



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg 7pm 28<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

Minutes of Meeting held at the Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7.00pm on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs P Stokes, M Cornelious, D Williams, R Powell.  
**Present:** Cllrs C Williams (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, M Smart, K Sayer, K Harries, P John, L Fry, N Mountain, P Gregory, G Morris, J Harris.
2. **Public Representations:** None
3. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012, 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.
5. **Projects:**
  - a. Bassaleg CC – All quotes for new blinds and deep clean for the hall to be reviewed and discussed at the Mid April meeting. Cllr Evans to discuss with the hall management team if the hall finances would allow for contribution towards the costs. Cllr Evans reported that the hall accounts were almost complete to give a financial report in April and submit to the internal auditor.
  - b. Caerphilly Rd/Close Junction landscaping – On hold.
  - c. Play areas – Cllrs C Williams, Whitfield Gregory and the Clerk to meet with a member of Caerphilly Groundworks who hopes to be able to assist with funding the upgrade of Fort View play area. A summary of the meeting will be given at the April full Council meeting.
6. **Reports:**
  - a. Police – The Police were unable to attend but supplied a report with the following information: During March police received 112 calls, 18 of which were crimes, 7 of which had been detected and enquiries were ongoing with the remaining 11. The breakdown read as 1 of criminal damage, 1 of assault without injury, 1 burglary, 6 thefts, 1 of violence, 4 of drugs, 2 of fraud and 2 of vehicle crime. With regard to youth disorder, there had been several cautions in the Rhiwderin area for misuse of Cannabis since the start of the New Year in the Springfield Lane area, regular patrols are being carried out in this area. Alcohol is being confiscated from youths in the local area, and there have been various acts of vandalism in both Pentrepoeth and Bassaleg schools. The police ask for residents to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity within the school grounds. There have been several thefts of diesel from farms and also some horse tack. There has been criminal damage and antisocial behaviour in the Viaduct Way area and an action plan is in place to identify those responsible, there is a pro-active patrol car in operation in the area. Cllr Whitfield also reported that drugs had been found at the back of the Scout hut on Cowshed lane and Cllr Smart spoke of a disturbance in the Churchmead area.
  - b. City Councillors – City Councillors were unable to attend.
  - c. Graig CC – Cllr Fry asked that he be able to submit a quote for decoration at the mid-month meeting which was agreed. Cllr Evens reported that an issue regarding hall staff holiday pay had been addressed and resolved.
  - d. Rhiwderin CC – Cllr Gregory reported that it is hopeful that Council will be able to obtain a 25 yr lease on the Rhiwderin Community Centre building, and that the Centre management committee feels that to move forward with installing a temporary toilet block on site would be to spend public money unnecessarily. Until the toilets could be refurbished other arrangements would be satisfactory.
  - e. Best Kept Villages Group – An email had been received from the group requesting that Council supply a skip for the churchyard clean-up in May which was approved and that if Council required the planters in Rhiwderin which NCC no longer plant up to be planted, the cost of the plants would be £100. This was approved and added to the accounts for approval at this meeting.
  - f. Allotments – Cllr Caston reported that the contractor contacted by the Clerk had visited the site and will submit a quote for carrying out the allotment extension in due course.

- g. Play Areas – A complaint that the rubbish bins are not being emptied often enough had been received. Clerk to speak with contractor to resolve the issue. Clerk to also pass on new guidelines regarding goalposts.
- h. Burial Board – Council discussed the recent vote as mentioned in the February minutes and agreed after being given advice that the vote was indeed void. However it was unanimously agreed that should Rogerstone CC insist upon having an independent body draw up a business plan for the Burial Board, that it should be Rogerstone CC who pays for such and not for the funds to come from the Burial Board as this would only serve to put more pressure upon the Board's finances.

## **7. Items for Next Agenda**

Agreed.

## **8. Planning:**

- a. CONEX/12/0211 – Demolition of existing garage and erection of a two storey extension to side and rear including two dormers to rear. Site: 2 Woodland Drive, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8PA Application Type: Full. Comment: Concerns regarding sufficient parking in this already congested area and whether the dormer will overlook neighbours. Suggest neighbours should be consulted.
- b. CONEX/12/0228 – Retention of marquee at the rear of the Tredegar Arms. Site: Tredegar Arms Hotel 2-4 Caerphilly Road, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8LE Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections but ask that the facilities and emergency services access be reviewed to ensure they are sufficient.

## **9. Items for Discussion/Action**

- a. Arrangement for AGMs for both Rhiwderin and Graig Community Centre Management Committees – AGM's set as Rhiwderin Community Centre June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm and Graig Community Centre for June 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.
- b. Graig Community Council AGM – set at May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.
- c. Purchase of CCTV camera equipment – Clerk to look into costs of Council purchasing a portable CCTV camera for use by the Police or residents to aid with vandalism problems etc.
- d. Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebration ideas for review – It was decided to explore naming a walk within the Graig area in commemoration of the jubilee, Cllr Harris to explore and bring ideas to next mid-month meeting. Also Cllr Evans to put to Pentrepoeth School the idea of a commemorative cup or plaque which could be given on Sports Day to the winning team.
- e. Offer of 50% reduction to OVW membership – not taken up.
- f. Letter from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Council to review.
- g. Email received detailing Caerphilly Road concerns to Cllr Cornelious – the email was read out, it contained many of the issues on Caerphilly Road Council are also concerned about and are in the process of trying to get actioned.
- h. Donation request received from toddler group at Rhiwderin CC – Council agreed to give a donation of £150 to the group to assist with the purchase of new toys and equipment. This was added to accounts for payment below.
- i. Opportunity for funding from Tidy Towns – Cllr Caston to review to see if applicable to any Council projects and to pass on to the Bassaleg Allotments group if useful to them.
- j. Contribution to local leukaemia campaign – Cllr C Williams suggested that Council donate the TV which was not claimed as a prize at the Christmas lighting event to raise funds for a local child with leukaemia. Council unanimously agreed.
- k. Liaison meeting summary – Cllrs Caston, Whitfield and Mountain advised Council that the main topic was the draft LDP document which was about to be put to consultation. Clerk to take up offer of NCC's Planning Policy Liaison Officer to attend Council's meeting to give a presentation. Clerk to arrange for mid month meeting if possible.
- l. Clerk's appraisal review – details of the Clerk's appraisal carried out by Cllrs C Williams and Whitfield was reported to the Council. The outcome was positive and Council were happy to award the incremental rise due to satisfactory service and length of service. The rise to be applied from April's salary.
- m. Future internal audits – The Clerk informed Council that due to legislative changes the internal auditor was unable to audit the Council in future. The Clerk had contacted another auditor who is willing to quote for the work. Clerk to arrange and bring a price back to Council.
- n. Countryside Council for Wales re: maps of open access to mountain, moor, heath and registered common land - not discussed, to be deferred to end of April meeting.

- o. Donation to local youth – Cllr Caston asked if Council would be willing to make a donation to a local lad who is looking to fund a trip. Council decided it would not be appropriate at this time.
- p. Pye Corner railway station – Council agreed that it supported the new station and looks forward to improved transport links to Cardiff and eventually Newport. Clerk to write in support and urge the link to Newport be completed as soon as possible.
- q. Community Council website – Cllr Smart offered to assist with keeping the website up to date, Clerk to set her up as an administrator.
- r. The fencing alongside the path from Wentworth Lane to Berkley Close had been removed, the owner was concerned that too much was taken away leaving his garden exposed, Cllr Gregory to speak with him. The permissive pathway sign for the lane had been installed.

**10. Correspondence for Information - Not discussed**

**11. Accounts Approved for Payment**

a. Clerk salary and expenses for March 2012	£1269.30
b. C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance March 2012	£250.00
c. Celtic Fire Protection – Rhiwderin CC portable fire appliances inspection	£79.38
d. Griffiths Signs & Equipment Co. – posts & caps for signs	£58.80
e. Staples – office supplies	£138.65
f. Inland Revenue – PAYE & NI for Jan-Mar	£1137.48
g. Best Kept Villages – plants for Rhiwderin planter	£100.00
h. Anne Walden (Rhiwderin Mother & Toddler Group) – donation towards toys etc.	£150.00

**Receipts**

None

Additionally, Cllr Gregory reported that he had contacted David Fouweather regarding the list of issues Council has with Caerphilly Road and the surrounding areas and received a reply that a resolution for the issues will be chased up.

Cllr Mountain suggested Council meet socially for a jubilee celebration meal which was agreed by all. It will take place on June 6<sup>th</sup>, details to be finalised on 9<sup>th</sup> May.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.34pm. Confirmed this day, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

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

Posted to notice boards 03.05.12