



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 27th August 2014.

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1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs P Gregory, W Haigh.

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

2. Public Representations: None.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held 30th July 2014, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Stokes seconded Cllr Evans.

4. Clerk's Report:

The Clerk's Report previously circulated was briefly discussed. The report was accepted as a true reflection of matters to date. Proposed Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr Evans. Regarding item 6, the Clerk updated Council that the issue was about to be resolved. Cllr Cornelious reported that Item 8 was still ongoing but progress was being made. Clerk asked to request that the raised path on Caerphilly Road and banking below be cleaned up and for this item to added to the Clerk's report to track progress.

5. Projects:

- a. Graig Hall coffee room vision panel: Cllr Fry reported that following receipt of the certificate from Building Control, he would proceed with plans for the vision panel. The certificate should be available soon.
- b. Footpath through open space in Bassaleg: Cllr Fry advised Council that a quote of £3500 had been given by Council's usual contractor for widening the path and installing a suitable walking surface. It was agreed that the path should be detoured slightly to allow for making extra parking spaces. Cllr Fry suggested that the work could be incorporated into a quote for the Caerphilly Road Close Junction project which Council had also agreed would take place as this could bring down the price. As the plans for the project had already been drawn up, the quote could be based on those plans. Cllr Stokes queried that the plans previously drawn up for the project had been approved by Council and the Clerk confirmed that although Council has previously agreed that the project should go ahead in principle, that the previously drawn up plans had not been approved and that other options should be looked at. Cllr Fry to bring the plans to the next Planning meeting to be discussed.
- c. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade: In Cllr Gregory's absence, the Clerk updated Council on this item. The building work was progressing well, the toilet block was yet to be completed, and the car park resurfacing was just about complete. It was agreed to hold the next Planning meeting at Rhiwderin Community Centre so Council could have a tour of the building.

6. Reports:

- a. Police – Not able to attend, but the Clerk reported that in recent correspondence from Inspector Hayes, he provided more information about the mobile camera unit as agreed. The report was circulated at the meeting. Apologies were given by the Police who explained that they were tied up with arrangements for the forthcoming NATO Summit. The monthly report is as follows: There were 79 calls to the Police during August, 9 of which were crimes. The breakdown was 2 x theft other, 2 x vehicle crimes, 1 x burglary, 1 x burglary non-dwelling, 1 x criminal damage, 1 x misc crimes against society, 1 x assault. 4 of the crimes had already been detected with the others under investigation. PCSO Dean had been carrying out pop-up surgeries, the times of which were advertised on the Gwent Police website. If there is anyone wishing to discuss or highlight any issues to them as a team then please go along to one of the surgeries or email them directly, all email addresses are advertised on the Gwent Police website on the Neighbourhood Policing page.
- b. City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious reported that the Summer play scheme held at Rhiwderin Community Centre went very well, and that there were no issues with the builders working on the Centre at the time. There had been a press release issued by NCC to reassure residents that none of the costs of the NATO Summit were being borne by the City Council. Also that funding for the play areas of Graig had been passed at the City Council consultation stage and should be out for

more general consultation imminently. Cllr Cox-Wall asked who would be responsible for maintenance of the equipment once installed, Cllr Cornelious to check. Cllr Harris asked Cllr Cornelious if there was any truth in the rumour that there would be an access road from the new former Alcan site development into Rhiwderin, Cllr Cornelious confirmed that as far as she was aware there were definitely no plans for this.

Cllr Ashton joined the meeting at 7.37pm.

- c. Graig CC – Cllr Evans reported he and Cllrs Gregory and Harris attended Graig Hall car park the previous Friday evening to see how many cars were parking at the Hall and found that there were a few spare parking spaces. On speaking to the users they found that this was not a typical Friday evening as lots of club members were on holiday. They did find a way of creating 2 more parking spaces by detouring the footpath through the green which can be implemented when the footpath is renewed. Leaflets drawn up by the Clerk and Chair were presented and authorised to be placed on all cars in the car park known not to belong to hall users and not displaying permit badges. Cllr Harris had been conducting a survey of the cars and noted that some 15-17 cars are parked overnight regularly.
- d. Rhiwderin CC – Discussed above, AGM to take place on 1st September 2014.
- e. Best Kept Villages – NTR, Cllr Stokes mentioned that he always thanks group members when he sees them out working on the flower displays, and Council re-iterated it's grateful thanks to the group who do such a lovely job of beautifying the villages. The group is desperate for new volunteers to help with the task and asks that anyone interested in joining the group should either contact them when they are seen out working or to contact Mandy Womack on 01633 895145 or email her at mandy.womack@sky.com their litter picking schedule can be found on the Graig Community Council website.
- f. Allotments – As an allotment holder Cllr Harris offered to leave the meeting whilst this item was discussed but it was considered unnecessary. Cllr Caston reported that Council's local contractor had trimmed the hedge as previously agreed. It appeared that someone had strimmed both the inside and outside of the allotment perimeter fencing, although it was not known who carried this out. A date for the Autumn inspection was set for 12th October 2014 at 10.30am.
- g. Play Areas – Cllr Whitfield reminded Cllr Cornelious that the Community Council had done much work on Fort View play area, gaining planning permission and securing a layout for equipment whilst applying for outside funding some 2 years ago. Cllr Cornelious to pass this information to NCC.
- h. Burial Board – NTR, the next meeting of the board takes place in September.

7. Items for Next Agenda

Budget & Precept - 29th October meeting

8. Planning:

- a. CONEX/14/0667 - Retention of retaining walls, replacement access steps, front garden walls and widened brick paviour hardstanding. Site: 44 Ffos-y-fran, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8LU. Application Type: Full. Comment - No objections.

9. Items for Discussion/Action

- a. Website (update - Technologies Sub-Committee) - ongoing, the site is close to completion.
- b. Dilapidations schedule (KS) - Cllr Sayer had looked at the previously compiled schedule and determined there were some issues outstanding and other issues to be added to the schedule. Cllr Fry asked that he itemise what needs doing and brings the list back to Council for discussion at the 1st October meeting.
- c. Clerk's salary and appraisal - an appraisal was carried out by Cllrs Gregory and Whitfield who reported that they were satisfied with the Clerk's work but that she was difficult to appraise as very little fault could be found. As Council were concerned regarding the increasing workload and number of hours needed to cope with the work, the Clerk agreed to log her hours for a period of 1 month and bring the figures to the next end of month meeting for discussion. Council approved the incremental rise in salary in accordance with the Clerk's contract, and as the rise had not been taken when the appraisal was due and approved pay scale rates were set in April, that the rise be backdated to April 2014. The Council asked that it be noted that they felt very well served by the Clerk and wished to support her in all aspects of her work.
- d. Chairman's board - The Clerk submitted ideas for a modern honour's board which she was asked to pursue, and Cllr Evans advised the Clerk that his contact would be in touch with her to discuss a traditional board. Clerk to return with costs to the next meeting.

- e. Outstanding issues with NCC - At a former meeting, Council decided to formally write to the City Council representatives for the ward setting out their concerns at the lack of communication between the Community Council and City Council and request they take their concerns to the City Council for action to be taken. The Clerk formally passed on the letter to Cllr Cornelious at the meeting and as Cllr Williams was not in attendance, was to forward a copy to him via email.

10. Correspondence for Information:

Noted but not discussed.

11. Accounts for Payment: Accepted. Proposed Cllr John, seconded Cllr Harries.

Clerk salary & office allowance August 2014	£1551.64
August miscellaneous expenses	£39.15
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance August 2014	£250.00
Newport City Homes - grass cutting at Fort View play area July	£212.04
Newport City Council - annual lease charge for Rhiwderin Community Centre	£25.00
Newport City Council - building regs charges for Rhiwderin Community Centre	£562.21
Mr M Yearsley - architect fees in association with Rhiwderin CC upgrade	£1511.25
Celtic Fire Protection Co - fire extinguisher testing to both community centres	£113.09
Performing Right Society - annual fee for Graig Community Hall	£383.35

Total to date: £4647.73

Receipts

Newport City Council - 2nd Precept payment	£16529.45
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12. Dates of next meetings:

Planning Meeting – Wednesday 10th September 2014 at 7pm (at Rhiwderin Community Centre)
 Full Council Meeting - Wednesday 1st October 2014 at 7pm (due to Chairman's absence on 24th September)

13. Urgent Business not on discussed above.

Cllr Harries asked that the Clerk explore the possibility for NCC to install a "hidden junction" sign for traffic travelling downhill from the top of Laurel Road to advise of the Duffryn Close/Garth Close junctions.

Cllr Fry showed the group some photographs of the village he suggested should be put in the frames for the conference and small meeting room at Graig Hall.

Cllr Evans gave apologies for the next planning meeting in advance and Cllr Whitfield gave apologies for the next planning and full council meeting in advance.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.22pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 1st October 2014

Posted to notice boards 10.10.14

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