potential fire risk from lightning given a recent event publicised in the news.
- A lack of benefits to local residents

Members noted another new recent application from Nelson Cavaliers for a stand.

## **8 To consider actions in relation to Nelson Institute:**

- a. Lease

Members discussed the reviewed correspondence relating to the building. It was confirmed that the old Doctor's surgery was not purchased. It was noted that there may be no other disclosive material about any wrongdoing involving the sale of the properties.

Members discussed the timeline of the sales relevant to units within the building. A member raised concern about a lack of transparency and the payment of the original peppercorn rent. Members resolved not to follow up on historic sales of 33 and 37 Commercial Street.

- b. Building maintenance

There was still no update. Members expressed frustration at the delay.

## **9 To receive any questions from members of the public/report by Members**

Some had been considered earlier in the meeting.

Members reported that content related to Council duties related to digital and available support was discussed at a recent One Voice Wales meeting. The clerk agreed to contact Justin Horrell to review provision and related funding.

It was noted that there is a Bryn Liaison Group meeting next week. Members asked to raise the need for precautions to be taken to reduce fire-risk as a result of lightning at the site.

**Signed**.....

## CHAIRMAN

### Appendix

Action	Resp.	Status	Note
Support to maintain toilet facilities to be requested from Bute Energy	RP		
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. Will review survey with Alun Ford and check if update is needed. 9/9/23 Awaiting response from B Winstanley
Seek further information about newly acquired defibrillators and ask about potential for access to more	RP		
Contact Ty Du developments about plan for road	LJ		Need to clarify which road specifically it relates to. Members discussed that it is usual for the road not to be adopted. Road clarified. Awaiting Ty Du response
Engage WD in six month audit	LJ		Ongoing
Review energy rates to ensure value for money	LJ		Ongoing
Copy documents relating to Nelson Institute found in Chamber	LJ	Complete	

Contact National Grid to request meeting in person as soon as possible and ask for options.	LJ		
Contact Phil Hill about training.	LJ		
Review terms & conditions relating to Nelson Institute and agenda a relevant item at the next meeting	LJ		