CCTV Monitoring Costs at the College

On the 26th November the Clerk received the following email from Pendle Borough Council.

Hi Robert and lain,

I would like to make you aware of the current situation regarding CCTV around Nelson and Colne College.

There are 6 CCTV cameras in the vicinity of Nelson and Colne College, spanning Nelson and Barrowford (see attached map of locations); currently the images are being recorded within the College server room. Getting access to them has always been an issue due to their IT security, although ASB around the area persists. It has been proposed to remove the viewing and recording from Nelson and Colne College and to install a new wireless network to Brierfield (linked to the Blackburn Hub). A quotation of £11,678 has been received for this project.

Pendle Council Policy and Resources Committee has now approved these costs from CCTV Capital Funding.

The outstanding costs relate to the ongoing monitoring costs, as part of the contract with the Hub. For 'reactive monitoring' this costs £600 per camera, so £3,600 total.

Nelson and Colne College have committed to pay £1,000 per year towards these costs, along with an 'in kind' contribution for siting the recorder and powering it (plus associated equipment).

Nelson Town Council have committed to pay £1,300 (of the remaining £2,600), towards the monitoring of cameras 2, 3 and 4 on the basis that they fall within the Nelson Town Council boundary.

We would like to request that Barrowford Parish Council considers funding the remaining cameras, also at a cost of \pounds 1,300.

You may be aware that some very serious incidents have taken place around these areas, including attacks on vulnerable people. The more cameras that are monitored, the more we are able to act on any criminality. Without a contribution from Barrowford Parish Council, unfortunately cameras 1, 2 and 6 will become redundant as the funds would not be available to monitor them.

I am grateful for your kind consideration of this matter and am happy to discuss this further if that would help.

Many thanks,

Sarah

Sarah Astin

Localities and Policy Manager

The Clerk forwarded the email to the Chairman and contacted Ms Astin, who informed the Clerk that these discussions had been ongoing for some time and that unless Barrowford paid £1300 three cameras would not be monitored. I asked who had said three of the cameras were located within Barrowford and she responded that Nelson Town Council had intimated the fact. The Clerk responded that none of the cameras are located within Barrowford and why after months of talks was Barrowford now being included in the discussions. Ms Astin told the Clerk that Nelson Town Council had already resolved to pay £1300 and that if a similar amount was not forthcoming the cameras would be switched off.

Agenda Item 12

As the College is attended by students from all parts of the Borough why all parish and town councils weren't asked to contribute pro rata? Ms. Astin asked that the request be put to the Council at the next meeting.

Clerks Recommendations:

- 1. That the Parish Council does not dismiss this out of hand as students from Barrowford do attend the College.
- 2. That Barrowford Parish Council formally write asking why Nelson and Barrowford are the only two councils being told to fund a service that is essentially for the students of the whole borough and ask that consideration being given to apportioning the cost amongst all the towns and parishes in Pendle.