



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg 7pm 25th January 2012.

Minutes of Meeting held at the Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7.00pm on 25th January 2012.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs K Sayer, K Harries, R Powell, G Morris.
Present: Cllrs C Williams (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, P Stokes, M Smart, M Cornelious, D Williams, P John, L Fry, N Mountain, P Gregory, J Harris.
2. **Public Representations:** None
3. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held 14th December 2011, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Evans seconded Cllr John.
4. **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 noted that the metal gate had been amended but no response had been received to Council's letter to the owner. Clerk to write again and send by registered post. With regard to Forge Road rumble strips it was reported that NCC has budgeted for work to be carried out in next their next financial year.
5. **Projects:**
 - a. Bassaleg CC - Cllr Fry reported that the replacement windows and doors had been installed, and decoration works already approved had been carried out. Council approved for the meeting room panelled walls to be painted and discussed obtaining a plaque of previous Chairpersons for the wall, Cllr Whitfield to explore. Cllr Fry submitted a quote for essential works to be carried out to plumbing which was approved subject to the quote being submitted on headed paper. It was also agreed to gather quotes for replacement blinds and a deep clean of the centre – Clerk and Cllrs Fry and Whitfield to arrange.
 - b. Caerphilly Rd/Close Junction landscaping – Not discussed.
6. **Reports:**
 - a. Police – Police were unable to attend but submitted a report to be read out. There were 2 cases of criminal damage, 2 of fraud, 2 of serious sex, 1 assault, 1 burglary and one drugs offence. The recent break-in at Pentrepoeth School was discussed. Clerk to write to the Police to ask what steps have been taken and are going to be taken with regard to this issue and ask if it would be possible to use a mobile CCTV unit to monitor the area and act as a preventative tool. Cllr Evans to speak with the Headmistress and urge a zero tolerance approach towards anyone entering the school grounds when the school is closed. Council asks that all nearby residents be vigilant and report any suspicious acts to the Police by ringing 101.
 - b. City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious reported that she had met members of NCC regarding the Rhiwderin Community Centre lease and was setting up a meeting between representatives of the Community Council and NCC representatives to discuss the lease options, Cllrs Gregory and Caston agreed to represent the Community Council in the negotiations. Cllr D Williams informed Council he had written to the Conservation Officer to attempt to have the boundary wall between St Basil's Church and the Tredegar Arms public house listed. Cllr Cornelious also asked that when discussions regarding the Caerphilly Road/Close junction project resumed that Council also consider the need for introducing a second lane for traffic emerging from Caerphilly Close onto Caerphilly Road to turn left, as it would ease traffic congestion and make the junction safer.
 - c. Graig CC – Cllr Evans reported that a charity concert and bar is to be held at the Centre with proceeds to a leukaemia charity. The event had sold out.
 - d. Rhiwderin CC – Cllr Gregory thanked both City Councillors for pursuing the issue of the lease. He added that the floor of the hall needs attention, and that the Caretaker had found 3 specialist companies who could deal with the matter. The men's toilets were also in a dire state and suggested quotes for refurbishment should be sought in preparation of a favourable outcome in the lease negotiations. Cllr Fry also to look into the possibility of hiring a mobile toilet block in the interim period as temporary solution. A new contract for fire extinguisher checks was needed – Cllr Gregory

and Clerk to sort. The gas governor housing repairs had been completed and a new padlock was purchased to make it secure. Cllr Gregory also recommended that the whole centre should have replacement locks fitted.

- e. Best Kept Villages Group – Cllr Stokes offered congratulations to the group for all their efforts, the planters look lovely and add so much to the villages. Clerk to circulate an email received from the group to Councillors for discussion at the next meeting.
- f. Allotments - NTR
- g. Play Areas – The fact that Council are still unable to secure a lease for Rhiwderin play area was discussed. Cllr Cornelious suggested some 106 money could be made available for some small items of play equipment such as a new disabled swing at Rhiwderin. Cllr Williams had a list of charitable providers who may be able to help and will email the list to the Clerk.
- h. Burial Board – Cllr C Williams thanked all Councillors for attending the meeting between Rogerstone and Graig Community Councils, and also Cllr Mountain for chairing a difficult meeting. At the meeting which was held on the 18th January 2012 at Tydu Co0mmunity Hall matters pertaining to the Burial Board were discussed. After a full exchange of views it was formerly proposed and seconded to increase the precept. As both Community Councils were quorate a vote was taken and the motion to increase the precept was passed with 18 votes in favour. There were 3 abstentions and no votes against the motion.

7. Items for Next Agenda

Agreed, with the exception of bringing forward the children's choir event discussion to 29th February.

8. Planning:

CONEX/11/1298 – Erection of single storey side extension (to rear of garage). Site: 4 Highfield Gardens, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8LR. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.

9. Items for Discussion/Action

- a. Signing off of Accounts for External Auditor – signed and approved, Clerk to submit.
- b. Clerk's appraisal – to be administered by Cllrs C Williams and Whitfield when convenient to all.
- c. Area to the rear of the Tredegar Arms & ST Basil's Church – discussions over the need for the area to be tidied up took place. Cllr D Williams suggested that it would be best to try to have the boundary wall listed, after which the area could be cleaned up and hopefully be adopted by NCC.
- d. Notice boards – Clerk had compiled a letter to residents at the top of Laurel Road regarding the placing of a notice board and wooden bollards on the greens. The letter was approved, Clerk to post out to all affected residents.
- e. PPL/PRS responsibilities for Community Centres – a letter had been received by both Community Centres advising that charges will increase; this is required by law and must be paid.
- f. Post Box on Laurel Road (email received) – an email received in response to Clerks request to move the post box was read. Royal Mail has investigated and sees no reason to move the box from its current position so the request was denied.
- g. Wentworth Lane (update and quote for barrier) – Cllr Fry submitted quotes for the manufacture of barriers for the lane. Cllr Gregory reported on the meeting with the owners.
- h. Welsh Government – Consultation on changing election dates in 2016 – after review it was decided no comment was necessary.
- i. Email received from resident re: speed on Laurel Rd, maintenance of underpass in Grosvenor Road & display boards outside the Tredegar Arms in Bassaleg – Cllr Cornelious reported that planning enforcement officers had looked at the display boards and deemed them acceptable. Clerk to respond to email, stating Councils support for all the issues raised and detailing actions.

10. Correspondence for Information - Not discussed

11. Accounts Approved for Payment

Clerk salary and expenses for January 2012	£1298.73
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance January 2012	£250.00
Centregreat – Christmas tree lighting	£594.00
Monmouthshire Council – groundworks as quoted (4 invoices)	£2388.00
S Rose – redecoration of side meeting room at Graig Hall	£345.00
Cobblers Cabin – new padlocks for notice boards and gas governor housing	£137.00
St Anne's Hospice – donation from Christmas event raffle	£66.00

St David's Foundation - donation from Christmas event raffle £66.00
South Gwent Breast Cancer Support Group - donation from Christmas event raffle £66.00
Mark Edmunds – additional trimming of trees overhanging Orchard Close residence £200.00

Receipts

Proceeds of Christmas event raffle £198.00

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.45pm. Confirmed this day, 29th February 2012.

Signed..... (Chair) – 29th February 2012
Posted to notice boards 08.03.12