

Nelson Community Council

Ordinary Meeting held on 11th July 2024 beginning at 7:00 pm at Nelson Institute

Present: Cllr G Davies
Cllr A Gray (Chair)
Mr L John (Clerk)
Cllr E ap Llwyd Dafydd
Cllr B Miles
Cllr L Dufty
Cllr R Powell

Also present: S Knott (agenda item 4 only)

1 To Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr A John.

Members expressed their sincere condolences for a recent bereavement suffered by a member not present.

2 To Receive a Report from the Community Police Representative

Members noted receipt of the report. The Clerk agreed to confirm police attendance at future meetings.

Members commented that they would like more information relating to burglaries at Llancaeach Junior School. The police were not able to attend site for 2 days in the first burglary. There has been no feedback from the second burglary despite it being apparent that one of the perpetrators was known. There were also no police in attendance for Heddlu Bach event at the school today.

Members discussed the quality of the report. A member commented that it seemed evident from the report that Nelson was not receiving the same police presence as neighbouring areas.

The clerk agreed to send the police email address to the school as they had had no response from them.

3 To consider questions from members of the public/reports from members

There were none to consider.

4 To Receive an update on agreed actions

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

Members discussed the provision of toilet facilities and how they could be sustained in the village. Members expressed their best wishes to George Edwards who was unavailable due to illness.

S Knott provided an update on the condition survey that is being undertaken on behalf of the Council. The following was noted:

- The Council have a responsibility to maintain the building.
- The lease states that the Council have a responsibility to put, and keep, the building into a good state as well as maintain it.
- The term 'put' is key and puts the Council in a more challenging position
- The building is in a poor condition.

- The report format was explained with each area categorised according to the condition and ranked. The indication of costs will not be completely accurate given the process and when repairs may be undertaken.
- There are potential issues relating to the following:
 - o The roof is coming to the end of its life expectancy (at least 110 years old) and will probably need to be replaced as it is not in a good state.
 - o There is significant damage to the rear wall, and structural issues in the front were referred to that may be related to its use and the removal of partition walls. This may be linked to the use of the building currently.
 - o Windows, doors, and inside of building needs work.
 - o There are small asbestos issues use to consider
 - o It may need at least £200k+ to put it into a reasonable state
- The same level of repair may be needed every 25 years.
- There are no hazardous issues currently.
- As head lease, the Council is ultimately responsible for the building

Members discussed whether the building is listed, protected within a conservation area. It is thought it is not listed or within a conservation area.

Members discussed the external wall adjacent to the library car park and the delay in repair by CCBC. It was suggested that most of the damp is now penetrating damp.

It was suggested that the outside of the building may be the priority.

Members discussed insurance options and it was confirmed that the costs are unlikely to be covered by insurance.

Members discussed potential challenges to the landlord about the quality of the building when the lease started.

The company may be able to support with monitoring processes.

The complications of the lease were discussed.

Members noted that the report is shortly.

5 To Receive and approve minutes:

a. Ordinary meeting on 13th June 2024

The minutes of the meeting were approved as an accurate record subject to the following:

- Page 1: A Gray was Chair at the meeting
- Page 2: No letters were sent to Nelson residents or Nelson Community Council
- Page 3: The boundary wall related to Llanfabon. There had been no mention that the boundary wall would be removed and extending the development.

Matters arising:

- Bryncoch Kennels

Members noted that there appeared to still be no planning application for change of use. There is an application for change of use at a site at Shingrig

Road. Members agreed to visit the site to confirm if the site is being used differently.

6 To receive a report from the Chair

A recent One Voice Wales meeting was referred to. A presentation from Llais who provide support to people raising concerns about the NHS was received. Leaflets were shared with Members who were invited to promote the service.

It was noted that all of the newsletters have been delivered apart from one route. Members agreed to complete tomorrow. The newsletter appears to be well-received.

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.

It was noted that there has been a delay with the internal audit due to problems accessing the bank account. It is hoped that this will be resolved next week with the internal audit to follow. It is unclear what the repercussions are, but advice has been sought.

c. Planning

Members noted the planning applications submitted during the period.

Members commented that a charter is being established that demands for greater respect for local town and community councils, and that when requests are made by town and community councils, they are given sufficient credibility.

Members noted that there is a Joint liaison Committee meeting next week.

It was noted that community and town councils have the opportunity to provide a representative on the Gwent Health Services Board. There may be someone identified already but should that not materialise, it was agreed to support Cllr Gray's nomination as the representative.

8 Consider actions related to activities

Songs of Praise

The Chair hoped that Councillors would be able to attend and agreed to meet beforehand at 5:30pm. The Chair confirmed that the Chair's charity for the year is Cancer Research Wales. LD agreed to check if any refreshments are needed. It was confirmed that Father Gareth would officiate. It was agreed to purchase gifts for the officiant and the organist. Members agreed to donate £25 to the Friends of Llancaeath and to TreeHarmony as a token of gratitude. Members agreed to ask for the school to perform first, to allow them to leave if needed, followed by the identified hymns, with the choir at the end.

Summer Show

It was noted that stationery and awards have been purchased. It was noted that all of the tables can now be borrowed from the Community Centre. Members mentioned that a quote that had been obtained to provide and deliver tables.

The following actions were agreed:

- Clerk to prepare cash for prizes and fill prize envelopes
- Clerk to prepare cheques for required payments on the day
- Clerk to liaise with school, Community Centre and Bobby to collect tables.
- BM to book table at Brunch Barn
- BM to provide posters
- Clerk to ask CCBC about promotion for events generally
- Clerk agreed to ask for cups/trophies to be returned asap.
- Clerk agreed to pursue a judge for photography
- BM to print and provide posters

Other

A resident noted that the crossing near the cenotaph needs to be repainted and the points of the cenotaph are crumbling.

It was noted that the request for the crossing to be repainted was made months ago.

Appendix A

Meeting	Action	Resp.	Status	Note
9-Nov-23	Check how old notice board could be removed.	AG	Ongoing	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. 22/2 Coop have agreed to remove but this has not been done. The clerk agreed to engage a handyman to undertake the work. 23/2 RP agreed to undertake work 14/3 It was confirmed that it has been inspected and will be removed. 11/4 Clerk to engage handyman to remove. 12/4 Visited with the Chair. It was suggested that the board is in very good condition and could be utilised as a secondary board to showcase Council activity. Clerk to consider replacement perspex. Some quotes have been received. AG to enquire about perspex. It was noted that quotes ranged from £60-£90. Members resolved to attempt cleaning of the perspex first.

14-Mar-24	Ask George at Caerphilly Taxi Association for an update in writing on current position and outstanding costs	RP	Ongoing	Requested, awaiting response from George. The clerk agreed to contact George for an update. George as responded to confirm that he will be in contact. It was noted that there is a Town and Community Council Liaison Committee meeting next week and an update will be requested. 14/6 Spoke with George. Dispute is ongoing. He will attend our meeting on 11th July so that we can make a decision on proceeding. 11/7 GE suffered major medical event last week, will be available to speak next week. Councillors noted that public toilets in Bargoed have recently been re-opened and how they fund it would be interested. It was noted that Bute Energy have agreed to include the facilities in the community benefit if the project starts.
11-Apr-24	Ask for information about process to install defibrillator on Council land	LJ	Ongoing	I have sought advice from Emma Sullivan, Community Council clerks and Phil Hill. Am awaiting a response. Chris, a colleague of Phil's is away on leave and has tried to make contact with me. The LA have made contact and are to provide a quote for siting a defibrillator. Quote provided of £653. I have asked for some advice of ongoing costs. Members noted a suggestion that it may be possible to site one outside of the junior school. Members discussed promoting the defibrillators in the village and where others could be sited. 4/7/24 Asked other clerks for advice on ongoing energy costs. LA confirmed that they pay energy costs. Members agreed to support the provision of a defibrillator at the Tylers Arms. The clerk agreed to ask CCBC if they could also site an access point near to the Tyler's Arms. Members confirmed the prices for installation The Council agreed to proceed with installation at Bwl Road.
18-Apr-24	Seek quotes to provide new condition survey for building	LJ	Ongoing	Have contacted near; approx.20 suppliers as recommended by chartered body. Will chase and provide feedback. LA are also getting back to me to confirm their own schedule of surveying. Members resolved to proceed with survey given the evidence of request for quotes- FHT Building Surveyors, £2,100.00 plus VAT. It was confirmed that the survey will take place w/c 6th July . Clerk agreed to let tenants know that it will be undertaken. Clerk

				agreed to let Members know more information when known so they can be in attendance if required. 10/7 initial visit took place, will return shortly. Report will be shared soon and surveyor will attend meeting to share contents. 11/7 S Knott attended meeting. Report to follow.
19-Apr-24	Seek quotes to replace floor and windows; and seek help to fix back window gates	LJ	Ongoing	Quote received to replace flooring- £994 for full downstairs flooring to include fitting. Awaiting quote for windows. Have asked local metal shop to quote to fix window gate. EaLD noted that he had replaced the padlock on the shutter. LJ to chase metal shop. Members discussed a quote to replace windows on the front of £3879. Members discussed a quote to replace flooring of £994. The clerk agreed to seek 2 other quotes/estimates for both pieces of work. Members agreed that the replacement windows should be in keeping with the rest of the village and be non-white. 13/6 Still awaiting feedback on quotes. AG to provide Robert Roberts contact details to help resolve the metal window shutter issue. Below is the choice of standard colours we supply and the job would come in at £4935 inc vat with any of these colours: Black, Irish oak, Rosewood, Anthracite Grey, Chartwell Green. The Council agreed to proceed with anthracite grey. 12/7 Members agreed to proceed with non-white installation of anthracite grey. Members agreed to wait for the building survey before deciding on further expense.
13-Jun-24	Research sound systems	AJ	Ongoing	
13-Jun-24	Check if tables can be borrowed from Maesycwmmmer Community Centre	LJ	Complete	14/6 In principle they can be borrowed, to be confirmed. Yes, can borrow as many as we want. AG has also suggested hiring and has received a quote.
13-Jun-24	Ask interested party to apply for councillor vacancy	BM	Ongoing	
13-Jun-24	Ask Community Centre if minutes can be shared	LD	Ongoing	11/7 Last meeting was cancelled.

13-Jun-24	Contact Caerphilly Adventure Group to see if they can offer any activities during the summer	LJ	Complete	14/6 They are reviewing their schedule and will get back to me next week although have said it is unlikely because of a lack of capacity. No contact. Members noted that there are activities at Llancaeath Junior school for pupils. Members discussed activities that have been previously organised and the challenges of one-off events. The Council agreed not to proceed and to consider activities next year.
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