



COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE – 3RD APRIL 2023

BRIEFING NOTE: MATTERS RAISED BY TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS



1. UPDATE ON CHARGING FOR EVENTS HELD IN CCBC PARKS

It has been confirmed that there be no charge of the use of Tredegar Park.

In terms of the refundable bond, following completion of an ESAG application, Officers will assess the risks and decide whether a bond is actually required to cover any potential damage/reinstatement works. General wear and tear is expected and if that is all that arises from the assessment a bond may not be needed or if requested would be returned in its entirety. If a bond is assessed as being necessary, then the amount of the bond would vary and would be based on the nature of the event being held up to a maximum of £500.

Examples of where a bond would be utilised include: - where large amounts of litter are left behind that require collection and disposal, which falls outside Parks general maintenance, then there would be a charge; excessive damage to grassed areas that require reinstating, perhaps a vehicle has caused ruts etc.

An example from last year was the 'Beach Party' held in Risca Park, approximately 40 tonne of sand was imported, killing off the grass as no membrane had been laid to protect the area. This cost approx. £1200 to reinstate, had full details been set out in the ESAG application extreme damage like this could have been avoided as Officers would have been able provide advice to the event organisers.

Officers will be in attendance to take questions.

2. UPDATE ON CCBC'S PARKING ENFORCEMENT SERVICE

Community Councils raised the following issues in relation to Parking Enforcement.

Parking Services Officer will be in attendance.

- Where is the income being spent?
- Can we see the areas' target plans?
- How many parking attendants are there, are they mobile and where are they deployed?

- How many staff are currently employed on the service?

Response from Officers

- The income covers the cost of delivering the service (i.e. staff costs and equipment). There is no surplus.
- For the purposes of enforcement, the borough is split into areas as follows:
North – Bargoed, New Tredegar, Rhymney etc.
South – Caerphilly, Bedwas, Machen etc.
Central – Blackwood, Ystrad Mynach, Pontllanfraith etc.
East – Risca, Newbridge, Crosskeys etc.

The main towns are prioritised each day to maintain the safe flow of traffic, with outlying areas visited at least twice per week.

Each Officer ties to visit one school at drop off and one school at pick up times each day.

There are no targets for Penalty Charge Notices

- The CPE team is currently comprised of the following staff (a full complement of Civil Enforcement Officers is 8 FTEs)
Parking Enforcement Supervisor x 1
Civil Enforcement Supervisor F/T x 4
Civil Enforcement Supervisor P/T x 2
Current Vacancies - Civil Enforcement Supervisor F/T x 2

Recruitment is very challenging at present with an almost rolling job advertisement this year.

The team is mobile and deployed throughout the borough with each officer deployed to one of the above areas each day. Officers visit locations that are requested by the public using our on-line form as often as our resources allow.

The CPE service receives 1200+ requests for enforcement per year.

- In addition to the above staff, the following staff are employed on the service:
Parking Services Supervisor
Parking Services Assistant (Admin) P/T x 2

3. UPDATE ON CCBC'S COMMUNITY SAFETY WARDENS SERVICE

Community Councils raised the following issues in relation to Community Safety. Officer will be in attendance.

- How many wardens are there, are they mobile and where are they deployed?
- When can more wardens be employed?
- Can the wardens be given more powers for enforcement?
- Current CCBC street notices/signage are incorrect for enforcement. When will the notices be corrected and displayed on street?

- Can we have more/adequate street notices/signage placed out in the communities to assist the wardens in their role?

Response from Officers

- How many wardens are there, are they mobile and where are they deployed?
There are currently 10 Community Safety Wardens which includes one Supervisor post. The Wardens are mobile and are deployed throughout the county borough to identified priority areas.
- When can more wardens be employed?
The recruitment process has now been completed and all vacant posts have been filled.
- Can the wardens be given more powers for enforcement?
The Wardens currently have various powers for enforcement of anti-social behaviour including issuing fixed penalty notices for breach of Public Space Protection Orders which include dog fouling, littering, off road bikes, drinking of alcohol etc., so are sufficient for their role.
- Current CCBC street notices/signage are incorrect for enforcement. When will the notices be corrected and displayed on street?
The only notices the Community Safety Team install are to notify that an area is covered by a Public Space Protection Order and these are in place already. The Wardens have recently been erecting new signage in some areas as they have recently been added to the PSPO list. Not aware of any that are incorrect.
- Can we have more/adequate street notices/signage placed out in the communities to assist the wardens in their role?
As above all areas that are covered by a PSPO for anti-social behaviour and drinking alcohol currently have signage in place.

4. STREET LIGHTING REVIEW

A copy of the Street Lighting Review Cabinet (16th November 2022) report is attached at Appendix 1 of this briefing note.

Officer will be in attendance

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Street Lighting Review – Cabinet Report 16th November 2022