



NAILSEA TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee held on
Wednesday 26 January 2022 at 7.30pm at the Tithe Barn, Church Lane, Nailsea

PRESENT: Cllr Argles, Cllr Bird, Cllr J Blatchford, Cllr M Blatchford, Cllr Frappell, Cllr Hopkinson, Cllr Houlbrook (in the Chair), Cllr Hunt, Cllr Miller, Cllr Steel and the Town Clerk.

CE01/22 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from acknowledged from Cllr Tonkin.

CE02/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Hopkinson declared a personal interest as a non-voting member of Nailsea Community Group.

Cllr Houlbrook declared a personal interest as a non-voting member of Nailsea Community Group.

CE03/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

CE04/22 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2022 were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair.

CE05/22 COMMUNITY REPORTS

a) Nailsea Community Group Update

Cllr Steel gave an update on behalf of the Nailsea Community Group. The numbers of the public supported by the Foodbank or the Food Club are creeping up and the trend is expected to continue with the rise in inflation, NI contribution increases and energy bills.

The group will have new opening hours from February with a trial of the larder opening from 3 – 5pm on a Tuesday and Thursday to see if it will reach people who are not in town first thing in the morning.

The recycling scheme is going really well with the blister packs filling three large boxes.

The group will be doing a hunger initiative during the February half term and Nailsea Active continues to grow, with a couple of new challenges coming shortly.

b) North Somerset Together Meeting Update

The meeting noted that the NS Together meeting was now producing a written report of the meetings and that they have switched from Zoom to Teams. It is also recognised that NS Together meetings were seen by other Local Authority areas as leading the way within the wider community. The report was noted.

CE06/22 NAILSEA PLACE

a) Minutes from the meeting of the No.65 Sub-Committee meeting held on 10 November 2021 (verbal update already given at the last meeting)

The minutes of the No. 65 Sub-Committee were noted as a correct record.

CE07/22 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Summary of Income and Expenditure to 19 January 2022

The summary of income and expenditure was noted.

b) **Community Engagement Specified Reserves**

- **Nailsea Community Group £20,000**
- **No. 65 Improvements £22,125**
- **CCTV Upgrade £31,000**

The Clerk explained that the suitability of No.65 for solar panels has been confirmed and that the roof will now be surveyed and a full costing produced.

The meeting was advised that the mobile camera shared with Portishead and Clevedon will not be included in with the invoice for the CCTV upgrade. The Clerk did not know why North Somerset Council has decided not to include its cost within the project. It was intimated that this may be due to a Government grant.

c) **To consider the Citizens Advice North Somerset Draft Service Level Agreement 2022 -25**

The meeting agreed that it was vitally important that face-to-face meetings were an essential aspect of the service provision. It was flagged up that the termination clause was six months and this was an unreasonably long time if the Council were unhappy with the service.

The Clerk will contact Fiona Cope and ask for copies of the organisations Safe Guarding Policy.

A point was raised that under 2.8 (a) Circumstances Beyond CANS' Control that there is no clarification as to what constitutes circumstances beyond their CANS control, can examples be given?

Under 4.4 Monitoring Arrangements it was asked that a figure is provided showing the number of face-to-face meetings versus remote consultations within the reporting.

Cllr Miller proposed and Cllr Hunt seconded,

RECOMMENDATION

that following further research by the Clerk to establish the answers to the points raised by the Committee, that Nailsea Town Council signs off the Service Level Agreement between Citizens Advice North Somerset and Nailsea Town Council running from April 2022 to March 2025.

A vote was taken with all in favour.

CE08/22 VERBAL REPORT ON THE FIRST NAILSEA TOWN COUNCIL NETWORKING EVENT

The Clerk briefed the meeting on the feedback received from the Networking event. On the whole it was felt that the event was very successful, suggestions for improvements included each attendee giving a 3-minute presentation on their organisation, perhaps themed events, the introduction being at the beginning of the session, a 'speed dating' type of format might work well, provide a delegate list of attendees. It would be helpful if pens and paper could be provided on each table, and a number of other locations were suggested for future events.

Cllr Steel proposed and Cllr Hunt seconded,

RESOLVED

that Nailsea Town Council hosts four networking events per year and that alternating venues are used around the town.

A vote was taken with all in favour.

CE09/22 CCTV LOG OCTOBER AND UPDATE ON 'DOWNTIME'

The meeting noted the CCTV log for October. The meeting was advised that various cameras around the town have caught images of the vandals tagging buildings and street furniture.

The Clerk informed the meeting that North Somerset Council has a process for advising the Town Council on camera downtime.

CE10/22 ENGAGING WITH NAILSEA SCHOOL

The committee were advised that a meeting had been arranged with Cllrs Bird and Miller and the Clerk with representatives from Nailsea School including the Head Teacher Dee Elliott. The meeting had discussed Golden Valley Playing Fields and Youth Engagement with the Town Council.

Discussions have taken place between F. Bicknall, K Thompson and G. Jones and Cllr Miller with reference to Climate Emergency and working on some joint proposals.

The school meeting had discussed the Town Council's 'Ask' campaign and capturing young people's ideas for the town, including direct engagement and workshops.

The School is already working with North Somerset Council and District Councillor Nicola Holland with regard to a North Somerset Youth Council.

The meeting was reminded that a Youth Parliament must engage with all young people of an area not just those that go to a particular school.

The meeting discussed whether it would be possible for the Clerk to send out an overview of the meetings calendar on a Friday so members would know in advance what is scheduled for the week ahead. The Clerk said that she would investigate. It was suggested that a Google calendar could be used.

CE11/22 YOUTH CLUB UPDATE – CLLR HOULBROOK

The Chair confirmed that Karen Pike of Foreal Youth Work Providers CIC is more than happy to attend any future meeting and brief the Council/Committee on the work of the Youth Club at No.65. It was agreed that Karen should be invited to the 9th March meeting. There are still only three seniors attending youth club sessions. The juniors are meeting on a Monday and a Thursday. Since September 2021 the Youth Club has gained 30 new members, with approximately 10-12 per session. A number of sessions have been saved up to put towards outreach work in the community during the holidays.

The value of the work the group does was acknowledged by the Committee. A question was raised regarding how much more can be done to raise the profile of the Youth Club and reach other demographics within the Town, including reaching older age groups. What, if anything, can be done to market the Youth Club better, can it be branded better or offer more services that would appeal to the over 13 age group.

It was stated that there is additional funding available through the Community Safety Group via the PCC to support the older young people.

CE12/22 COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL MEDIA

a) Update from Sarah Lugg on the Council's Social Media accounts

It was stated that the Council's 'bounce rate' on the Nailseatown.com site is very bad. A good bounce rate is 25-40%, 40-65% is ok and anything above 70% means that there is an issue that needs to be investigated and solutions found.

Administration rights have now been gained for the Nailsea Town Council and Nailseatown.com websites. It was suggested that the Website and Social Media Working Party meets and discusses the Council's websites and social media accounts as it was acknowledged that social media is not drawing enough users back to the websites.

It was suggested that targets could be introduced to bring the bounce rates down to a reasonable level.

The meeting noted the report.

CE13/22 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

The Chair spoke about the Social Value Calculator software owned by the Town Council. It was flagged up that the calculator is an excellent tool which the Council needs to utilise more. The calculator is an analytical tool which can help measure the value of organisations. The 9 principles of the Bristol Accord are considered and a value is formulated by the calculator.

The Chair asked for volunteer councillors to have a couple of projects each to run through the Social Value calculator and do an assessment. Having had the opportunity to do an assessment of projects, consider whether the Council should embed the process into all future projects. Cllr Hopkinson offered to look at the Outdoor Fitness Equipment project, Cllr Steel offered to work on the Cancer Café group, Cllr Hunt offered to work on the Art Project. Cllr Miller and Houlbrook put themselves forward, along with Cllrs M and J Blatchford and Frappell offered to look at projects and grant applications.

It was agreed that further volunteer Councillors are sought at full Town Council.

The meeting briefly discussed the fact that time is running out in which to make any arrangements for the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The Chair confirmed that the Town's Scout and Guide groups both wish to get involved in planning for an event.

It was proposed and seconded that pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 it was

RESOLVED: **that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following agenda item.**

The meeting therefore closed to the press and public at 21:06pm.

CE14/22 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM:
SEEK NOMINATIONS FOR NAILSEA TOWN COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY AWARD 2022

The meeting briefly discussed the process for nominating people for the Community Award. It was acknowledged that the Council has had a policy in the past for nominations. The Clerk will try and establish what the criteria is.

The meeting closed at 9:17pm

Chairman's signature: _____ Date: _____