



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm 30th October 2013.

Minutes of the Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 30th October 2013.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs K Harries, L Fry, D Williams.
Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, P Stokes, M Smart, K Sayer, M Cornelious, P John, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, V Cox-Wall. Also present PCSO Chris Evans.
2. **Public Representations:** None.

Item 6. Reports (a) - PCSO Evans was heard first to enable him to continue his duties. PCSO Evans read a report to Council. The report included October's statistics which were as follows: 109 calls to Police, 14 were crimes, 5 had been detected with the remainder still being investigated. Residents are urged to be extra vigilant, ensuring their properties are secure at all times and that vehicles are properly secure when left unattended with anything of value kept out of sight. 2 people were arrested in Clearwell Court under the mis-use of drugs act and regular patrols are being carried out in Springfield Lane. Youths causing problems at Graig Community Hall have been spoken to, and one female has since been arrested for bad behaviour in the local area. Following complaints of un-taxed vehicles in the Bassaleg area, the DVLA have taken action and the vehicles have been removed. Parking tickets had been issued in Court Crescent, and vehicles have been dealt with in Russell Close following complaints. NCC Community Safety Wardens will be patrolling locally in the near future to deter dog fouling and littering. Following October's PACT meeting a speed survey will be carried out on Caerphilly Road in the near future. Anyone interested in the Online Watch Link (OWL) should contact Rogerstone Police Station on 01633 895019.

Cllr Smart asked if any progress had been made with the investigation into the theft of lead from St Basil's Church, PCSO Evans believed it was still in the process of being investigated. Cllr Cox-Wall informed the group that the Council notice board at St Basil's had just had the final pane of glass broken. Cllr Evans asked that the issue of disturbances at Graig Hall continue to be looked at and was assured that a close eye will be kept on any issues. Cllr Gregory spoke of a workshop he attended hosted by ACC Bottomley about people's perception of how the Police are performing. There was lots of criticism that higher staff are moved on so quickly, but there was much praise for PCSO's. Cllr Cornelious reported that there is an issue with parents parking to pick up and drop of children to Pentrepoeth Primary at the end of Caerphilly Close. Some parents are using the Caerphilly Road entrance to the Friendly Fox car park as an exit instead of the Caerphilly Close exit. Also that lorries visiting the former Garthfield Cottage development are exiting over the verge which separates the end of Caerphilly Close from Caerphilly Road and even turning right at that blind bend to travel back towards Newport. PCSO Evans to look into these very dangerous practices. He was thanked for his time and left the meeting at 7.34pm.

3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 25th September 2013, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Evans.
4. **Clerk's Report:**
The Clerk's Report previously circulated was discussed. Arising from the Report - Item 12: Cllr Harris asked that maintenance be requested for the raised footpath on Caerphilly Road. Clerk to write to the contact centre.
5. **Projects:**
 - a. Play Areas: Fort View - Unfortunately, the hoped for funding from Veolia had been turned down. Cllr Cornelious was asked to contact Mike McGow of NCC to request that some section 106 monies thought to be earmarked for leisure facilities in the ward be diverted to assist with funding an upgrade - it was noted that in NCC's Draft Cultural Strategy it is the City Council's aim to improve play areas.
 - b. Fencing between the open space and Caerphilly Road: Cllr Fry reported that the remaining chain link fencing on the green close to the BKV sign will be removed shortly.

6. Reports:

- a. Police – Discussed above.
- b. City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious gave apologies for Cllr Williams and thanked all members who attended his Brother's funeral. Clerk to send a letter of condolence to Cllr Williams and his family. The new bus station for the city was being built but it was noted that it is very difficult at present as the old station closed before the new station was completed. Cllr Cornelious had attended a NCC training event on information confidentiality which she thought was very good and would be of benefit to the Council. Clerk to enquire if this training could be made available to Community Councils.
- c. Graig CC – Cllr Evans reported that he had ensured the hall would be free for Council's Christmas Lighting Event, that the light in the car park and on the back of the pump house had been repaired, and that the new ventilation for the toilets was scheduled for installation very soon.
- d. Rhiwderin CC – Cllr Gregory reported that there had been more problems with drainage, but it was hoped that it was now sorted. No news has been received from NetworkRail regarding when maintenance would be carried out on the railway embankment wall, Clerk to chase.
- e. Best Kept Villages Group – NTR
- f. Allotments – Cllr Harris offered to remove himself from the meeting as he was an allotment holder and had an interest in the item. It was not deemed necessary for him to do so and he was invited to stay. Cllr Caston reported that all empty plots had now been let and that there is currently no-one on the waiting list. A local company would be meeting Cllr Caston and Mr S Barber at the site shortly to discuss recommended security improvements to the allotment gates.
- g. Play Areas – Discussed above.
- h. Burial Board – Cllr Harris reported that the next meeting of the Board will take place on 18th November when the previously suggested cemetery rule book will be discussed.

7. Items for Next Agenda

Agreed

8. Planning:

- a. CONEX/13/1023 - Change of use from green space to create 9no. parking bays. Site: Land opposite 12 Ruperra Close, Bassaleg, Newport. Application Type: Full. Comment - Council supports this application.
- b. CONEX/13/1121 - Listed building consent for a new window to staircase and a new window as a result of en-suite. Site: Gloch Wen Farm, Harlech Drive, Rhiwderin, Newport. NP10 8RX. Application Type: Listed building. Comment - No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.
- c. Caerphilly CBC - Notification of public consultation exercises for review if necessary: Noted but not necessary to respond.

9. Items for Discussion/Action

- a. Welsh Government borrowing approval decision - Approval has been given to Council by the Welsh Government to borrow the funds needed to carry out the refurbishment to Rhiwderin Community Centre and other various projects in the ward. Confirmation has been given that borrowing must take place in the current financial year, but spending the funds can be spread over other financial periods to take into account that not all projects can be completed before April 2014. Clerk to arrange for a separate account to be opened to keep this sum separate from Council's current accounts.
- b. Dog fouling signs (update DW) - the signs will be erected shortly.
- c. Review of Welsh Government's proposed Designated Persons Order (MC) - Cllr Cornelious to review and report back to Council.
- d. Christmas lighting event - It was confirmed that this year's proceeds will be donated to Rhiwderin Village Meithrin Charity. The details of the event are being administered by the Events & Social Sub-Committee.
- e. M4 Corridor Improvements consultation - Clerk to forward the consultation details to all Councillors for individual comments to be made rather than a comment from the Council as a whole.
- f. Proposed dog fouling order being made by NCC for review and comment - Noted.
- g. Local Access Forum (JH) - Having attended the forum, Cllr Harris thought this may be of interest to all other NCC Community Councils. Clerk to forward details of NCC Democratic Services Officers to Cllr Harris for him to request they roll out the information to other Community Councils.

- h. Resident's email regarding signage in Tredegar Street Rhiwderin - An email received by the Clerk regarding the signage was read to Council. It was agreed that the new footpaths signs had been erected by NCC without the Community Council's knowledge.
- i. Invitation to Prostrate Cancer Awareness event: Cllr Haigh to look into.
- j. Caerphilly Rd/Close junction - NCC has offered to slurry the area to make the appearance more uniform. It was agreed that this would be helpful and would improve the area. A decision on how to make further improvements would be discussed at a later date.
- k. Posts erected on footpath north of Duffryn Close - The new posts erected at the end of Duffryn Close are new way markers related to the Graig Diamond Jubilee Path.
- l. Draft Cultural Strategy for Newport 2013/2020 review (PG) - Cllr Gregory to review and respond.
- m. Cllr Gregory reminded the group that Armistice Sunday was 10th November this year.

10. Correspondence for Information:

Noted, Cllr Caston was annoyed that Council's comments are not often displayed on planning decisions paperwork despite the fact that comments are almost always made. Cllrs Whitfield and Evans had both received certificates since Council nominated them for this year's Contribution to the Community award. Cllr Harris proposed that a new Sub Committee be formed to see how best to promote the Council via technology, this was seconded by Cllr Cox-Wall. The new committee to be made up of Cllrs Harris, Cox-Wall and Smart.

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

Clerk salary & office allowance September 2013	£1540.20
August miscellaneous expenses	£127.20
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance September 2013	£250.00
Newport City Homes - grass cutting to Fort View play area for September 2013	£212.04
Staples - office supplies (3 invoices)	£106.69
SW Directories - distribution of Christmas event leaflets	£90.00
Cllr Harris - refund of payment for Christmas event sundries	£6.30
Cllr Cox-Wall - refund of payment for Jubilee Path temporary map on Pump house	£23.39
Asbestos Safety Management Ltd - survey at Rhiwderin Community Centre	£540.00
Provincial Printing Co Ltd - production of Welsh version Jubilee Path leaflets	£146.00
Mazars - annual external audit costs	£510.00
Hedland Civil Engineering - works to Rhiwderin Community Centre coal bunker	£2120.98
Mr G Smith - honorarium	£200.00
Mr P Reid - honorarium	£200.00
Spanglefish - annual website fee (to have site with no advertising)	£24.95
Total	£6097.75

Receipts

NCC - Website Grant	£500.00
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12. Dates of next meetings:

Planning & Environment Meeting – Wednesday 13th November 2013
 Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 27th November 2013

13. Urgent Business not on discussed above.

Cllr Smart noted that The Ruperra was re-opening the following day under the new management of Mr J Thomas who also runs The Lamb in Newport. Mr Thomas has requested the support of the community in this venture.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.00pm. Confirmed this 27th day of November 2013.

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

Posted to notice boards 06.12.13