

Additional information to the agenda for the meeting being held on Wednesday 14th December 2011 at 6.30pm at Graig Community Hall Bassaleg.

Clerk's Report – 14th December 2011

(Item No 4 on the agenda)

Viaduct Way Issues – NCC have advised that the adoption has not been settled as the original developer – Bellway Homes have been slow in completing the remedial works needed before completion. NCC is chasing this up; Clerk has chased again and is awaiting a reply. Clerk has written to NCC requesting that consideration be given to installing traffic priority signs where the road narrows under the viaduct, a reply was received stating that this issue will be looked at, a further update has been received, the matter has been handed on to another person in the Highways Dept, Clerk is waiting for a response from this gentleman.

Rhiwderin Community Centre Lease – NCC have advised that they are not able to commit to a lease extension until they have completed their review which is now pushed back to Spring 2012, following discussion at the previous meeting, Clerk will chase up in March 2012.

Laurel Road Parking Issue – To date, requests to put planters at strategic points or wooden bollards to prevent green areas being parked on have been denied. Clerk has emailed NCC to request that this decision be re-considered in light of wooden bollards being allowed on Risca Road. NCC response was discussed at the previous meeting and will be taken up again at the January 11th Planning & Environmental meeting.

Junction 28 Tredegar Roundabout Safety Issues – NCC have advised that this issue will be considered during November. A response has been received that the matter is to be discussed with the Police's Traffic Management Officer for Newport. As he is currently on leave the meeting will not take place for a few weeks. Clerk will chase again in the New Year.

Overhanging Tree Branches in Orchard Close and Associated Wentworth Lane Issue – A letter received from a resident was presented during the previous meeting, Clerk to forward a response from Council.

Planters from NCC – NCC decisions regarding the locations of the planters have been received and discussed; no decisions have yet been made regarding placement and maintenance. This item will be added to the February 11th meeting for discussion.

'Go Slow' Signs for Afon Village – Clerk has written to NCC again to urge reconsideration of 20mph speed limit on through road due to the children's play area and Rivermead Centre being on that road, and also sought support from Rogerstone Community Council, the Rogerstone CC has confirmed their support, Clerk is awaiting a response from NCC and will continue to chase prior to next week's meeting.

Rumble Strip on Forge Road – Latest communications via City Councillors report that the issue will be addressed, but no date has been given. Clerk will chase for an update in January if the issue is not resolved.

Christmas tree Quality Issue – Assurance has been received that the defective tree will be replaced. Clerk to monitor.

Caerphilly Close Junction Landscaping Project – This project is temporarily on hold.

Graig Hall – The decorator has begun work on the foyer, meeting room and kitchen and is to quote for re-decoration of the remaining room not yet decorated. The Clerk has confirmed with the supplier of the windows and doors that the second quote has been accepted and work will begin in the New Year.

Play Areas – The Clerk is now in receipt of schemes by two playground equipment suppliers and will submit them to Council at the January 11th 2012 meeting. These schemes can then be adapted if necessary and used to support any applications for funding. The Clerk and Chair met with Newport City Homes regarding the grass cutting responsibilities in Fort View play area and future plans. The swing has been installed at Fort View play area; an email was received to say the children are very pleased with it.

Notice boards – The notice board proposed for installation alongside the church wall opposite Churchmead has been approved by NCC. The notice board proposed at the top of Laurel Road has been approved but only if Council canvass the residents to see if they wish to have it erected. This will be discussed at the January 25th 2012 meeting to move the matter forward.

Adoption of Footpath Opposite Garth Terrace – Clerk continues to chase for paperwork and instructions for adoption and getting the area maintained. No response as yet.

Broken Stiles on Footpath Near Old Alcan Site – The Clerk has received confirmation that the stiles have been repaired. This item will be removed from future Clerk's Reports.

St Basils Lytchgate and Brass Memorial Plaques – Councillors Caston & Harries have met with Cannon Williams. It was reported that the Church Council feels it is unnecessary to remove the memorial plaques from the lytchgate, and that the gate itself is in reasonable order although some restoration works could be carried out. The Church Council is concerned with the restoration of the boundary wall between the church and the Tredegar Arms public house and feels this is the main priority at present. This issue is reported in more detail below.

Christmas Lighting Celebrations – The event has taken place and was well attended by over 200 residents and children despite the bad weather. The Scouts group made £50.36. The raffle raised £198 which was split between three charities, St David's Foundation, St Anne's Hospice and the South Gwent Breast Cancer Support Group. Clerk has sent thank you letters to everyone who participated in the programme of events and the donators of the raffle prizes. Photographs have been added to the website as will the list of unclaimed raffle prizes to enable people who bought tickets to check them.

Moving of the Goalposts on the Open Space – This was discussed at the previous meeting and Cllr Fry is to obtain a quote for the manufacture of some brackets which will enable the posts to be re-positioned to allow even wearing of the grass.

NO GOLFING sign – The sign has been delivered ready for installation. This will be attended to in the New Year.

Caerphilly Road Issues – Clerk has written again to NCC regarding the safety of pedestrians using the footpath between the Ffos-y-Fran junction and Friendly Fox Public house. The Police have advised NCC that extra lighting should be explored for the crossing outside the Friendly Fox. Tree cutting has taken place along the stretch of road concerned which has improved the lighting a little. Clerk chasing an update.

Community Council Website – The Chair, Cllr Williams has been adding to the website which now has much more information as well as photographs of the Christmas Event, and links to other organisations which may be of interest.

NCC Streetscene Representative at Meetings – A response from NCC regarding attending meetings was discussed at the previous meeting. NCC Streetscene has confirmed that they will attend Council meetings only if requested to do so on specific issues which cannot be solved by normal channels. This item will be removed from the next Clerk's Report.

Concurrent Expenditure - The Clerk has asked that this issue be addressed at the Community Liaison meeting on 8th December and will report back to Council at the 14th December meeting.

Extra Litter Bin on Footpath behind bus stop on Forge Road to Churchmead – Clerk has emailed NCC to advise that Council are willing to pay for an additional waste bin at this site after complaints to Councillor Cornelious, provided NCC will commit to adding it to their emptying schedule. Response received states that NCC has spoken with the Schools Estate Manager, and hopes to have the issue resolved via speaking with the children and hope this will resolve the situation. Clerk will liaise with Cllr Cornelious to monitor if this has been effective or further action is needed. Following consultation with the Best Kept Villages Group, the Clerk will attempt to have as many small litter bins replaced with large free standing bins in Bassaleg & Rhiwderin as possible.

Footpath and area behind the Tredegar Arms and St Basil's Church & Church Wall – Clerk has written to Greene King to request information regarding the ownership of the area behind the fencing at the rear of the Tredegar Arms pub and the boundary wall which is in need of repair between the pub and the church, and has sent a follow up chasing email, but is awaiting a response. This issue has been added to the agenda for discussion at 25th January meeting.

A-Frame advertisement boards outside Tredegar Arms – Clerk to write to NCC regarding the boards outside the pub as they are encroaching on the footpath becoming an obstacle, look unsightly, and are a distraction to motorists manoeuvring the roundabout.

Gate Erection at Highfield Lane encroaching on footpath – Clerk has written to NCC Planning & Footpaths officers, and also the Police in an effort to resolve this issue and is awaiting response from all. Clerk will chase to attempt to obtain responses in time for the meeting on the 14th December. If received, the item will be added late to the existing agenda for that meeting.

Compiled 09.12.11

Please note: The contents of this report have been compiled by the Clerk and are subject to change as and when new information is received. This report has not been approved by the Community Council before publication as meeting minutes would be, and is intended only as a useful tool to give information on the current status of ongoing issues to reduce time spent at meetings discussing updates unnecessarily.