

Nelson Community Council

Ordinary Meeting held on 18th January 2024 beginning at 7:00 pm at Nelson Institute

Present:

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

No declarations of interest were received.

1 To Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr L Dufty.

2 To Receive a Report from the Community Police Representative

Members noted receipt of the report. Members commented on the house break-in which is an empty property (commented on in previous meeting).

3 To consider process of receiving questions from members of the public

Members discussed the process. The following was noted:

- Residents' questions would be shared in advance with the Clerk previously.
- Following a change in process to allow questions at meetings, it was thought that the consideration should be about whether the question was within the remit of the Community Council and then agenda an item for a future meeting.
- Members commented that there is a distinction between public meetings and meetings that the public are invited to and that council meetings should be focussed on council business.
- Members were reminded of the need to adhere to the code of conduct at all times.
- Following a vote, members resolved that the item to consider questions from members of the public be moved to the 3rd item of the agenda.

Residents were invited to ask questions.

A recent press report was referenced. Residents commented that the media referenced comment minutes were made in July minutes.

Members commented on the quality of sports pitches in the village and asked if the process could be started to consider a 4G pitch in the village. Members resolved to agenda an item for the next item.

4 To Receive an update on agreed actions

An update was received in relation the actions as per actions sheet. See Appendix A. The following was also noted:

Planning Committee processes

A member commented that the planning committee processes appear very restrictive given the limited number of speakers that are allowed. It was

suggested that OVW could help by considering the process.

Cllr Morgan confirmed that he was not exempted from speaking because of interest. It was confirmed that there was a number of statutory consultees including the Community Council. The view given by consultees can contribute to the report by officers and that the offer to speak would duplicate this view.

Members raised concerns that only 1 resident is allowed to speak but noted that impacted residents are directly informed of the opportunity to consult.

Members commented that at a recent OVW meeting other members raised concerns about the timings of consultation periods.

Toilets

Members noted that here is still an outstanding invoice that Caerphilly Taxi Association continue to challenge. Members noted that they agreed to contribute £500 previously Members resolved to consider support at the next meeting. It was suggested that community benefit might be a source of support.

5 To Receive and approve minutes:

a. Ordinary meeting on 14th December 2023

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

Matters arising:

3. Standing Orders. Members commented on the action to review standing orders in relation to members of the press and public. Members resolved to consider a press and media policy at their next meeting,

7. Members raised concerns about receiving timely information about planning applications. It was noted that there has been a planning application for a local waste management site (references in question are 23/618 and 23/0607). A retrospective planning application has been approved. It was confirmed that the original application was made in September 2023. It can be a confusing process for stakeholders.

6 To receive a report from the Chair

Members commented on the successful events at Christmas. These have been commented upon positively by residents. Residents also made positive comments about the Christmas lights although there were no changes from last year.

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](#)

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

c. Members noted planning applications submitted during the period. Members discussed correspondence from National Grid and agreed to write to them to ask for them to confirm their extension plans (any designs that they may have whether they are within the current site), whether they refer to

the two connections that we are aware of and if the Community can be updated directly on the issue.

Residents noted:

- That planned exploratory work by the National Grid did not happen.
 - It is unclear of the plans to expand the substation
 - They will not consider selling the land
- d. Precept 24-25. Members agreed to defer to the next meeting owing to some personal issues of the Clerk that prevented the report being shared at this meeting.
- e. Welsh Language Scheme. Members discussed the need for a Welsh Language Scheme. Members discussed the challenges of ensuring accurate Welsh translation. It was agreed to consider the need and detail of a Welsh Language Scheme at the next meeting.

8 To consider actions in relation to Nelson Institute:

Members noted that the craft group have decided to no longer use the building on Mondays and further confirmation was needed about the intention to use the building on Saturdays. They have been asked to apply.

Members noted that the terms and conditions note that charging for use of the facility is at the Council's discretion.

9 Village Improvement projects

Members discussed the process of considering and developing requested/suggested improvements.

Members asked about the possibility of improvement work to the cenotaph. It was noted that it is owned by CCBC. The Council resolved to write to the Council to request improvements. Cllr John agreed to request detail and photographs from the resident.

Members agreed not to consider proposals to change the building use of the junior school following the movement to a new site, given that it is not within the remit of the Community Council.

Members agreed to contribute improvement suggestions and consider prioritisation of items.

Members agreed to agenda an item to consider the use of Nelson library for Nelson Community Council meetings.

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

There were no other questions.

Signed.....
CHAIRMAN

Appendix A

Meeting	Category	Action	Resp.	Status	Note
12-Oct-23		Contact Phil Hill about training.	LJ	Ongoing	<p>PH confirmed that he can support training with travel expenses only. but it would have to be of an evening from 1800 (me to set up), 1830 prompt start (they arrive from 1815). 2000-2015hrs finish depending on those who want to have a go on doll/s and amount of question from the 30.</p> <p>We must confirm 48hours before the actual numbers booked. Any sessions below 14 at this time will be cancelled or postponed until the community commits to this free session. 9/11 Clerk to ask PH to suggest dates for training. 10/12 PH to confirm on return from leave 18/12 Confirmed training January. 18/01 The clerk agreed to contact previously interested parties; promotion of event ongoing</p>
12-Oct-23		Review terms & conditions relating to Nelson Institute and agenda a relevant item at the next meeting	LJ	Ongoing	<p>Terms & Conditions were provided. 9/11 Application for use by craft group to be shared. 15/11 Informed by craft group that main keyholder is changing. 2/12 Informed by craft group that the intention is to stop using the room. More info to be provided. 18/1 Group to be invited to apply to use room on Saturdays.</p>
9-Nov-23		Check how old notice board could be removed.	GD	Ongoing	<p>GD to ask Co-op. 18/1 GD confirmed that it can be removed and the Coop manager offered to remove it. Members agreed to proceed.</p>
14-Dec-23		Confirm planning committee processes	LJ	Closed	<p>18/1 Spoke with Planning Team who confirm process was in line with WG Guidance.</p>

18-Jan-24		National Grid correspondence	LJ	New	Clerk to contact National Grid to ask for clarification of development
18-Jan-24		Improvement projects	Members	New	Members agreed to contribute ideas
18-Jan-24		Cenotaph improvement	LJ	New	Write to CCBC to ask for improvements following further from resident.