



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 29th August 2018.

1. **Apologies for absence:** K Sayer, D Williams.
Present: Cllrs R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, M Smart, K Harries, P Gregory, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, P Appleton, J Bailey, K Thomas, N Tarr, S Grey, M Cornelious. Chaired by P Gregory.
2. **Public Representation:** None
3. **To welcome and swear in Cllr Grey:** Graig Community Council's newest Cllr Simon Grey was welcomed to his first meeting. Cllr Grey read aloud and signed the Declaration of Office and other paperwork pertaining to the post.
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 25th July 2018 and 8th August 2018 previously circulated were read and approved. Arising from the minutes of 25th July it was noted that all the action points had been dealt with, and that the usual NCC summer playscheme seemed not to be taking place this year at Rhiwderin Community Centre. Proposed Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr Tarr. Arising from the minutes of 8th August, regarding Item 4a, it was noted that there was no response to the second request to the Police, and that the Inspector and Sergeant had moved on again causing concern about continuation of local knowledge. Regarding Item 5a, there was a promise that a quote for remedial works to the sundial would be forwarded to the Clerk soon, and Item 7b would be progressed. Proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Harries. **Action: None required.**
5. **Clerk's Report:** The Clerk's Report previously circulated was briefly discussed and accepted as a true reflection of matters to date. Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Tarr. Cllr Smart reported that following a fire under the footbridge over the A467, the walking surface of the bridge had become very unstable and in areas the metal of the bridge was exposed. She asked that this be reported to NCC for repair and that the Clerk add the item to the Clerk's Report to keep track of progress. It was again noted that the items on the report have been monitored for a long time and although reported numerous times to NCC for repair, no action had been taken. All agreed that the items on the report and the items separately discussed with NCC officers being progressed by Cllr Gregory, were all taking an unacceptably long time to resolve and that action should be taken. It was agreed to ask that no/negative responses from high ranking NCC Officers be added to the Liaison meeting agenda for discussion with other Councils to see if they have similar issues and how best to resolve them. **Action: Clerk to report the footbridge issues to NCC and add to the Clerks Report for monitoring. Also, to request that negative/no responses from NCC officers be added to the Liaison Meeting agenda. Report to be kept updated by the Clerk as usual.**
6. **Projects:**
 - a. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade: Cllr Whitfield reported that there had been nothing further from the architect, nor from the funding stream applied for. Council were extremely disappointed that not even one tender had been received despite the companies approached showing interest in tendering. Cllr Whitfield was asked to instruct the architect to approach other companies and ask the architect to chase for responses. **Action: Cllr Whitfield to progress.**
7. **Reports:**
 - a. Newport City Councillors – Cllr Cornelious reported that incidences of anti-social behaviour were becoming worse in the Clearwell Court area, that she believed the homeless persons previously reported had moved out of the area, and that she was still fighting to have RTI displays fitted to some bus stops in the ward. She had also been dealing with some school catchment area queries for local residents. Cllr Fry asked if there had been any progress following their meeting at Fort View play area with NCH the previous July when NCH agreed they had responsibilities to attend to, as very little had been done. Cllr Cornelious had received no further update. Cllr Gregory asked if there was any update on when the garages in the area were due to be demolished as they had been uninhabited for some time and were becoming a problem by attracting anti-social behaviour. Cllr Cornelious had heard nothing. **Action: Cllr Cornelious to progress the issues mentioned above and report back to Council.**

Sub Committees

- b. Graig Community Centre – Cllr Evans reported that the Centre’s Management Committee had approved a plan to upgrade the foyer, external porch, approach path and exterior lighting, Cllr Fry confirmed the cost would be around £6100 which would be borne by the Centre. Defibrillator training was to be set up for some time from 3rd week in September onwards. **Action: Cllr Fry to progress the upgrade.**
- c. Rhiwderin Community Centre - Covered in 5a above, Cllr Appleton asked if there was any progress on the removal of the large rocks in the rear open space. Cllr Gregory confirmed that the work had been given to a local contractor and should have been completed by now, but he would check on the delay. **Action: Cllr Gregory to progress.**
- d. Allotments - Cllr Caston reported that at present there were 4 vacant plots, and that an inspection had been set for Sunday 2nd September at 10.30am. **Action: All Cllrs on the committee to attend if possible.**
- e. Burial Board - Cllr Gregory reported no progress could be made until RCC come back to Council with a response to its second letter. **Action: None at this time.**

Working Groups

- f. Play Areas Group – NTR, Cllr Appleton commented that the newly installed larger litter bins were working well and that no extra bin emptying had needed to be carried out during the summer which had saved Council a considerable sum of money. **Action: None required.**
- g. Horticultural Group/ BKV Group – Cllr Smart reported that as Autumn was approaching the group should consider winter planting schemes and decide if the planters at Grosvenor Road needed relocating. Cllr Whitfield asked that it be recorded in the minutes how lovely the approach to Bassaleg village from the east was now the Coach House had planters instead of Haras fencing outside. Cllr Appleton asked that consideration be given to redecorating the commemorative bench placed at St Basil’s Shops, and also noted that the planters needed replacing on the roundabout, the grassed area needed attention and the bollards needed to be reinstated. Cllr Grey agreed to join the working group. **Action: Group to arrange a meeting to discuss.**
- h. Technology Group - Cllr Appleton reported that the representative dealing with the website creation was on sick leave so not much progress could be made. She had spoken with the producers of the Bassaleg and Rhiwderin Directory who had kindly supplied photographs and given permission for use on the new website. Cllr Grey agreed to join the group and it was arranged to meet on Friday 31st August at 5pm to progress. **Action: Clerk to supply to the group the requirements needed for statutory obligations to display Council records and webmail needs for Council business.**
- i. Rhiwderin CC Fundraising Group - Discussed in 6a above. **Action: See 6a above.**
- j. Events & Social Group – It was agreed that a meeting would be needed in September to begin organising the Christmas event. **Action: Group to arrange to meet.**
- k. Consultation Review Panel – Cllr Tarr reported that he would be looking at the findings for the recently issued IRPW draft report. **Action: None required.**

8. Items for forthcoming agendas:

None. Cllr Appleton expressed her upset that a meeting for speaking with the S106 officer and Costains had been called for 12th September when it had been agreed that no Mid-Month meeting would be held. She had now made plans for that date believing there to be no meeting and would have wanted to attend but would be unable to do so. Cllr Gregory explained this came about due to the misunderstanding of the S106 officer at the last scheduled meeting and the need to set up another meeting which did not encroach on the already busy scheduled Council meetings.

9. Items for Discussion/Action:

- a. Cllr Fry reminded Council they agreed to look in the Autumn at the schedule he made for cutting back the brambles and reinstating the grass at Fort View play area. The cost would be approximately £775. It should also be considered to place the picnic table and benches purchased for the park. The footpath between Penylan Close and Caerphilly Road was also discussed along with the narrowness of the pavement on Caerphilly Road at the bottom of the steps up to Penylan Close. Cllr Cornelious agreed to discuss this issue with Streetscene officers to see if anything could be done about the width of the pavement which is well used but unsafe at this narrow point on the main road. **Action: Cllrs Fry and Cornelious to meet again to discuss. Cllr Cornelious to speak with Streetscene about the narrowness of the footpath opposite Garth Terrace on Caerphilly Road.**
- b. Cllr Fry asked that a decision be made on whether the BKV Village sign should be refurbished or even removed. It was agreed that the sign should definitely stay, and work should be done on encouraging sponsorship and engagement of local businesses. More effort to assist the BKV group would be needed to do well in the competition. **Action: HWG to speak with the BKV group.**

Cllr Smart left the meeting at 8.55pm.

- c. The Clerk submitted an email which was relayed to Council saying that the damage to Pentre-Tai Road was being investigated and that NCC were in talks with NRW regarding this. NCC believes the damage is due to the large wagons needed to transport the Larch trees being removed from Coed Mawr Forest.

Action: Issue to be monitored.

- d. The requested litter bin locations had been approved by NCC for replacing smaller post-mounted bins with larger free-standing bins. Cllr Gregory asked that someone take on the responsibility of speaking with concerned parties and arranging for the bins to be sited. As no volunteer came forward to take on this task, Cllr Gregory deferred the matter. No further action is planned at this time. **Action: None necessary.**
- e. The Clerk submitted a request for assistance with funding from St Michael's Church in Lower Machen. As the request was unclear, Cllr Grey agreed to liaise with the church to see how best Council could be of assistance. **Action: Cllr Grey to progress.**

10. Correspondence for Information:

Not discussed

11. Accounts for Payment: Proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Caston and accepted.

Cllr Appleton expressed concern about the cost of redecorating the benches and felt it would be cheaper to renew rather than redecorate.

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| Clerk salary and office allowance for August 18 | £2027.38 |
| Misc expenses for August 18 | £38.70 |
| Newport City Homes - Fort View grass cutting July 2018 | £212.04 |
| Bassaleg Allotment Association – honorarium | £150.00 |
| HP Inc UK Ltd – new Council PC | £566.21 |
| Complete Business Solutions Group Ltd – office supplies | £85.14 |
| Steve Rose – redecoration of 5 park benches | £525.00 |

Total to date: £3604.47

Receipts:

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| SSE – Solar panels payment | £681.65 |
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12. Urgent Business not discussed above:

- a. Cllr Thomas reported that he had spent time trimming back the brambles from the hedge on the Griffin as he was mindful that children would be returning to school and would be forced into the road or could damage their uniforms when walking to school. It was noted that many areas needed maintenance. On monitoring the grass on the open space, Cllr Thomas found it had been 9 weeks since NCC had last cut the grass. Cllr Appleton reported that on NCC's website they state that the grass is cut every month. Cllr Gregory agreed to speak to the Head of Streetscene and City Services. **Action: Cllr Gregory to contact the NCC Officer. Clerk to request grass cutting be carried out and enquire when hedges would be cut.**
- b. It was noted that the lamps in Graig Hall's car park were faulty again. Cllr Fry submitted a quote for £610 to have the lights replaced and proposed this be carried out and funded by Council. This was seconded by Cllr Harries and agreed unanimously. **Action: Cllr Fry to progress.**

13. Planning:

- a. 18/0765 Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and erection of a single storey side/rear extension. Site: 7 Foxwood Close, Bassaleg, Newport, Np10 8PN. Application Type: Full. **Comment: Council had concerns regarding parking as the home would be losing a garage and parking in the area is already an issue.**
- b. 18/0719 Proposal: Erection of a summer house and garden shed to the rear of 12 Troed-y-Gaer Road. Site: Former Tredegar Park Golf Club Development, Park View, Bassaleg, Newport. Application Type: Full. **Comment: No objections provided any covenant on the land is taken into consideration.**
- c. PLANNING APPEAL: Notification of appeal submission to Planning Inspectorate. Appeal Subject: Felling of Cedar Tree protected by TPO 18/MON T15. Appeal Site: Garth Farm House, Wentworth Close, Bassaleg, Newport, NP10 8PZ. Cllr Tarr expressed an interest and left the room whilst this item was discussed. **Comment: Council agreed to support NCC's tree officer in this matter.** Cllr Tarr returned to the room at 9.40pm.

14. Dates of next meetings:

~~Mid-Month Meeting – Wednesday 12th September 2018 Cancelled~~
Costain & S106 Meeting - Wednesday 12th September at 6.30m
Full Council Meeting - Wednesday 26th September 2018 at 7pm

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.45pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 26th September 2018

Posted to notice boards 05.10.18

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