



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg 7pm 30th May 2012.

Minutes of Meeting held at the Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7.00pm on 30th May 2012.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs P Stokes, M Smart, K Sayer.
Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, K Harries, M Cornelious, D Williams, P John, L Fry, N Mountain, G Morris, J Harris, W Haigh. Also present: Mr & Mrs Womack of the Best Kept Villages Group and local resident Mr R Matthews.
- 2. Public Representations:** Mr R Matthews attended to express concerns regarding dangerous parking practices, road use issues on and around Laurel Road and problems with youths. He mentioned in particular things such as parking too close to junctions, speeding vehicles and youths "playing chicken" with cars. Council agreed and sympathised with all the issues raised and told Mr Matthews of its intention to erect wooden bollards on one green at the top of Laurel Road. Also that requests for traffic calming measures for the whole of Laurel Road have been refused by NCC. Council suggested that all illegal parking and incidents with the youths should be reported to the Police. Cllr Cornelious had also reported the problem to the Anti-Social Behavioural Unit of NCC and is awaiting a response. Council assured Mr Matthews that they were aware of the issues in this area and would continue to try to help resolve them.
- 3. Best Kept Villages Representatives:** Mr & Mrs Womack attended the meeting at the invitation of Council to discuss any needs the group may have or issues they wished to highlight. Mrs Womack reported that all the summer bedding planting had been completed with a red white and blue theme to celebrate the Jubilee, and that the BKV competition was to take place in the coming weeks. The planters close to the Friendly Fox pub had been planted, but had been moved due to the road widening for the new development and could not be seen properly from Caerphilly Road. Cllr Gregory agreed to assist in having them moved to a more prominent spot close by. Council discussed the possibility of utilising the planters from NCC if local residents close to where they were positioned agreed to care for them provided Council agreed to pay for the plants. The Caerphilly Road/Close project was discussed. Mr Womack asked if NCC will agree to tarmac the area, but Cllr Gregory mentioned that as Council had other plans, NCC spent the money elsewhere. Mrs Womack told Council the problem of people pulling up plants in the planters around the village continues and that the group works hard to constantly replace vandalised planters. It was noted that the areas around the trees in the car park needed attention, and the Clerk advised that the hanging baskets for the halls would be in place within a day or two. Cllr Gregory thanked the group for the wonderful job they do in making the villages look so attractive which was echoed by the whole Council.
Mr & Mrs Womack and Mr Matthews left the meeting at 7.40pm.
- 4. Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held 25th April 2012, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Harries. Arising from the minutes, Cllr Evans presented the shield to be given to Pentrepoeth School to commemorate the jubilee for presentation to the house winners on their sports day. Clerk to contact the school to arrange the presentation of the shield to the school and confirm plans for the school choir and orchestra to perform for local residents at Graig Hall in the near future. Cllr Gregory congratulated City Cllrs Cornelious and Williams on their re-election. He also advised Council that the donation of the LCD TV to the Mayor's event to raise funds for Luca had raised £241, the event overall raised £1050.
- 5. 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. The Clerk now raised all issues via the Contact Centre as agreed at the end of April meeting with the NCC Customer Services Manager Mr Kit Wilson.
- 6. Projects:**
 - a. Bassaleg CC – Cllr Fry confirmed the deep clean had taken place and the blinds contractor had been chosen.

- b. Caerphilly Rd/Close Junction landscaping – Cllr Fry was still keen to progress with this project as it was seen as a gateway to the villages from the Caerphilly approach. It was agreed that a costed and prioritised list for all the projects and needs of the ward should be compiled, analysed against the available funds and carried out in order. Cllrs to bring together a list at the next Full Council meeting in June.
- c. Play areas – Cllrs Gregory reported that a group of NCH residents are applying for a grant from NCH to assist with the Fort View play area refurbishment. The maximum grant available is £5K. The sub-committee was still trying to obtain funding and the group is to meet again to discuss progress.

7. Reports:

- a. Police – The Police had hoped that a new Sergeant would be able to attend; unfortunately this was not possible on the day.
- b. City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious reported that section 106 monies from the development of the former Rhiwderin allotment site would be used for completion of improved fencing for Pentrepoeth School. Cllr Williams advised that as NCC had reported that no funds were available for traffic calming measures on Pentrepoeth Road, that the Clerk request that missing 30mph speed signs be replaced.
- c. Graig CC – Cllr Fry reported that various jobs had been carried out including the Pump house, gent's toilets, the irrigation system for the hanging baskets and other minor repairs in the hall. The deep clean had taken place and a very good job done. Unfortunately a hall user had an accident which she attributed to the floor surface in the main hall; Cllr Fry had the cleaning company return and check the surfaces for any hazards which could cause injury.
- d. Rhiwderin CC – Cllr Gregory reported that the AGM would be held on June 11th and the estimated costs of the solicitor representing Council in the negotiation of the new lease would be £750.
- e. Best Kept Villages Group – Discussed above.
- f. Allotments – Following points raised at the recent allotment inspection, Cllr Haigh had contacted the Community Payback organiser and had secured a group who would clear up the area under the hedge on The Griffin side of the allotments on June 13th weather permitting. Cllr Caston reported that there were currently 3 people on the waiting list for an allotment. It was agreed that the committee should meet with Allotment Association representatives with a view to increasing the rents as the site was being heavily subsidised by Council since the cost so skips had risen so dramatically as had other overheads.
- g. Play Areas – Discussed above, additionally the play areas annual inspection had been completed and the minor issues arising were being addressed.
- h. Burial Board – The board have a meeting planned for 25th June.

8. Items for Next Agenda

Agreed – Cllr Caston expressed concern over the Clerk's workload and it was agreed that it should be added to the next agenda for discussion.

9. Planning:

- a. CONEX/12/452 – Part demolition of existing utility room and erection of single storey extensions to side and rear of property. Site: 19 Sunnybank, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8JP Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.
- b. CONEX/12/453 – Crown thinning of oak tree T29 protected by TPO 1/1979. Site: 3 Pant Glas Court, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8JE Type: Tree Preservation Order. Comment: Council supports the decision of the Tree Preservation Officers.
- c. CONEX/12/0362 – Retention of steel mesh timber framed fencing to part of existing stone canopy to use as external garden centre. Site: Morrison's, Azalea Road, Rogerstone, Newport. NP10 9SA. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections.
- d. CONEX/12/1363 – Installation of 1No. non-illuminated fascia sign, 2No. non-illuminated hanging signs and 2No. non-illuminated signs. Site: Morrison's, Azalea Road, Rogerstone, Newport. NP10 9SA. Application Type: Advertisement consent. Comment: No objections.

10. Items for Discussion/Action

- a. Update on Jubilee walk commemoration – Cllr Harris reported that things were progressing well. NCC had agreed to meet and survey the route, assist in advertising and promoting it and help with placing route markers. Completion is anticipated by the end of the year. Cllr Harris was thanked for all his efforts.
- b. Erection of bollards on Wentworth Lane – It was proposed by Cllr Caston, seconded by Cllr Harris that the bollards quote for manufacture be accepted and the project move forward.

- c. Countryside Council for Wales re: maps of open access to mountain, moor, heath and registered common land – Cllr Harries had reviewed and requested that other Cllrs input into any comments Council should make.
- d. Invitation to OVW 2012 Conference & AGM – Noted, but not taken up.
- e. Items for discussion at forthcoming Liaison meeting with NCC – Cllr Whitfield expressed concerns that any requests Council makes to NCC are refused. It was felt that the Graig ward suffers a lack of support from City Council which should be brought to the Liaison meeting to discuss if other Community Councils have the same problem. Clerk to ask for this issue to be added to the agenda for the meeting along with the Concurrent allocation issue already proposed for the agenda.
- f. Invitation to comment on Welsh Government white paper Promoting Local Democracy – Cllr Harris offered to review and form a comment if necessary.
- g. Installation of bollards on Laurel Road – Cllr Caston proposed this project go ahead, seconded by Cllr Whitfield. Clerk to ask NCC if there were any other permissions needed in order to proceed.

11. Correspondence for Information - Not discussed

12. Accounts Approved for Payment

a. Clerk salary and expenses for May 2012	£1352.71
b. C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance May 2012 including amending	
c. signage at Rhiwderin play area	£315.00
d. Alberto Ubaldi – plumbing works to Graig Hall	£485.00
e. R Charles Plastics – maintenance to Graig Hall	£420.00
f. Network Waste – allotment skip (already approved)	£442.80
g. Crystal Cleaning Solutions – deep clean of Graig Hall	£804.00
h. Staples – printer ink	£60.88
i. Steve Rose – decoration of notice boards	£150.00

Receipts

NCC – 1 st Precept instalment	£13903.50
NCC – Concurrent payment	£10550.00
NCC – Concurrent adjustment	£3487.00

13. Dates of next meetings:

Planning & Environment Meeting – Wednesday 13th June 2012
 Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 27th June 2012

Cllr Gregory reported to Council that a complaint had been received from a local resident regarding the speed of emergency and Police vehicles travelling through the village. The Clerk had forwarded details on to Council's Police contacts and Cllr Gregory had by coincidence met the Chief Constable of Gwent Police, Carmel Napier and told her of the complaint. Chief Constable Napier asked for details and promised to send around an officer to speak with the gentleman, and to re-iterate to all Police and emergency staff the rules regarding driving to and from emergencies.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.15pm. Confirmed this day, 27th June 2012.

Signed..... (Chair) – 30th May 2012

Posted to notice boards 06.07.12