



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 29th April 2015.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs A Whitfield, P Stokes, K Harries, W Haigh
Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, D Evans, M Smart, K Sayer, M Cornelious, P John, N Mountain, J Harris, L Fry, V Cox-Wall
- 2. Public Representation:** None
- 3. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 25th March 2015, previously circulated were read and approved - proposed Cllr John, 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 Mountain.
- 5. Projects:**
 - a. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade - Cllr Gregory reported that the fire risk assessment had been carried out. This raised some housekeeping and recording issues which were being addressed, and also that some internal doors would need to be changed to fire doors. The comprehensive report will be used to initiate some tenders for the work. Cllr Whitfield has been looking at funding to help with the costs of lime mortar repairs to the external stonework and will pursue this issue on her return from holiday. Cllr Gregory has a contact who belongs to a group who has successfully bid for £2M of improvements to a church building and is willing to assist if necessary.
- 6. Reports:**
 - a. Police – No attendance and no report given. Cllr Gregory to bring the issue of attendance at Council meetings when he meets Police representatives on another matter the next day. It was noted that there had been a break-in at Pentrepoeth Primary School and that a local resident had been arrested.
 - b. City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious reported that the City Council had approved an increase of 5% on Council tax rates for 2015-16.
 - c. Graig Community Hall – NTR
 - d. Rhiwderin CC – Discussed above and Cllr Gregory added that the Secretary and Treasurer of the Management Committee has advised she wished to give up the post in September, and that an offer had been taken up for the free installation of broadband with Wi-Fi which is also rent free for 2 years. This was being installed and should be ready for use in a month or two. Cllr Cornelious reminded the group that a plant sale would be held in Rhiwderin Village Hall on 16th May between 10am and 1pm.
 - e. Best Kept Villages – The group asked that Council make its usual £100 annual donation to the cost of plants and pay for a skip for St Basil's annual churchyard clean-up. This was approved, Clerk to arrange.
 - f. Allotments – Cllr Caston reported that 2 more plots had been rented out. The Clerk confirmed that an advertisement for available plots has been placed on the Council website on the allotments dedicated page. This was also being advertised via Cllr Harris in Grassroots.
 - g. Play Areas – Cllr Gregory told the group that he had been made aware that NCC's Family Play Development Officer was ready to consult with children, further consultation will take place but only with those who filled in paper consultation forms. He asked the officers if they were aware of the issues at Caernarvon Drive, especially with regard to the residents believing they had not been properly consulted. The officer said that she personally had delivered information to the houses in the area. Cllr Gregory was told that 3 companies had been asked to produce plans and in time these would be displayed in both Community Centres. It was noted that none of the Cllrs nor the Clerk had been contacted further by the group who had attended the previous meeting.
 - h. Burial Board – Cllr Harris reported that a large hedge had been trimmed and the next meeting would be held in a few weeks.
- 7. Items for Next Agenda**
Tidal Lagoon Power presentation - 13th May meeting at 6.30pm

8. Items for Discussion/Action:

- a. Financial Accounts 2015-16 - A copy of projections for this year were presented to Council and discussed briefly.
- b. Vale of Usk (JH) - Cllr Harris advised Council he had attended a recent meeting where updating the Rural Development Plan was discussed. There was also a presentation on Newport Wetlands. Programmes for funding are still with the Welsh Government and have not been settled to date.
- c. Folk and Food festival (JH) - Cllr Harris reported that the event had been very successful and local feedback was favourable, the good weather helped. Cllr Harris was congratulated and thanked for his help to the organisers who had nothing but praise for his contributions. It was hoped that this could become an annual event.
- d. Possible re-opening of Caerphilly/Newport rail link (KH) - Cllr Harries had asked for this item to be added to the agenda but was absent from the meeting. Cllr Cason commented that the line itself is still open, and as SEWTA had an interest it meant that the route is protected. It was noted that there is at least 1 home built on the line which would cause issues should the line ever be scheduled to re-open.
- e. Keep Us Rural meeting invitation - Council had received an invitation to attend a meeting at Michaelstone-y-Fedw, details of the presenters were given and 6-10 Councillors hoped to attend.
- f. NCC LDP consultation invitation - Cllr Caston to review and advise if comments are to be made.
- g. Caerphilly Road verges in Rhiwderin - Following some work carried out on the verges by NetworkRail, Council felt that the area was still unsightly and in need of more work. Clerk to contact NetworkRail and request a site meeting. It was also noted that the hedges and verges on the opposite side of the road needed to be cut back, Cllr Cornelious agreed to request NCC carry out maintenance, especially between the junctions of Caerphilly Close and Cock-y-North Lane.
- h. Planning training course - An online Planning Training course is to be shown prior to the start of the next Planning meeting on 10th June at 6.30pm, all Cllrs who can be available have agreed to attend.
- i. Website - Following issues with the new website, the Clerk reported that the old site had been improved, the information on it updated and the new site deleted from search engines so any searches for the site will be redirected to the one being used.
- j. Dog fouling signs - Mock-ups of dog fouling signs have been submitted to NCC with a request for permission to erect them around the ward, a response is awaited.
- k. NCC response to email re parking at bus stop on Forge Road - an email response stating that no parking issues have been identified by NCC officers in this location and therefore no action can be taken was relayed to Council. Cllr Cornelious to chase up the request for new signage in the lay-by on Forge Road as the signage is weathered and has become illegible.
- l. M4 Corridor proposal invitation to comment - Cllr Gregory agreed to look at the proposal and formulate a comment if necessary.
- m. Velathon Wales 2015 update - Following advice at a recent Liaison meeting that the event's short course route would be going through the villages, the Clerk requested more information as the main A468/Caerphilly Road would need to be closed for a period of time whilst the race was being held. No firm information was available to date to be able to relay to residents so any necessary travel arrangements could be made. As soon as information is available it will be posted on Council's website, Facebook and Twitter pages. The organisers of the event have indicated that all homes and businesses along the route will be informed, but concern is that residents in the villages who do not live along the route will be missed out.

9. Planning:

- a. CONEX/15/0346 - Replacement of 24 existing railings of metal construction with glass and stainless steel balustrades. Site: Highfield Court, Foxwood Close, Bassaleg, Newport. Application Type: Full Comment: No objections
- b. CONEX/15/0372 - Two storey rear extension. Site: Maypole House, Caerphilly Road, Newport. NP10 8RP. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections

10. Correspondence for Information:

Noted but not discussed.

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

Clerk salary including back payment of pay increase as advised by SLCC & NALC

and office allowance for April 2015 £1965.26

April miscellaneous expenses £65.36

Mr C Ricci - bin cleaning for April 2015 £270.00

Gareth Rees Electrical - wiring and PAT testing at Graig Hall £610.00

Best Kept Villages - annual donation towards planting costs £100.00

SLCC - annual subscription fee	£187.00
Staples - office supplies	£33.94
R Charles Plastics - works to Graig Hall and Rhiwderin Centre	£710.00
Total to date:	£3941.56

Receipts
None

12. Dates of next meetings:

Planning Meeting - Wednesday 13th May 2015 at 7pm
Full Council Meeting - Wednesday 27th May 2015 at 7pm

13. Urgent Business not on discussed above.

Cllr Harris informed Council there would be a Local Access Forum meeting on 5th May which he intended to attend.

Cllr Fry gave a copy of a dilapidation schedule he had compiled for the area around the footbridge over the A467 and asked the City Cllr to request NCC attend to the issues on the list which were their responsibility.

Cllr Smart gave apologies for the meeting to be held on 27th May 2015.

Cllr Gregory advised Council that the Clerk had applied for Council to join the Ordinance Survey PSMA which would allow Council to use OS maps and information to tailor specific areas of interest and log items on maps for Council's use. Confirmation of acceptance was expected soon.

Cllr Gregory also informed Council that a new Code of Conduct Guidance booklet had been issued by the Ombudsman. Anyone wishing to download or inspect the guidance can find it at www.ombudsman-wales.org.uk.

Cllr Smart commented that the new Chairman's board looked very good. Cllr Gregory asked if Cllr Harris would be able to find all the past Chairmen from the very first Parish Council meeting up to where the current board starts in 1974.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.45pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 27th May 2015

Posted to notice boards 05.06.15

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

Website: www.grraigcc.co.uk



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