



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 6.30pm on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

**Apologies for absence:** Cllrs A Whitfield, M Smart, K Sayer, M Cornelious, D Williams, P John, G Morris.

**Present:** Cllrs C Williams (Chair), R Caston, D Evans, P Stokes, K Harries, L Fry, R Powell, N Mountain, P Gregory, J Harris.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011, previously circulated were read and subject to a small amendment were approved. Proposed Cllr Gregory seconded Cllr Caston.

## **Clerk's Report:**

The Clerk's report previously circulated had been read, Council were satisfied that issues in the report were being dealt with appropriately. With regard to the gates erected on Highfield lane it was agreed that the Clerk would write to the owner of the property to advise of the issue and offer assistance to find a resolution.

## **Projects:**

**Bassaleg CC:** Cllr Fry reported that the redecoration of the foyer, meeting room and kitchen were almost complete and a quote for redecoration of the side meeting room was accepted (proposed Cllr Evans, Seconded Cllr Caston). The redecoration of the entire hall would be completed by Christmas. The new windows and doors had been ordered and were being manufactured for fitting in January. Cllr Fry commended the work carried out by Mr R Williams and his employees on the day of the Christmas lighting event, who worked especially hard during the day to carry out maintenance to the Graig Hall car park area in preparation for the event.

**Caerphilly Rd/Close Junction landscaping:** Not discussed.

**Christmas lighting event.** Feedback from people attending the event was very positive; it was decided to arrange an event involving the children's school choir in the spring, Clerk to agenda for discussion at the March meeting.

## **Reports:**

**Police** – Letter received from Supt David Johnson was read and discussed. Clerk to write to thank him for letter and stress that the Community Council wants as much police presence and communication in the ward as possible.

**City Councillors** – Not present.

**Graig CC** – The Christmas tree has been erected in the Hall, re-decoration is almost complete.

**Rhiwderin CC** – Concerns were voiced over the fact that the lease has still not been agreed, therefore no plans can be made with regard to upgrading facilities. A thank you letter had been received from Mr Smith the caretaker for the honorarium he received which all Council agreed was well deserved.

**Best Kept Villages Group** – NTR

**Allotments** - NTR

**Play Areas** – Deferred to the January Planning & Environmental meeting.

**Burial Board** – Rogerstone CC agreed to a joint meeting of both Councils. Cllr Mountain (the Chair of the Board) stated that the Board wanted the meeting to be a precept discussion and vote only with no extended agenda. Cllr C Williams suggested the meeting should be run by the Burial Board Chairman and Clerked by the Burial Board Clerk, that Council has full faith in its members elected to the Board and support their suggestions. Clerk to advise RCC that Council accepts the invitation to meet but that the meeting should be held by the Board.

## **Items for Next Agenda**

Play Areas Upgrade (January 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

Consideration of parking issues on Laurel Road (January 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

Wooden bollards on Laurel Road (January 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

Post box at the top of Laurel Road (January 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

Planters loaned from NCC (January 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

National Assembly – Consultation on Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Bill (January 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

National Assembly – Consultation document on Fire & Rescue National Framework 2012 (Jan 11<sup>th</sup> meeting)  
Area to the rear of the Tredegar Arms & ST Basil's Church (January 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting)  
Notice boards (January 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting)  
PPL/PRS responsibilities for Community Centres (January 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting)  
Consideration for Diamond Jubilee Event (January 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting)  
Bassaleg Junction (January 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting)  
Jubilee Event. (February 29<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

### **Planning:**

CONEX/11/1053 – Erection of detached dwelling. Site: 168 Laurel Road, Newport. NP10 8PT. Application Type: Full. Comment: Council are concerned about parking issues on this busy road and the overdevelopment of the site which would take away the openness of the junction into Grosvenor Road, cutting down on visibility. The parking suggested for two houses would be inadequate, forcing more cars onto a busy bus route which is already difficult to manoeuvre for both cars and buses.

CONEX/11/1264 – Change of use of existing public open space to extend the existing allotments together with the erection of boundary enclosure fencing. Site: Land north east and adjacent to Bassaleg allotment site, Caerphilly Road, Bassaleg, Newport. Application type: Full. Comment: Council supports this application.

Council discussed the possibility of including some plots for disabled residents, Clerk to agenda for discussion at February's Planning & Environmental meeting.

### **Items for Discussion/Action**

Liaison Meeting update- Cllr Caston reported that Concurrent allocations were discussed, some Community Councils are underfunded. A formula for redistribution had been put forward and accepted for this year only, but as it was still considered not to be ideal, that other methods for allocation were to be explored during the 2012-13 financial year. Clerk to ask City Cllrs and City Head of Finance how allocations have been made historically, and what is the standard mechanism at present. Cllr Caston also reported Councils disquiet about planning comments not being taken seriously and the general lack of communication between City and Community Councils.

NCC document on The Community Infrastructure Levy Consultation Document review and comment – Councillors were asked to respond on an individual basis if desired.

### **Correspondence for Information - Not discussed**

#### **Accounts Approved for Payment**

Clerk salary and expenses for December 2011	£1272.29
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance December 2011	£250.00
HMRC – PAYE & NI from Tax Yr 2009/10	£365.16
S Rose – Internal decoration of Foyer, meeting room and Kitchen	£780.00
C Williams – reimbursement for refreshments for Christmas Event	£9.87

#### **Receipts**

None.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.02pm. Confirmed this day, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

Signed..... (Chair) – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Posted to notice boards 02.02.12