



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg 7pm 30th January 2013.

Minutes of Meeting held at the Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 30th January 2012.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs P John, N Mountain, K Ashton.
Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, P Stokes, M Smart, K Sayer, K Harries, M Cornelious, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, V Cox-Wall.
2. **Public Representations:** None
3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 9th January 2013, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Harries.
4. **Clerk's Report:**

The Clerk's Report previously circulated was discussed. It was noted that the fence on the raised path through the woodland on Caerphilly Road had been repaired by NCC, but no-one had seen any works to the trees take place. No works had been carried out to clean up the area of Bryn Hedydd hammerhead, and Cllr Cornelious confirmed that the footpath from that area onto Caerphilly Close had not been adopted so was unlikely to be touched by NCC. The grit bin at the end of Caerphilly Close near the Friendly Fox had still not been replaced despite Cllr Cornelious also having confirmation this would be attended to in due course. Clerk to chase up all the above issues for an update on progress. Cllr Haigh to check whether the reported street lamp opposite Garth Terrace has been repaired. It was noted that the Coach House on Caerphilly Road was now in the process of being developed which Council were glad to hear. As an aside, Cllr Stokes asked that a coat and hat stand be purchased for the meeting room at Graig Hall. Clerk to arrange when ordering furniture for the room in the near future.
5. **Projects:**
 - a. Play Areas: Cllr Gregory expressed concern that the planning application necessary for a successful bid to obtain funding for the Fort View project has been held up, and asked Council to encourage more people to complete the online survey.
 - b. Jubilee Path: Cllr Harris submitted a draft map of the entire walk, and signage was discussed for the official starting point for the walk outside Graig Hall.
6. **Reports:**
 - a. Police – Unable to attend and no report had been submitted. Cllr Gregory had no response to his invitation for the new Sergeant to attend the meeting as was previously promised. Council spoke of a car which had been stolen whilst being left unattended during de-icing, residents are reminded to be mindful of leaving vehicles unattended at any time. The lack of Police presence was discussed, it was noted that they are unable to attend less and less. Council agreed that Police attendance as often as possible is important, Clerk to urge attendance. Cllr Gregory reported that OWL which is presently paid for by Gwent Police cannot be funded by them for the coming year, it is hoped a new form of funding can be obtained as currently 22,000 people use the service and this number is rising.
 - b. City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious expressed concern regarding the excess rainwater emerging from the fields adjacent to Cwm Cuddy Drive spilling out onto Caerphilly Close near the junction of Caerphilly Road/Close as it had the potential to freeze as temperatures dropped. She also pointed out the dangerous condition of the footbridge over the A467 in the recent snow and was to request a grit bin to service the bridge. She informed Council that she was aware of some discord between homeowners in the new Gerddi Rhiwderyn housing estate and homeowners in Tredegar Street over parking spaces. Following discussions regarding dog fouling at the previous meeting, Cllr Cornelious had requested no dog fouling signs from NCC.
 - c. Graig CC – Cllr Fry reported that the installation of a dado rail and moving of radiators in the meeting room had not yet been carried out due to the weather but would take place during the following week or two. The drainage outside the Hall would also be investigated soon as the rainwater gullies were blocked and water was pooling close to the entrance to the Hall. Who has the

right to park in the Hall car park was also discussed as it was noted that some large vans and pick-up trucks seem to be regularly parked in the car park.

- d. Rhiwderin CC – Cllr Gregory reported that a copy of the new lease had been given to Council, and that the lady who injured herself at the Centre before Christmas had still not recovered. Following the survey undertaken at the Centre, access had been restricted to prevent the use of the Meithrin play area until a wall in the area which had been reported as a potential danger could be repaired. An architect was working on producing a set of options for upgrading the Centre which would be put before the Management Committee who would investigate the options and suggest the best option for Council to take forward.
- e. Best Kept Villages Group – NTR from the group. A meeting to be arranged with representatives of both Council and the group on how best to utilise planters loaned to the Council. It was suggested that maybe the group would consider taking on a management role for grounds maintenance in the ward. The meeting to take place prior to the next full council meeting and progress reported back to Council at the end of February.
- f. Allotments – NTR.
- g. Play Areas – Still no movement on the situation regarding Rhiwderin play area. Clerk to chase progress with replacement seat in toddlers play area.
- h. Burial Board – NTR. Next meeting planned for 6th February 2013.

7. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Council's policies & procedures review – 27th February 2013 meeting (previously cancelled)

8. Planning:

- a. CONEX/12/1236 – Erection of two storey side extension. Site: 17 Harlech Drive, Rhiwderin, Newport NP10 8QS. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections but Council expressed concern at the loss of the natural environment.
- b. CONEX/12/1238 – Single storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory and re-covering of existing flat roof. Site: 8 Ffos-y-fran, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8LU. Application Type: Full. Comment: No Objections.

9. Items for Discussion/Action

- a. Cllr Fry's proposals for improvements to Station Approach/Viaduct Way junction – Cllr Fry submitted a plan to improve the area with a change in the road layout. It was agreed that Cllr Fry continue work on the proposal and for Cllr Cornelious to ask the Highways department if they would be willing to meet on site to discuss its possibilities (proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Stokes). Cllr Sayer expressed concerns regarding parking on Station Approach especially since the new Church Hall has so little of its own parking space. It was noted that this is a privately owned road, and that different planning criteria must have applied.
- b. Caerphilly Road replacement fencing quote – Cllr Fry presented 4 quotes ranging from £13k to £16.5K, Cllr Caston proposed Council move forward with the project, seconded by Cllr Stokes and agreed by all. Council representatives to meet with NCC planning officer to discuss making an application to planning. This item will be added to the Projects section of future agendas until its completion.
- c. Signage for Pentrepoeth School (update) – preliminary costings had been obtained but no definite layout of the signage had been decided. Following a Governors meeting the Headmistress of the school will find out how other schools in the area had obtained new signage recently as Council believed this should be mainly paid for from NCC budgets.
- d. Mc Donald's potential change of opening hours (update) – Emails from a resident local to Mc Donald's were read and discussed. Following advice from the Clerk the resident had kindly canvassed his neighbours and produced a list of objectors in readiness for submission to NCC should any change in opening hours be applied for. Clerk to monitor the situation and report any change of circumstances.
- e. Possibility of parking restrictions at St Basil's shops – The Clerk had requested that NCC consider placing a 2 hour parking restriction on the parking bays in the shops area. This action is as a result of elderly residents being unable to park as it is believed that some cars regularly parked in this area belong to neighbouring residents or people who car share throughout the day. A traffic Order is being considered but will be dependent on Police reports which will take a few weeks to obtain. Clerk to add to the Clerk's Report to monitor progress.
- f. Additional information required regarding Concurrent expenditure – Following on from Council's push at Liaison meetings for a fairer distribution of concurrent funding for smaller Councils, the

Clerk had been asked to supply some very detailed information regarding the Community Council's areas of financial responsibilities. Council hoped this would lead to a conclusion in the near future.

10. Correspondence for Information:

Not discussed.

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

Clerk salary and expenses for January 2012	£1614.35
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance January 2012	£250.00
Calico – retention of Council's Domain name for a further 3 years	£48.60
Newport City Council (planning application costs to renew fencing)	£165.00

Receipts

None

12. Dates of next meetings:

Planning & Environment Meeting – Wednesday 13th February 2013

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 27th February 2013

13. Urgent Business not on discussed above.

Sewage problems on Caerphilly Close – Council became aware that residents at the beginning of Caerphilly Close had for some time been having issues with raw sewage emerging into their front and rear gardens during the excessive rain experienced lately. Talks with NCC and Dwr Cymru had not yielded a solution so Council were asked to get involved. Cllr Gregory to write to both parties to look to a solution as soon as possible to resolve the serious H&S risk.

Cllr Evans told Council that City and Community Councillor for Rogerstone Mrs Val Dudley had asked for permission to sit in on one of Council's meetings. Cllr Evans to inform Cllr Dudley that all Council meetings are open to any member of the public, and she was most welcome to attend.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.12pm. Confirmed this 27th day of February 2013.

Signed..... (Chair) – 27th February 2013

Posted to notice boards 08.03.13