



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk's Report

1st October 2014

Additional information to the agenda for the meeting being held on Wednesday 1st October 2014 at 7pm at Graig Community Centre, Bassaleg (**Item No 4 on the agenda**)

- 1. Play Areas** – Council has been lobbying NCC for diverting Section 106 monies. Following discussions with NCC it is known that funding will be available to return a play area to Rhiwderin and upgrade the other play areas in Fort View and at the Graig Community Centre. This is dependent on NCC, and the Community Council is doing all it can to move progress on the issue. Recent indications are that money has been set aside for the upgrades and maintenance, and the issue is at the consultation period, it is hoped that the process is nearing the end and funds will be released soon.
- 2. Adoption of Footpath Opposite Garth Terrace & Highfield Lane** – Clerk working with NCC for formal adoption. NCC's Countryside Warden had been asked to look at the area at the top of Highfield Lane with a view to having it cleared of vegetation which is making the footpath difficult to use. The Clerk has been told that as the area is unregistered, NCC will not carry out any maintenance at present. The Council has requested a meeting with NCC officials to looking at all pockets of unregistered land and footpaths with a view to getting as much as possible registered with NCC, but to date has been unable to secure a meeting. Council will continue to lobby.
- 3. Static Speed Camera on Caerphilly Road** - Inspector Hayes supplied more information on the mobile camera unit. Council discussed the item briefly but it seems no thoughts of providing a static camera will be entertained by the authorities. This item will be removed from future reports but the situation will continue to be monitored.
- 4. Yellow lines near St Basil's shops** - An email has been received stating that all works in the traffic order to install yellow lines has been completed. There are no plans to extend the yellow lines around any other traffic islands in the vicinity. This issue can be taken no further at this time, and this item will be removed from future reports.
- 5. Lighting on footbridge over A467** - Defective lighting in the vicinity of the bridge has been repaired, but there is one light which is masked by overgrowth of trees. This has been reported to the tree officer at NCC who is looking into the matter and will have the trees cut back if necessary.
- 6. Trees on open space at top of Laurel Road** - It has been confirmed by the NCC's Tree Officer that damage to the roots of the trees has occurred, and he has forwarded recommendations to the Community Council. Cllr Cornelious has agreed to discuss the report with the officer, the Community Council feel the responsibility lays with the City Council as the trees are next to the highway. Recent communication with NCC suggests that should the trees become unstable and threaten the safety of the highway, NCC would take action. In the meantime the trees have been added to a schedule and a tree officer will check them at regular intervals to ensure their safety. This issue can be taken no further and will be deleted from future reports.
- 7. Parking on grass verges at Highfield Road** - This issue has been passed on to NCC as they own the verges and are looking at the issue. This item will be removed from future reports, but the situation will be monitored.
- 8. Re-siting of notice board to Park View** - The Clerk is still waiting for NCC to schedule the work. An update has been requested.
- 9. Dedicated Right Turn Into Laurel Drive** - Following the completion of the former Bassaleg Church Hall development on Caerphilly Road, the Clerk has checked on the progress of the installation of the proposed dedicated right turn into Laurel Drive for westbound traffic. NCC have confirmed that the developer is obligated to dedicate an area within the development for highway purposes to allow space for a dedicated lane to be installed to alleviate traffic congestion on Caerphilly Road. This is now being progressed as the development is complete. Further updates are expected in due course. Following a chase up on 25.07.14, NCC confirmed that a feasibility study is being conducted to confirm the benefit so funding can be applied for from the Welsh Government. This item will remain on this report until confirmation that work is to begin.

10. Bassaleg Post Office - The Clerk has spoken to the owners recently and it seems the business is managing to support the Post Office element as hoped. The owners would like to pass on their grateful thanks to all the residents who have shown them so much support since this issue arose and ask that you please continue to support the shop and Post Office for it to be able to remain at its current location.

11. Dog Fouling - Following the attendance of NCC's Community Safety Warden at Council's 16th July meeting, Council were told that anyone witnessing someone not picking up dog mess after their pet can report the incident to NCC. Following a written statement by the observer, the Warden would contact the perpetrator and issue a fixed penalty fine of £75. Photographic evidence is acceptable to identify those breaking the law. Other steps are also being taken to clean up the ward. A 'bag it and bin it' zone has been set up in the area around Caerphilly Road, and patrols taken place around the open green.

12. Raised Path on Caerphilly Road - Following the Clerk requesting that the raised path and banking below be cleaned up by NCC and no action being taken, Cllr Cornelious also has made this request and a response is awaited.

13. Hidden Junction sign for Duffryn Close/Garth Close junctions - Following a request from Cllr Harries, the Clerk wrote to NCC to request a hidden junction sign be placed above Duffryn Close for drivers driving down hill on Laurel Road advising them of a hidden junction as Cllr Harries has concerns about the speed of traffic and has been advised of near-misses between vehicles when residents are trying to enter and exit Duffryn Close and Garth Close. The Clerk has spoken with a NCC officer who stated that the request has been denied as there is not thought to be a need for such signage. They stated that drivers on Laurel Road are mainly locals who are aware of the junctions and there has been no reported accidents in the vicinity. This item will be removed from future reports.

Compiled 26.09.14

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 and reduce time spent at meetings discussing updates unnecessarily.

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