



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk's Report

29th February 2012

Additional information to the agenda for the meeting being held on Wednesday 29th February 2012 at 6.30pm at Graig Community Hall Bassaleg.

(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. Clerk has also asked that consideration be given to installing traffic priority signs where the road narrows under the viaduct, Cllr Cornelious has been chasing and there are some problems with the original developers. Adoption will still take place but may take longer than anticipated. Clerk will continue to chase. Problems related to vandalism and groups of youths causing problems for residents in Viaduct Way have been highlighted, residents are working with the Police and Councils to attempt to resolve the situation. A neighbourhood watch scheme is being set up.

Rhiwderin Community Centre Lease – City Cllrs Cornelious and Williams together with Community Cllrs Gregory and Caston are to meet with NCC to discuss the lease of the building. The meeting is **taking place on 1st March at 3.30pm at Rhiwderin Community Centre.**

Laurel Road Parking Issue – Clerk has sent letters out to all residents who would be affected to gauge opinion on the placement of bollards on the greens at the top of Laurel Road. To date replies have been for the most part positive. The item is to be discussed at the next Planning and Environmental meeting on 14th March. A delegation of residents are expected to attend the meeting to put forward their views.

Junction 28 Tredegar Roundabout Safety Issues – No update has been obtained on this issue, Clerk will continue to chase.

Overhanging Tree Branches in Orchard Close and Associated Wentworth Lane Issue – Council have agreed to remove the broken fencing along the footpath up to Berkley Close and seek permission from NCC to place bollards and barriers at either end of the lane to prevent vehicular access, these matters are in hand.

Planters from NCC – It has been decided to keep the planters in Rhiwderin Community Centre and use them as decoration/boundary division in the car park for the foreseeable future. They have been planted up with spring bulbs.

Speed Reduction for Afon Village & Laurel Road – **Email from NCC has been received and will be discussed at the February 29th meeting.**

Rumble Strip on Forge Road – NCC has added the cost of replacing the rumble strips to the budget for 2012-13. Work is not expected to be undertaken in the near future

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

Graig Hall – The new windows and doors have been installed and quotes have been obtained to replace blinds and for the hall to be deep cleaned. These will be submitted at the meeting and a decision made on whether to proceed. Essential plumbing work approved at the last meeting is taking place week commencing 27th February.

Play Areas – Cllr Whitfield is working on options to fund the upgrade of the play areas.

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 canvas the residents to see if they wish to have it erected. This was put to residents in the same letter sent out by the Clerk to gauge opinion regarding the wooden bollard (please see above). To date responses are mostly positive.

Adoption of Footpath Opposite Garth Terrace – Clerk has received the necessary paperwork and a number of residents and Cllrs have kindly offered to assist in gathering completed evidence forms in support of the adoption of both the footpath opposite Garth Terrace and at Highfield Lane. Clerk will collate and submit to NCC in due course.

St Basils Lytchgate and Brass Memorial Plaques – As the church considers repairs to its boundary wall a priority, this issue will remain on hold for the foreseeable future.

Moving of the Goalposts on the Open Space –Cllr Fry has engaged a company to manufacture the brackets needed and the installation will take place shortly.

NO GOLFING sign – New supporting posts have been ordered and will be installed soon.

Caerphilly Road Issues – Clerk has received an email from NCC who agrees that there is an area of the road which is unlit, but due to financial constraints NCC cannot rectify this for the foreseeable future. Cllr Gregory has spoken with another NCC official who has agreed a number of issues need along this road need addressing and has passed the information on to the appropriate departments to be dealt with. It is hoped that adding his weight to Council's concerns will prompt for the issues to be dealt with.

Community Council Website – The website is being updated regularly with miscellaneous information and copies of Council documents.

Litter Bins – A full inventory of litter bins in the villages is being undertaken with a view to increasing or replacing a number of bins with larger models where necessary.

Footpath and area behind the Tredegar Arms and St Basil's Church & Church Wall – No response has been received after a second letter and a number of emails have been sent 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. This issue is being added to the agenda to discuss what further action needs to be taken.

A-Frame advertisement boards outside Tredegar Arms – Cllr Cornelious has confirmed that Planning Enforcement Officers have reviewed the boards and deem them acceptable.

Gate Erection at Highfield Lane encroaching on footpath – The formal adoption if the lane is underway (please see item above on adoption of footpaths). No response has been received to a second letter sent to the owner of the new property at the top of the lane despite confirmation of receipt of the letter has been verified. The metal gate has been amended and now opens fully.

Post box on Laurel Road – Clerk had written to the Royal Mail to request the re-location of the post box at the top of Laurel Road onto a nearby side street to prevent traffic congestion. The response was that Royal Mail deems the post box location acceptable and will not consider moving it to another area. This item will be removed from future reports.

Vandalism at Schools – Clerk to write to the Education Department in support of Police and City Cllr's recommendations for additional enclosure fencing to protect Pentrepoeth School from regular vandalism. It was also reported that 50 windows in Bassaleg School had been smashed recently in another act of vandalism.

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Updated 29.02.12

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.