



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk's Report

26th April 2017

Additional information to the agenda for the meeting being held on Wednesday 26th April 2017 at 7pm at Graig Community Centre, Bassaleg (**Item No 4 on the agenda**)

Play Areas – The SLA has been signed, some snagging issues need to be attended to but the play areas are now complete. Extra cleansing has been put in place for the improved weather.

Graffiti in the ward - Clerk has reported the areas of graffiti again to NCC and requested it's removal. The initial request was made in April 2016 and despite regular chasing, has still not been resolved, the Clerk has written again.

Parking on grass verges at bus stop on Forge Road – Parking still regularly takes place in this area which Council believes is a major health and safety risk. NCC sees this as a Policing issue, the Police say they do not have the resources to monitor, therefore the damage to the verges is being ignored.

Overgrowth on wasteland at Park View - Some remedial cutting back of vegetation has been carried out and the area is improved. The area is being monitored.

Uneven pavement & drainage issues on Park View – Response from NCC is that the area has been inspected and no further work will be carried out except for a small depression in the road.

Dedicated right turn into Laurel Drive - Following confirmation that the works were to go ahead with amending Bassaleg, J28 and Pont Ebbw roundabouts, the Clerk contacted NCC who indicated that they would request this item be carried out under Community Benefit. The Clerk put this forward but no decision has been made as NCC insist another feasibility study will need to be carried out. The Clerk is pressing hard for this to be carried forward and has asked for an update.

Additional lighting on Caerphilly Road and Laurel Road - Despite NCC admitting that additional lighting would be of benefit, this cannot be provided as there is no funding available. This situation is unlikely to change in the near future.

Dirty Highway Signage - NCC recognised the need for cleansing but are no longer carrying out signage cleansing schedules due to lack of funds.

Adoption of footpaths - The footpath between Woodland Drive and Fort View Play area, and also the footpath between Penylan Close and Caerphilly Road are both now in the process of being adopted. Evidence forms have been handed out to residents to provide proof of their use which is the first stage of the process. The next step in the process is underway.

Overgrown footpath from Woodland Drive to Penylan Close - This path as mentioned above is in the process of being adopted. The footpaths officer who promised to clear up the path in the meantime left NCC before completing the task and his post has not been filled. It is anticipated that this will now have to wait until the adoption is complete.

Former Garthfield Cottage site fencing and footpath - Council felt this item should not be removed, but that the re-instatement of the ancient hedgerow that was removed when the fence was built should be pursued. City Cllrs have met with NCC Streetscene officers and report that NCC are concerned about the boundaries and possible encroachment on NCC's land but are not concerned with the steepness and stability of the banking that has been cut away. The Clerk has asked Cllr Cornelious to approach the Planning Dept as this may be a safety concern for them. No further update is available at this time.

St Basil's Roundabout bollards repair - It has been noted that the bollards have again been hit by a large vehicle. Council is exploring replacing the bollards with large boulders which will be much more robust.

Cycle Path by Bassaleg School - NCC can now find no record of this issue even though Cllr Williams had informed Council of the proposal some time ago. The Clerk has asked Cllr Williams to investigate as Council is aware funds have been available to carry out this type of work. No update is available at this time.

Parking on grass verges on Laurel Road - NCC will not take up this issue and have only for offered the Community Council to pay for bollards to be installed to alleviate the problem. The damage to the verges is being ignored. This situation is unlikely to change.

Boundary fencing along Caerphilly Road between the Rhiwderin Inn and Laurel Road Junction - NCC do cut the verge but only a 1 metre strip between the pavement and the boundary fence as per their schedule, NetworkRail cut back only to their fence. This leaves a strip of land that no-one will maintain.

Coach House on Caerphilly Road in Bassaleg - This issue is being investigated by NCC an update is expected in due course. The Clerk has asked Cllr Cornelious to chase up a response, to date none is available. Cllr Williams has offered to speak with the owner to move progress, but no update has been given to date.

Pentrepoeth Road issues - Problems on the road have been reported numerous times and suggestions for improvements have been requested, but NCC's response is "This has been the subject of local concern, but there is no scope to achieve any proportionate speed management or pedestrian improvement interventions. Both Ward Members and Community Council have been advised of this previously". Community Council Members and members of the public appeared in a recent Argus article highlighting the issues. Council will continue to work on helping alleviate the problems. A recent planning application has complicated this matter further and was discussed at a recent public meeting. The Chairman is due to meet with the head of Highways on 25th April and Cllr Cox-Wall has involved an AM and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure regarding the issues on both Caerphilly Rd and Pentrepoeth Rd who has stated he will do what he can to help.

Bus stop time tables - It was reported that the electronic timetables on bus stops in the ward are inaccurate and the stops which do not have electronic timetables have had no paper timetables on them for a very long time. As the Clerk had been reporting the lack of timetables in excess of 2 years without any success Cllr Cornelious agreed to investigate and attempt to resolve, no update has been received to date.

Dog fouling signage - For the Clerk to progress.

Compiled 20.04.17

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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