



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg 7pm 26th September 2012.

Minutes of Meeting held at the Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 26th September 2012.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs A Whitfield, K Harris, G Morris.
Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, D Evans, P Stokes, M Smart, K Sayer, M Cornelious, D Williams, P John, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, K Ashton.
2. **Public Representations:** None
3. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held 29th August 2012, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Smart.
Also approved were the minutes of the Public Meeting held at Bassaleg School (subject to minor revision). Proposed Cllr Caston, seconded by Cllr Smart. City Cllr D Williams complimented Council on the organisation at short notice of the public meeting. Cllr Gregory confirmed that approximately 250 members of the public attended, and the help given by the Caretaker of the school and the NCC representatives were very much appreciated. Additionally, the help and co-operation of the producers of the Bassaleg & Rhiwderin Directory making it possible to advertise the meeting to reach all households had been invaluable.
Cllr Ashton joined the meeting at 7.10pm.
Cllr Gregory had been contacted by various members of the public expressing thanks for being alerted to the issues, various other Councillors had also been approached both after the event and on the evening of the meeting. Cllr Stokes expressed thanks to City Cllr Cornelious for alerting Council to the issues.
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. The Clerk pointed out that since the report had been produced it was realised that the road markings in Rhiwderin had been renewed. The Coach House on Caerphilly Road was discussed. It was thought that an improvement order should be requested to make the building more presentable as it stands in a very prominent position in the village and looks so unattractive – Cllr Cornelious to explore. It was noted that despite a site visit and an agreement that the fencing on the raised path alongside Yew Tree Cottage on Caerphilly Road, no repair had been attempted by NCC. Cllr Haigh asked that Cllr Cornelious chase up the position regarding reinstating the double yellow lines at Channel View, Cllr Cornelious was attending to this, and Cllr Haigh also agreed to ring the Contact Centre to report the issue.
5. **Projects:**
Deferred until later in the meeting.
6. **Reports:**
 - f. Discussed out of turn. Issues arising from the allotment inspection were discussed
Cllr Harris joined the meeting at 7.35pm
 - a. Police – Not able to attend, a report submitted in their absence was read to Council. It told of 96 calls to the Police during September – 20 of which were crimes. 5 had been detected with enquiries ongoing with the remainder. The breakdown was 6 X theft other, 2 X vehicle crimes, 3 X criminal damage, 3 X drugs offences, 1 X violence other, 1 X notifiable other, 1 X fraud and 1 X burglary other. There is an ongoing operation to counter vehicle crime in the area, and residents are asked to be extra vigilant night and day, reporting any suspicious persons or vehicles in their streets or local area. The action plan regarding off-road bikes is still in action but no bikes have been impounded to date. A new Neighbourhood Watch scheme has been set up in Springfield Close, Rhiwderin. Anyone interested in setting up a scheme should contact Rogerstone Police Station on 01633 895019. Additionally it was discussed that the Council's notice board at St. Basil's Church had been vandalised for the 3rd time, and there are ongoing security issues at Pentrepoeth Primary School. It was discussed whether the turning off of street lights at night would have an impact on crime in the villages.

- b. City Councillors – Cllr D Williams suggested that if the switching off of street lights in a particular area was of concern, that a request could be made for individual lights to remain on, but that in order to do this a light in another area would need to be switched off. He also reported that there were issues in Afon Village with motor cycles using a footpath alongside the fencing erected a few years back. Cllr Williams is attempting to have the footpath adopted by NCC so this issue and maintenance of the footpath will be attended to by them. Cllr Cornelious reported that she had looked into the issue raised previously regarding the possible closure of Junction 27 of the and confirmed that no officers in the City Council were aware of such a plan, only that at some point junctions 27 and 28 along with others would be closed temporarily for short periods of time to allow for essential maintenance to be carried out, and that this is usually completed during late evening/night time periods when traffic is minimal. This is arranged by the Welsh Government, not NCC. She also reported that pedestrians from Rhiwderin to Pentrepoeth School had requested some dropped pavements along the route which she is attempting to arrange. It was discussed if there could be somewhere in the villages to site a MUGA for children – it was thought that the best place might be on the Bassaleg School grounds close to The Griffin, Cllr Cornelious to approach the school to enquire if this would be possible.
- c. Graig CC – Cllr Fry confirmed the new cleaner’s cupboard had been completed and was in use.
- d. Rhiwderin CC – Cllr Gregory reported that the lease was progressing well.
- e. Best Kept Villages Group – The group requested £100 towards winter bedding plants for the areas which were previously planted by NCC but were now kindly being attended to by the group. Approval was given and the payment was added to the list on the agenda.
- f. Allotments – Discussed above.
- g. Play Areas – An article had been placed in the Argus regarding Council’s attempt at a competition to win a free makeover for the Fort View site, but it was noted that voting was going poorly and there was little chance of winning. The play area at Rhiwderin was still an issue as despite continued requests, Council had been unable to secure a new lease to date. Cllr Cornelious reported that a new disabled swing was needed for the site.
- h. Burial Board – An email from the Burial Board Clerk was read which stated that Rogerstone CC had not yet given over their share of the Precept needed for the running of the cemetery, Cllr Williams to look into the matter.

5. Projects:

- a. Play areas - Discussed above, nothing further.
- b. Jubilee Path – Cllr Harris updated Council on the progress of the path. The graphic artist at NCC was in the process of making up plans of the walk and finalising designs for the waymarkers.

7. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Council’s policies and procedures review – 30th January 2013 agreed, Clerk to add the issue of overgrown trees at Orchard Close to the 31st October meeting agenda.

8. Planning:

- a. CONEX/12/0758 – AMENDED DETAILS Two storey side extension, erection of rear dormer and new porch to main front entrance. Site: 17 Parkwood Drive, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8JT Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.
- b. CONEX/12/0893 – Siting of temporary agricultural workers dwelling and formation of access. Site: Land North and adjacent to Coed Mawr Cottage, Fox Hill, Rhiwderin, Newport. Application Type: Full. Comment: Council has reservations as previous applications had been refused and Council could see no justification for the development from an agricultural point of view.
- c. Planning training at NCC – Not taken up.

9. Items for Discussion/Action

- a. Set date for wish list meeting – Date set at 24th October 2012.
- b. Review outcome of Public Meeting – Discussed above.
- c. Erection of bollards on Wentworth Lane – The project has been completed.
- d. Mazars completed audit of accounts – Clerk informed Council the audit was complete and the paperwork was inspected, no issues were highlighted. Clerk will advertise the statutory notice for public inspection in the notice boards as required.
- e. Update on Liaison Meeting – Many Clerks and Councillors complained to NCC that Community Councils were not consulted during the drawing up of a shortlist of sites suitable for gypsies and travellers, Graig Council asked why almost every request, however reasonable, was refused by NCC. Concurrent allocations were raised again as the ongoing dispersal of funds are still deemed to

be unfair. Clerks had been requested to submit financial information for NCC to use to attempt a fairer distribution based on need.

- f. Review of Gypsy & Traveller Sites – discussed above, no sites in the Graig ward had been identified as suitable.
- g. Christmas celebration arrangements – It was decided to discover when the Pentrepoeth Primary schoolchildren would be able to attend to sing carols and the event will be held either 30th November or 7th December.
- h. Honorariums – As usual it was agreed to present honorariums to the caretaker and bookings clerk at Rhiwderin in recognition of their continued valuable service to the community.
- i. Pentrepoeth School Governor – Cllr Evans' term of office was due to end in November. Cllr Evans expressed the wish to continue to represent the Council on the Board of Governors which was agreed by all.
Cllr Sayer left the meeting at 9.05pm.
- j. Update on bollards for Laurel road – NCC required payment in full before placing the order for the work, but would not commit to a start date. City Councillors to investigate.
- k. Possible closure of Junction 27 High Cross motorway slip roads – discussed above.
- l. Pye Corner railway station – Clerk to write to Welsh Government to strongly support the opening of a railway station as soon as possible at Pye Corner, and urge progress on a permanent link to Newport.

10. Correspondence for Information:

Not discussed.

11. Accounts for Payment: Approved – Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Evans

Clerk salary and expenses for September 2012	£1535.15
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance September 2012	£310.00
HMRC – PAYE & NI for Jul-Sep 2012	£1546.50
Marine Shipping – manufacture & installation of bollards etc to Wentworth Lane	£1902.00
S Rose – decoration and making good to cleaner's cupboard at Graig Hall	£380.00
NCC Streetscene – payment for bollards installation at Laurel Road	£1750.00
Staples – purchase of printer, inks, insurance	£270.36
Staples – printing costs for Public Meeting	£207.70
Newport City Homes – grass cutting to Fort View play area for August 2012	£212.04
Celtic Fire Protection Co. – fire extinguisher testing at Graig Hall	£29.88
Celtic Fire Protection Co. – fire extinguisher testing to Rhiwderin CC	£44.82
Alberto Ubaldi – plumbing costs for cleaner's cupboard at Graig Hall	£1150.00
LN Electrical Services – electrical costs for cleaner's cupboard at Graig Hall	£515.00
Spanglefish – website charges	£24.95
Saldo – repair of water leak at Rhiwderin CC	£525.00
R Charles Plastics – costs for cleaner's cupboard and repair of notice board (£70)	£2070.00
Best Kept Villages – winter bedding plants	£100.00

Receipts

None

12. Dates of next meetings:

- a. Planning & Environment Meeting – Wednesday 10th October 2012
- b. Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 31st October 2012

13. Urgent Business not on discussed above.

Cllr Gregory reminded all that the Rhiwderin quiz night was to be held on Saturday 29th October.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.20pm. Confirmed this 31st day of October 2012.

Signed..... (Chair) – 31st October 2012

Posted to notice boards 09.11.12