



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 25th February 2015.

**1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs A Whitfield, P Stokes, M Smart, D Williams.

**Present:** Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, D Evans, K Sayer, K Harries, M Cornelious, P John, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, V Cox-Wall. Concerns were expressed that Cllr Ashton was again not present nor had given apologies, and that no-one had been able to contact her since the November 2014 Full Council meeting.

**2. Public Representations:** None.

**3. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 28th January 2015, previously circulated were read and subject to a minor amendment were approved - proposed Cllr John, seconded Cllr Harries. Regarding Item 6 of the report, NCCs comments were discussed and Cllr Gregory offered to meet with the homeowner.

**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 Haigh seconded Cllr Caston.

**5. Projects:**

- a. Footpath through Bassaleg open space - Cllr Fry reported that the works were almost complete, that only new car park space markings were needed to define the amended layout. Cllr Fry to obtain quotes for the work. Council agreed it was a big improvement and feedback to date had been very good. Cllr Haigh asked if the surface under the kissing gates could be looked at as it didn't seem very good, Cllr Fry to investigate.
- b. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade - Cllr Gregory reported that he had received quotes for the fire alarm extension but had been advised that a fire risk assessment should be carried out, Cllrs Gregory, Harris and Fry to discuss the need for a separate assessment. Cllr Gregory informed Council that the Community Centre were able to make a contribution to the Community Council for works undertaken to improve the Centre and would forward a payment of £15,000 to the Clerk to deposit into Council's bank account soon.

**6. Reports:**

- a. Police – Not present, a report had been forwarded and was read to the group which contained the following information: There were 92 calls made to police from the ward area between 01 February 2015 and 23 February 2015, of these 7 were crimes. The breakdown was as follows: 2 x theft, 2 x criminal damage, 2 x vehicle crime, 1 x violence with injury. Several vehicles and people had been located at the bottom of Forge Lane acting in an anti-social manner, names and addresses had been taken and they were moved from the area.
- b. City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious reported that things had been quiet with the City Council as far as the ward was concerned. NCC were dealing with the scrap issue discussed at the previous meeting, and Afon Village residents had complained about the amount of rubbish along the A467 which she had been trying to get cleaned up. It was noted that this had been done a few days earlier.
- c. Graig Community Hall – Cllr Evans reported that there were no issues at present. The new premises licensed had been obtained with the Management Committee named as the DPS. Cllr Harris has been awarded a personal license, and Cllr Mountain had become the Appointed Person for the Hall. The previous cleaning arrangements had been changed, and the new arrangements seemed to be settling in well. Cllr Fry reported that as part of the Hall's procedures being appraised, there was a need for all the electrical elements including PAT testing of equipment to be carried out which would cost £600 and the water storage tanks needed to be cleaned at the cost of £340. It was agreed this work needed to be carried out and was proposed by Cllr Caston, seconded by Cllr Harries and accepted by all. Cllr Fry to arrange. Cllr Gregory reminded the group that it had been agreed that all expenditure for each Centre should firstly be discussed by the Management Committees of each Centre and if possible funded by each Centre themselves, only items which were deemed necessary by the Management Committees and not able to be funded by the Centres themselves should be brought before Council.

- d. Rhiwderin CC – Cllr Gregory reported that the damage to the ceiling at the Centre had been repaired and was paid for by the Centre, but the cost was being reimbursed by the user and Company which caused the damage.
- e. Best Kept Villages – Cllr Smart was to meet with Monmouthshire CC who carry out the maintenance of the roundabout at St Basil's shops to discuss a more appropriate planting scheme which would reduce maintenance costs.
- f. Allotments –Cllr Caston reported work previously identified as necessary at the allotment site had been partially completed. He advised Council that NCC offers to strim vacant plots on their allotment sites prior to new tenants taking on leases which means they can then be let with rent payable from the beginning of the lease instead of offering free rent for the first year. Council agreed that in future, this offer could be made to tenants taking on new plots. 4 plots are currently vacant, but the Secretary of the Allotments Committee is having issues contacting the people on the waiting list to offer them a place.
- g. Play Areas – Cllr Gregory advised Council that there had been no further news of late, except that NCC had gone out to tender the works needed and hoped to reinstate the railings and a footpath at Rhiwderin Centre to enable access into the proposed play area from Springfield Lane so the gates into the Centre will not need to be used. Cllr Sayer mentioned the very bad parking and access issues between the rear of Tredegar Street in Rhiwderin and the new housing estate, and Council were concerned about the access for emergency vehicles should they need to visit the area.
- h. Burial Board – NTR. The next meeting of the Board had been arranged for June 2015.

## 7. Items for Next Agenda

Cllr Fry asked for the refurbishment of Graig Hall entrance foyer be added to the agenda for the 25th March meeting.

## 8. Items for Discussion/Action:

- a. One Voice Wales - invitation to subscribe - noted but not taken up.
- b. Caerphilly CBC - invitation to comment on LDP - Cllr Cox-Wall offered to review and return comments to Council.
- c. We Can All Be Einstein - donation request - noted but no funding available to offer a donation.
- d. Kidney Wales Foundation - invitation to organise a fundraising walk - noted but not taken up.
- e. NCC - invitation to comment on proposed Welsh-medium Secondary School in Duffryn - noted but Council did not feel it necessary to submit a comment.

## 9. Planning:

- a. CONEX/15/0160 - Outline planning application for residential development and associated works. Site: Land at junction of Tabernacle Road with Harlech Drive, Rhiwderin, Newport. Application Type: Outline. Comment: Council objects to this proposed development as it lays in the centre of the village and will take away a historical green space, detracting from its open feel. Part of the development is placed on a recent former play area which the City Council hopes to reinstate in the very near future (please speak with Mr Mike McGow) and is much needed in the village.
- b. CONEX/15/0072 - Demolition of existing side extension and erection of two storey/single storey side extension and first floor rear extension. Site: 9 Springfield Road, Rhiwderin, Newport NP10 8RN. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree and the privacy of the neighbouring houses can be assured.

## 10. Correspondence for Information:

Noted but not discussed.

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

Clerk salary and office allowance for February 2015	£1674.99
February miscellaneous expenses	£153.25
Mr C Ricci - bin cleaning for February 2015	£190.00
Monmouthshire CC - grounds maintenance for St Basil's Shops r/about 2014/15	£716.34
Cllr L Fry - reimbursement for printer cartridges	£22.13
Gareth Rees Electrical - maintenance to emergency lighting at Graig Hall	£630.00
Staples - office supplies	£21.96
Rob Williams Fencing - re-written cheque from meeting 28.01.15 (cashing issue, Previous cheque destroyed)	£5040.00
Bassaleg Post Office - Donation for Alzheimer's fundraising as agreed	£100.00

**Total to date: £8548.67**

**Receipts**

None

**12. Dates of next meetings:**

Planning Meeting - Wednesday 11th March 2015 at 7pm

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

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

Following a fundraising event by Bassaleg Post Office, Cllr Harris informed Council that a coffee morning and presentation event was to be held at Graig hall.

Cllr Cox-Wall asked that Council consider introducing a fund for the young people of Graig specifically to be able to donate to them if requested. Cllr Cornelious said she had been contacted by one such young lady and would ask her to write to the Clerk with a donation request.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.05pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 25th March 2015

Posted to notice boards 10.04.15

Clerk to the Council: Sian Davies  
6 Vale View, Gelli Park, Risca, Newport. NP11 6HS  
Tel: 01633 614119, Mobile: 07971 094382  
Email: clerk@graiGCC.co.uk

Website: [www.graiGCC.co.uk](http://www.graiGCC.co.uk)



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