



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 25th October 2017.

1. Apologies for absence: K Sayer.

Present: Cllrs R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, M Smart, P John, P Gregory, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, P Appleton, J Bailey, K Thomas, N Tarr, M Cornelious. Chaired by P Gregory

2. Public Representation: None

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held 27th September 2017 previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr John. Matters arising from the minutes were: Item 7a, It was confirmed that no action had taken place regarding the gullies at the end of Berkley Close, nor were there any further reports on the other items discussed under City Cllrs. But there was confirmation that S106 money earmarked to be spent on schools in Bassaleg, had been confirmed as still being intended for that use in an email received on 04.10.17. Item 7d, The Hall Cttee asked how large were the machines the Allotment Assoc. wished to store in the Pump House. It was confirmed that details would be obtained at the forthcoming allotment inspection. Item 7f, Cllr Fry had attended to the broken bench which has been repaired. Item 9b, The Clerk had fulfilled all Council's responsibilities with regard to publicising Council's audited paperwork. Item 9c, The Clerk confirmed that a sharing email group had been set up and Clerks intended meeting together, arranging this will take some time. Item 8e, Cllr Fry confirmed the bollards had been repaired. Item 2, Cllr Tarr advised Cllrs that he would be happy to take details if anyone wanted to have a loved one mentioned in the forthcoming All Souls church service at St Basil's Church.

4. Clerk's Report: The Clerk's Report previously circulated was briefly discussed and accepted as a true reflection of matters to date. Proposed Cllr John, seconded Cllr Harries. Cllr Appleton asked Cllr Cornelious if she had made any progress on the bus stop timetables. Cllr Cornelious reported that she had been assured that all stops had been appropriately supplied with either paper or electronic versions. Council pointed out that this was still not the case, as they remained exactly as before and had real concerns that Graig is being ignored. Cllr Cornelious was asked to ensure that paper timetables were placed at each stop, regardless of whether or not electronic tables were present as in any event, electronic tables only showed when the next bus was due and did not give full tables to allow residents to plan journeys. It was agreed that the S106 money from the former Tredegar Golf Club site should be closely watched, and every action be recorded in Council's minutes to ensure a proper record is maintained. That the City Cllrs should ensure the money is ring-fenced for that purpose, and not be allowed to be spent elsewhere. It was again suggested that the S106 officer be invited to meet with Council to discuss. **Action: City Cllrs to ensure S106 money is ring-fenced, and invite the S106 officer to meet with Council. Cllr Cornelious to ensure all bus stops have paper timetables.**

5. Projects:

a. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade: Cllr Whitfield reported that a meeting had been arranged with an organisation who could help with accessing funding, and she was also to meet with GAVO, who it was thought could also assist with funding streams. She was soon to meeting with the chosen architect to have a schedule of works drawn up for the Centre. This would be used in the tendering process once funding had been secured. **Action: Cllr Whitfield to progress.**

6. Reports:

a. Newport City Councillors - Cllr Cornelious reported that she was unable to make any progress with NCC regarding the footpath between Caerphilly Rd and Penylan Close, nor was there any progress with issues in the Fort View play area with NCH. The Clerk was asked to forward her contact at NCH to Cllr Cornelious and Cllr Fry to see if he could help. Regarding the flooding issue between Berkeley Close and down to Caerphilly Rd, she reported that NCC had been called out 3 times, but the issue remains unresolved. Cllr Gregory asked that she try to resolve the problem as it was affecting the safety of pedestrians using the footpath, and that the gullies be cleared out. Cllr Harries asked her to find out if NCC had a policy on Fracking. **Action: Clerk to forward contact details for NCH to Cllrs Fry and Cornelious. Cllr Cornelious to progress the issues stated above and keep Council appraised.**

Sub Committees

- b. Graig Community Centre - Cllr Evans reported that they were awaiting quotes for replacing the Hall's rainwater goods, attending to the lighting in the building and re-finishing the floor in the main hall. It was also reported that due to support diminishing, the rural markets organiser would be holding many less markets in the future. **Action: Committee to keep Council informed.**
- c. Rhiwderin Community Centre - Cllr Gregory reported that the next Cttee meeting would be held on 6th November, and that a local contractor had offered to donate a large Christmas tree so lighting would need to be arranged. Council were asked if they would pay for the Christmas tree lights as in Bassaleg and Council agreed in principle to do so. **Action: Cllr Gregory to progress and return to Council with quotes for the lighting.**
- d. Allotments - Cllr Caston reported that an inspection of the site was to take place the following Sunday, when he would be looking to find out the sizes of the machinery it was hoped could be stored at the Pump House. **Action: Cllr Caston to advise Cllr Evans of the sizes of the machinery to see if space could be found to store it if necessary.**
- e. Burial Board - Cllr Gregory had met with the Chair of RCC. She expressed a number of concerns which RCC felt needed to be addressed, and the points were discussed. Council disagreed with many of the points raised, and it was agreed that a meeting of the Board which included the Chair of each CC would be the best way forward. **Action: Cllr Gregory to speak again with the RCC Chair.**

Working Groups

- f. Play Areas Group - The NCC Officer in charge of play areas had agreed to Council replacing the bins in the play areas with larger freestanding bins which he agreed to empty at no extra cost provided no additional bins were added. Cllr Appleton was concerned that there were play areas which had no bins where they should have been supplied. Cllr Fry suggested Cllr Appleton conduct a survey and return the results to Council to see where bins were missing and if others could be juggled to compensate. Council had already agreed to purchase 10 bins but not to order them until ready to use, so Cllr Fry had obtained a quote for the creation of appropriate concrete plinths to set them on once purchased. They came in at £600, £860 and £900 for 10 plinths sited where necessary. It was also noted that litter bins at the roadside were often overflowing. **Action: Cllr Appleton to return survey results to Council for review.**
- g. Best Kept Villages Group - Cllr Gregory read an email to Council from the group stating their concern regarding the amount of planters Council intended placing around the villages, as this would require money being spent on planting, and that as the group are not attracting new members, when they finish, Council will find it a burden to care for so many planters in the ward. They also felt the standard of maintenance for the new planters did not match the standards maintained by the Group. The HWG were upset by the comments and felt them unjustified. That all planters being placed were well maintained, and any additional planters being placed had maintenance arranged prior to their placement which included a combination of being cared for by the HWG or local residents and schools. **Action: None required.**
- h. Horticultural Group - See Item 6g directly above.
- i. Technology Group - Cllr John reported that the chosen organisation was working on the new site and a meeting of the group would be arranged in the near future. **Action: Cllr John to progress.**
- j. Rhiwderin CC Fundraising Group - Discussed in 5a above. **Action: See 5a action point.**
- k. Events & Social Group - The details of the Christmas event were discussed briefly, there was concern that Machen Rotary would not be able to earn as much money from the event as they would normally collect when taking Santa around the streets of the local towns. This had happened last year, as very few people who attended the event put money in their donations buckets. Council agreed that in order to help, a donation of £1 would be requested for each child to see Santa in his grotto, and if the funds collected did not amount to a total which the Club were content with, that Council would make up the balance if necessary. **Action: Cllr Appleton to discuss with the Rotary Club the amount of money they would be comfortable raising from the event.**

7. Items for forthcoming agendas:

None

8. Items for Discussion/Action:

- a. Remembrance Sunday - Cllr Gregory requested that all Cllrs who were able to attend the service would do so. It was noted that attendance in the past few years had tailed off. 10 Cllrs confirmed they would be attending. Some others were attending services in other churches. **Action: Cllrs to attend the Remembrance service if at all possible.**
- b. Welsh Government review of town & Community Councils - Council were invited to consult on the review. The Clerk to forward details to all Cllrs to read, and agenda for discussion at the November

Mid-Month meeting. **Action: Clerk to distribute details and agenda for the 8th November meeting to discuss.**

- c. Revised proposals for changes to Parliamentary Boundaries in Wales - Council were invited to consult on the review. The Clerk to forward details to all Cllrs to read, and agenda for discussion at the November Mid-Month meeting. **Action: Clerk to distribute details and agenda for the 8th November meeting to discuss.**
- d. Fort View brambles clearance schedule - Cllr Fry put forward a suggested remedy to address the issue of the brambles surrounding the perimeter of Fort View play area. Councils area of responsibility covered a large part, but some areas were the responsibility of NCH as ownership is shared. Council discussed briefly and agreed that possibly the brambles on the higher North Western side could be attended to, the brambles in the lower South Western side should remain as it protected the rear gardens of Caerphilly Rd homes and were growing in a dip in the landscape, so were not as prominent. NCH would need to be contacted also to see if they would attend to the areas under their responsibility. Cllr Fry to be given the contact details for NCH as agreed earlier and once agreement had been made the issue could be progressed. **Action: Cllr Fry to discuss with NCH and bring back to Council to move progress.**
- e. Planning Aid Wales free planning training offer - details of the training were offered to Cllrs and they were asked to contact the Clerk if it was of interest. It would be on a first come, first served basis as there were only 2 spaces available. **Action: Cllrs to advise Clerk if interested for the booking to be made.**
- f. Consultation on the concessionary bus fare scheme - Cllr Tarr had noticed a consultation being carried out and felt this was something that should be commented upon. Clerk to forward details to all Cllrs to read, and agenda for discussion at the November Mid-Month meeting. **Action: Clerk to distribute details and agenda for the 8th November meeting to discuss.**
- g. Cardiff Conservation Volunteers - Details forwarded to the Clerk about this group's services were passed on to the HWG for consideration if there should be any future need. **Action: No further action required.**
- h. Defibrillators - The donated defibrillators and cabinets funded by Council had been received, and needed to be installed. Cllr Fry was asked to oversee the installation. **Action: Cllr Fry to arrange the installation of both defibrillators as soon as possible and advise the Clerk when complete so she could arrange for their registration.**

9. Correspondence for Information:

Not discussed

10. Accounts for Payment: Proposed Cllr John, seconded Cllr Tarr and accepted.

Clerk salary and office allowance for October 2017	£1777.10
Misc expenses for October	£38.70
TalkTalk Business - Graig Hall broadband (taken by DD)	£20.34
TSO Host - Council monthly webmail charge (taken by DD)	£5.00
Newport City Homes - Fort View play area grass cutting September 2017	£212.04
Royal British Legion - Remembrance wreath & donation	£100.00
SSE - Gas costs for Rhiwderin CC Jun-Sept '17	£94.12
SSE - Electricity costs for Rhiwderin CC Jun - Sept '17	£271.77
Lylac Ridge - Deposit for reindeer for Christmas event	£100.00
SET - Office Supplies	£33.80

Total to date: £2652.87

Receipts:

SSE - Feed In Tariff for Graig Hall solar panels Jun - Sept '17 £454.19

11. Urgent Business not discussed above:

- a. Cllr Harris advised Council that there was to be a fundraising event held of the benefit of refugees on 1st November. **Action: For information, none required.**
- b. The Clerk submitted a revised cost for a smaller amount of Cllr badges to be made. This was brought back to Council because it exceeded her permission to go ahead with placing the order as long as each badge would cost £7 or less, the new cost would be £7.88 per badge. Council agreed to this and the Clerk was given permission to progress with the order once all the new photos of Cllrs had been taken. **Action: Clerk to progress.**

12. Planning:

- a. 17/0677 - Proposal: Pollarding of 1 No Ash tree, 1 No. Sweetchestnut tree and 3 No. Holly trees protected by Tree Preservation Order 1/79. Site: 6 Ffos-y-Fran Close, Bassaleg, Newport NP10 8HY. Application Type: Tree Preservation Orders. **Comment: No objections.**
- b. 17/0964 - Erection of single storey rear swimming pool extension and extension of patio. Site: 5 Badgers Wood Close, Bassaleg, Newport NP10 8SG. Application Type: Full. **Comment: No objections.**
- c. 17/0981 - Retention of garage conversion to habitable room. Site: 44 Violet Walk, Rogerstone, Newport NP10 9DS. Application Type: Full. **Comment: No objections provided sufficient parking provision has been considered and satisfied.**
- d. 17/0826 - Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of flat roofed single storey extension with balcony above. Site: 23 Caerphilly Road, Newport, NP10 8LF Application Type: Full. **Comment: No objections provided neighbours have been consulted and agree.**

14. Dates of next meetings:

Mid Month Meeting - Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 7pm
Full Council Meeting - Wednesday 29th November 2017 at 7pm

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.50pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 29th November 2017

Posted to notice boards 08.12.17

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