

GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 28th September 2011.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs P Stokes, K Harries, M Cornelious, D Williams, R Powell, G Morris.

Present: Cllrs C Williams (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, M Smart, K Sayer, P John, L Fry, N Mountain, P Gregory, J Harris. Also present 8 members of the public.

Public Representations: Council heard from the spokesman of the group who had attended to make known their feelings regarding a planning application being discussed later in the meeting. The details of the application were discussed. Members of the public left the meeting at 7.25pm.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held 31st August, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Gregory.

Clerk's Report:

The Clerk's report previously circulated had been read, Council were satisfied that all issues in the report were being dealt with appropriately, no discussion was necessary except for the items the Clerk noted to be discussed under Items for Discussion/Action below.

Induction of New Councillor: Cllr John Harris of Caerphilly Road Bassaleg was welcomed to the Council, asked to sign the appropriate paperwork and was sworn in.

Projects:

Bassaleg CC: Cllr Fry reported that the preferred company to supply windows and door had not been as competitive as expected and he was to return to them to offer a re-route. It was decided to replace the 'No Golfing' sign on the edge of the open space as it had become tired and worn. Clerk to order new sign.

Caerphilly Rd/Close Junction landscaping: Two quotes have now been received, one more is expected. The project is on hold.

Priority List: discussed briefly.

Reports:

Police – No representation or report received.

City Councillors – Not present.

Graig CC – NTR

Rhiwderin CC – Clerk still chasing for an extension to the lease, the regular quiz night date had been set for 8th October 2011.

Best Kept Villages Group – Council discussed an email received from the group voicing concerns over the cost of continuing with the project at Caerphilly Road/Close junction and placing more planters in the ward. Clerk to respond.

Bassaleg Allotments – The planning application is still being dealt with by the architect. The inspection of Bassaleg allotment site took place on Sunday 18th September. The overall condition was good, but it was suggested that one plot holder's tenancy be terminated and another plot holder receive a warning letter. Clerk to sort.

Play Areas – The Clerk reported that she had met with two playground equipment suppliers who were making up suggested schemes for both Fort View and Rhiwderin play area. These schemes could then be used to support any applications for funding sent out. Clerk will submit the schemes for approval once both are received.

Burial Board – The next committee meeting will be held in November.

Items for Next Agenda

Invitation to join in Jubilee celebrations for 2011 to be discussed at the October full Council meeting.

Planning:

CONEX/11/0745 – Retention of single storey lean to stables, dog cages and exercise area, horse exercise ménage and siting of 2 no. static caravans (one residential and one as office in connection with trainers)
Site: Flatholme Stables, Penylan Road, Newport. Application Type: Full. Comment: Council strongly objects on the following grounds. There is a constant problem both day and night with the noise of dogs barking and howling. A number of dogs are being kept onsite in cages and are being trained as guard dogs as part of a business. The barking can be heard in the village - a considerable distance from the site. There are between 15 and 20 horses kept on site, generating a steady stream of traffic during the day in addition to

the other businesses being run. There are safety issues with regard to the amount of traffic and the young riders exercising their horses in the surrounding lanes. There is concern over the number of horses being kept there in comparison to the amount of grazing available. The need for the caravans is disputed. Of the two caravans, one is stated as residential, as the businesses are not deemed to be agricultural, the need for a residential caravan is disputed. There are also concerns regarding the utilities and facilities for caravan use.

CONEX/11/0932 – Crown lift plane tree T25 protected by TPO 18/MON. Site: Car park to front of Highfield Court, Foxwood Close, Bassaleg, Newport. Type: Tree Preservation Order. Comment: TP Officer suggestions supported.

Invitation from Caerphilly CBC to comment on Supplementary Planning Guidance LDP4: Trees and development and LDP10: Buildings in the Countryside. Cllr John to review and report back to Council.

CONEX/11/0923 – Construct two storey side extension to provide an annex for family members. Site: 50 Grosvenor Road, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8PY. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.

Footpath Diversion; Footpath 393/73 (Rhiwderin Old Allotment site). Comment: No objections provided it stays inside the development boundary.

Items for Discussion/Action

NCC had replied in connection with the locations for planters, notice boards and wooden bollards. Some locations had been approved whilst others not. Clerk to write to NCC with regard to the decision not to allow for wooden bollards to be placed on the green at Laurel Road.

After approval by NCC, Council approved the purchase of a bollard for Wentworth Lane to prevent vehicles from being able to use the footpath as a shortcut. A permissive pathway sign had been ordered and Clerk had received confirmation that an additional culvert at Berkley Close will be installed soon to improve drainage to the area. Clerk to inform the owner of the lane and to advise him on registering his rights with NCC.

Clerk to write to NCC urging them to re-consider making the main road through the estate a 20mph zone in light of the Rivermead Centre and a children's play park being situated on this road.

It was decided that at this time a detailed survey on Rhiwderin Community Centre was not needed.

Cllr Fry reported that he had surveyed the area behind St Basil's Church and the Tredegar Arms public house. The area is in need of refurbishment. Clerk to write to the brewery which owns the Tredegar Arms to see if improvements can be carried out.

Cllr Gregory left at 8.40pm.

A quote from Monmouthshire Council to carry out some maintenance and tree planting was discussed and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr Sayer.

The safety aspects of the stretch of Caerphilly Road between Foss-y-Fran junction and the Friendly Fox public house was discussed. It was agreed that this road is poorly lit and has safety and traffic issues. Concern for pedestrians, especially schoolchildren using the route was discussed. Clerk to write to NCC highlighting the areas of concern and requesting a survey with a view to making improvements.

Cllr Sayer left at 8.50pm.

It was decided that in December, due to the holidays, that a the Council meeting will be held on 14th December.

Cllr Fry forwarded a quote for redecoration of the Graig Hall which was accepted. Proposed Cllr Evans, seconded Cllr Mountain. Cllrs Smart and Whitfield to assist with colour choices.

Correspondence for Information - Not discussed

Accounts Approved for Payment

Clerk salary and expenses for September 2011	£1259.40
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance September 2011	£250.00
NCC – Copy of Rhiwderin CC lease	£10.00
Spanglefish – Annual payment for website use without adverts	£24.95
Steve Rose – Interim payment for decoration works to Graig Hall	£600.00
WM Garden Services – Maintenance of playgrounds	£3546.00

Receipts

None.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.00pm. Confirmed this day, 26th October 2011.

Signed..... (Chair) – 26th October 2011

Posted to notice boards 03.11.11