



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Combined Full Council and Planning & Environment Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 28th January 2015.**

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**1. Apologies for absence:** None.

**Present:** Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, P Stokes, M Smart, 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 4th December 2014, previously circulated were read and approved - proposed Cllr Harries, seconded Cllr Caston. It was agreed that the meeting was an historic event and photographs taken by an Argus reporter celebrating the 120yr anniversary of the first Graig Parish meeting were shown to the group.

**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 Harries seconded Cllr Caston.

**5. Projects:**

- a. Footpath through Bassaleg open space - Cllr Fry reported that the works were in progress, that the path had been extended from 1m to 1.2m wide by the contractor at no expense to Council due to this size being more suitable for the machinery he was using. The tarmac element of the work would be completed as soon as weather allowed. It was agreed that the new path was a big improvement and Cllr Fry was thanked for all his efforts in overseeing this project.
- b. Caerphilly Rd/Close junction - Following a meeting with AMEC regarding the scheduled replacement of the mains gas pipeline through the villages, Cllr Gregory reported that there would be issues with starting this project as AMEC would need to work in the same area. It was agreed to delay the project until AMEC had completed their works which could be as late as December 2015 - January 2016.
- c. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade - Cllr Gregory reported that he was waiting for quotes for the fire alarm extension. He also told Council of a recent accident at the Centre where at a children's party, a bouncy castle which was too tall for the ceilings in the main hall had been erected had damaged the suspended ceiling. This had been temporarily made safe and the £200 estimated costs of permanent repair were to be borne by the user and bouncy castle owner.
- d. Graig Hall photovoltaic cells - Cllr Fry told the group that the works had been completed well ahead of schedule and the Hall was already generating electricity and earning money. As there was disruption to the roof space to install an inverter, the loft insulation in the porch, entrance lobby, toilets and conference room areas had been replaced. The system works on daylight so generates energy in winter and summer. Council agreed that incidental expenses associated with the installation were acceptable.

**6. Reports:**

- a. Police – Not present and no report forwarded. Cllr Gregory read out the letter forwarded to PCC Ian Johnson and the replies received, one of which assured Council that the issues raised were already being addressed and monitored by the Gwent Police & Crime Panel. The Clerk had invited the new local Inspector and Sergeant to the 11th February meeting and it was hoped that they would attend.
- b. City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious reported that things had been quiet with the City Council as far as the ward was concerned. The LDP had been formerly adopted and it was good to see that the green belt between Newport and Cardiff had been retained. She was very proud of the pupils at Bassaleg School for their efforts in raising funds for Africa. Council were asked if anyone knew about the scrap lorries which seemed to be visiting Croescarneinon Farm. It was thought that the farm might be operating a scrap business and City Cllrs were asked to investigate this.  
Cllr Harris joined the meeting at 7.55pm
- c. Graig Community Hall – Cllr Harris advised the group that on revision of the documents for hiring the Hall and renewing the premises license he discovered that the paperwork and procedures for the Hall were out of date. It was also noticed that the emergency lighting was in need of repair/replacement at

a cost of £630. It was agreed that work to the emergency lighting was necessary and was approved. Proposed Cllr Stokes, seconded Cllr Whitfield.

- d. Rhiwderin CC – Discussed above.
- e. Best Kept Villages – NTR
- f. Allotments –Cllr Caston reported that 2 allotment holders had given up their plots. A local contractor had carried out some scheduled maintenance to the allotment site as previously agreed and some outstanding work was being arranged.
- g. Play Areas – Cllr Gregory advised Council that he was meeting with an Officer at NCC on 3rd April for an update, Cllr Whitfield and Mart also agreed to attend. The online consultation had been completed, and on the strength of the responses, the proposal for putting a play area on the junction of The Griffin and Caerphilly Rd had been withdrawn, and it would instead be put on the open space close to Graig Community Hall.
- h. Burial Board – NTR. The next meeting of the Board had been arranged for 9th February 2015.

## 7. Items for Next Agenda

Council finances - 11th February meeting

## 8. Items for Discussion/Action:

- a. Chairman's board - The Clerk informed Council that the order for the board had been placed and the finished product should be delivered in 6-7 weeks.
- b. Concurrent allocations review - The Clerk circulated a communication from NCC with suggested ways which the allocations could be calculated in the future. Following a brief discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should inform NCC of their preferences and also to confirm the offer made at the last Liaison meeting that Council would be willing to forfeit a proportion of any additional payment allocated to Graig to benefit those smaller Community Councils who struggle to meet their basic commitments, provided all the other Councils are in agreement to do the same and a fair method of doing so could be found.
- c. Teenage Cancer Trust request for donation - Noted.
- d. HCTP Group request for a donation - Noted, Clerk to forward details of other possible funding streams.
- e. Monmouthshire CC contract for St Basil's Shops roundabout - The contract renewal for maintenance at St Basil's shops roundabout was due, As the BKV group and others felt the planting could be improved, Council appointed Cllr Smart to speak with the MCC officer in charge of the contract to discuss options.

## 9. Planning:

- a. CONEX/14/1304 - Two storey front extension and rear first floor extension. Site: 31 Caerphilly Road, Bassaleg, Newport NP10 8LF. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.
- b. Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of proposed new detached dwelling and shared driveway. Site: 10 Springfield Road, Rhiwderin, Newport NP10 8RN. Application Type: Full. Comment: Council had grave concerns regarding the overdevelopment of the site, the narrow shared access to the site and the possible affect on Pentre Tai Road. There were concerns over access to emergency service vehicles.

## 10. Correspondence for Information:

Noted but not discussed.

## 11. Accounts for Payment: Accepted. Proposed Cllr John seconded Cllr Caston.

Clerk salary and office allowance for January 2015	£1674.99
January miscellaneous expenses	£428.46
Mr C Ricci - bin cleaning for January 2015	£190.00
Staples - office supplies	£167.11
Griffiths Signs - fire assembly point signs and post	£84.60
Streetwise UK - honours board	£990.00
R Charles Plastics - various works to Graig Hall	£540.00
Gwent Solar - installation of photovoltaic cells to roof of Graig Hall	£10500.00
Edwards Roofing Newport Ltd - repair of roof and prep work for cells to Graig Hall	£1200.00
All-Seasons Scaffolding - scaffolding for roof repair and cells to Graig Hall	£984.00
Mike Yearsley - Architects costs for fire regulation plans	£203.65
Rob Williams - Work at Wentworth Lane, Highfield Lane & footpath on open space	£5040.00
<b>Total to date:</b>	<b>£22002.81</b>

**Receipts**

None

**12. Dates of next meetings:**

Planning Meeting - Wednesday 11th February 2015 at 7pm

Full Council Meeting - Wednesday 25th February 2015 at 7pm

**13. Urgent Business not on discussed above.**

Cllr Harris asked that the 120yr celebration of the first Parish Council meeting be inserted into the next Council submission of the Bassaleg & Rhiwderin Directory.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.10pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 25th February 2015

Posted to notice boards 06.03.15

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