



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm 24th April 2013.

Minutes of the Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 24th April 2012.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs K Ashton, D Williams.

Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, P Stokes, K Sayer, K Harries, M Cornelious, P John, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, V Cox-Wall.

2. Public Representations: None

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held 27th March 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. With regard to item 7, the potholes at the top of Penylan Road had been filled but not the ones at the bottom of the road. Cllr Cornelious reported that NCC are looking for a permanent solution to the surface water on the road, otherwise any potholes filled would re-open very quickly as the area is almost always running with water from the bordering fields. Cllr Cornelious also reported that she had followed up the issue of re-instating double yellow lines on Channel View, but NCC disputed that there were ever any lines there previously. Cllrs Gregory and Fry expressed concern regarding the safety issue of broken fencing on the boundary of the footpath from opposite the Friendly Fox up to Pentrepoeth School, Cllr Cornelious had spoken to an officer at NCC who advised that any fencing issues belonged to the developer/owner of the land on the old Garthfield Cottage site. This issue to be added to the Clerk's Report.

5. Projects:

- a. Play Areas: Cllr Gregory reported that things were progressing with the application, it was hoped that the planning permission stage would be finalised soon. Once permission was granted the funding submission could be completed.
- b. Jubilee Path: Cllr Harris reported that the posts for the way markers were being erected and a section of the footpath was being improved. A payment for the memorial plaque produced for former Cllr Frank Rees would be presented later in the meeting. Cllr Harris asked Council if a dedication at Church would be a fitting tribute for when the plaque was being erected, it was decided this was a nice gesture and Cllr Harris agreed to investigate the possibility.
- c. Fencing between open space and Caerphilly Road: Cllr Fry reported that planning permission was awaited, and that he hoped to have confirmation by the next meeting that it had been granted. He had obtained two new quotes for the agreed possible introduction of wooden bollards in addition to the fencing which came in at an extra £1852 from one supplier and £1640 from the other if taken up. Once permission had been granted he would undertake a full pricing exercise.

6. Reports:

- a. Police – Not present. Cllr Harris reported that a car had been vandalised on Caerphilly Road and it was noted that low level petty crime was becoming an issue in the area. Cllr Cox-Wall reported that there had been an incident of intimidation reported at Churchmead and Cllr Fry reported that the notice board at the junction of Churchmead/Station Approach had been vandalised yet again. It was noted that this year alone, notice board repairs due to vandalism had cost in excess of £1000. Council asked the Clerk to minute that these costs are borne by residents of the ward and ask that they be vigilant, and report any suspicious activity to the Police.
- b. City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious reported she had been following up on issues reported in the Clerk's Report, but as NCC were tightening their belts even more, getting any positive responses was very difficult.
- c. Graig CC – Following discussions on enlarging the committee room, Cllr Fry obtained quotes to move the kitchen from its current location to the long side room and knock through from the meeting room into the current kitchen location. Quotes varied between £19.5K to £25.5K. Cllr Gregory told the group that the reason the meeting was being held in the long side room this evening instead of the usual committee room was to see if Council felt the side room could be an option for holding

future meetings. It was agreed that due to the shape of the room, it was difficult to hold a successful meetings in the side room. Cllrs were asked to think about the options and it would be discussed at the next meeting.

- d. Rhiwderin CC – Cllr Gregory reported that the architect drawing up plans for the preferred option of improvements for the Centre had not finalised the drawings, but hoped that he would have them by the next planning meeting. After Council's agreement to borrow money to carry out the Centre's upgrade and other outstanding projects, the next step was to submit a request to the Welsh Government for borrowing approval. Cllr Whitfield had approached them to request a meeting and was awaiting a reply.
- e. Best Kept Villages Group – Council were reminded that the litter picks were in progress and to help out with volunteering whenever they were able.
- f. Allotments – Cllr Caston reported that the Allotment Secretary Mr Barber was busy letting available plots, but had expressed concerns regarding the security of the allotments should Council go ahead with placing a kissing gate against the allotment fencing. It was agreed that to do so would compromise the security of the allotments as the gate could give access over the allotment fence. Council agreed that steps would be taken to ensure allotment security would not be compromised, and a solution would be found prior to the kissing gate being installed.
- g. Play Areas – NTR
- h. Burial Board – Cllr Gregory had received a complaint from a resident that the Board had decided that burial plots were no longer available to pre-purchase. The resident felt that such an important decision should have been reverted back to the respective Councils rather than decided by the Board. Cllrs represented on the Burial Board refuted the claim as the Members had been voted to the Board to represent their respective Councils, and in doing so, Council gave the Members the authority to make decisions on Council's behalf. The Chairman of the Burial Board upheld the decision of the Board. It was noted that the reason plots could no longer be pre-purchased was that space is running very short at the cemetery, and maintenance costs were increasing. Pre-purchased plots may lay dormant for decades which would bring in initial income short term, but would fill up the cemetery more quickly.

7. Items for Next Agenda

Review of the effectiveness of the internal auditor – May 8th meeting
LDP Presentation - June 12th meeting (meeting to start at 6.30pm)

8. Planning:

CONEX/12/0202 - Erection of two storey side extension, new porch to front main entrance, single storey rear extension, extension to front canopy, new additional car parking to front garden, internal alterations to ground floor and first floor levels of main house (resubmission following refusal of 12/0758). Site, 17 Parkwood Drive, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8JT. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provide neighbours are consulted and agree.

CONEX/13/0263 - Demolition of existing garage and erection of new two storey detached dwelling. Site: 9 Laurel Road, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8NS. Application Type: Full. Comment: Council strongly objects to this development on the grounds that it would not be in keeping with the current street scene and openness of the area. Also that it would be overdevelopment of the site.

CONEX/13/0306 - Conversion of existing garage into reception room. Site: 2 Caernarvon Drive, Rhiwderin, Newport. NP10 8QT. Application Type: Full. Comment: Council has concerns regarding the proposed space allocated for parking spaces as it looks to be inadequate.

CONEX/13/0319 - Change of roof from hipped to gable to provide first floor accommodation, demolition of existing extension and garage, formation of new single storey flat roof extension to rear, new garage and garden room to side plus dormer to rear (amendment to planning permission 12/0246). Site: 15 Pentre Tai Road, Rhiwderin, Newport. NP10 8RL. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.

CONEX/13/0352 - Reserved matters application to outline planning permission 13/0107 for the construction of a single dwelling. Site: Land adjacent to and west of 1 and 2 Ruperra Close, Bassaleg, Newport. Application Type: Reserved Matters. Comment: Council reiterates all its former objections to this development and deem it to be a gross overdevelopment of the site.

CONEX/13/0353 - Erection of orangery to rear of property. Site: 19 Court Crescent, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8NH. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.

9. Items for Discussion/Action

- a. Letter of authority for funds transfer - Clerk asked Council to authorise a letter allowing for her to transfer Council funds from its deposit account to its current account. This was agreed and the letter signed. Clerk to action.
- b. Letter from Welsh Government re Community Infrastructure Levy - Cllr Caston to review and revert to Council at the next meeting.
- c. Proposed letters to Orchard Close residents - Clerk submitted a draft letter to Orchard Close residents inviting them to meet with Council to discuss the trees separating their properties from Caerphilly Road. Council approved the draft, Clerk to produce copies for Cllr Gregory to distribute to each household.
- d. Email response from NCC re: suggested change to road layout at Caerphilly Rd/Close junction - following Council's response to an invitation to comment on the proposal to introduce a Nursery facility at Pentrepoeth School, an email was received from NCC regarding concerns Council expressed about an increase in traffic, with specific regard to the junction of Caerphilly Close/Road. NCC Streetscene refuted that the increase would be significant, and Council's suggestion of improvements to the junction were deemed unnecessary. Following this response, Cllr Fry asked that the proposed scheme to improve the visual aspect of this junction be resurrected. Cllr Gregory reported that he was trying to communicate with the officer who was responsible for carrying out requested repairs to the tarmac on the area in question, to see how much more expensive it would be to tarmac most of the area instead of just patched repairs which will look even more unsightly than at present, but to date had had no response to emails sent.

10. Correspondence for Information:

Not discussed.

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

Clerk salary & office allowance April 2013	£1528.02
April miscellaneous expenses	£229.70
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance April 2013	£250.00
Celtic Displays - commemorative plaque for Cllr Rees	£84.00
Aon - annual insurance premium	£4177.06
WM Garden Services - repairs to Bassaleg toddlers play park	£264.00
Royston Charles - repair of vandalised notice boards	£185.00

Receipts

None

12. Dates of next meetings:

Planning & Environment Meeting – Wednesday 8th May 2013
Full Council Meeting & AGM – Wednesday 29th May 2013

13. Urgent Business not on discussed above.

None

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.00pm. Confirmed this 29th day of May 2013.

Signed..... (Chair) – 29th May 2013

Posted to notice boards 07.06.13