



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Mid-Month Meeting held at Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg at 7pm on 13th June 2018

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1. Apologies for absence: K Sayer.

Present: Cllrs R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, M Smart, K Harries, P Gregory (Chair), J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, P Appleton, J Bailey, K Thomas, N Tarr, D Williams.

2. To receive public representations: None.

3. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2018, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Harries seconded Cllr Evans. The action points of the minutes were briefly discussed. Cllr Appleton commented that regarding the grass cutting issues in Item 5e, she had spoken with an NCC representative who had confirmed that grass cutting in the ward took place on a 4 week rolling schedule. **Action: None required.**

4. Reports:

- a. Police - The Police were unable to attend the meeting but the usual monthly report had been received. Cllr Gregory read out the report for May to Council. The report contained the following information: During May there had been 96 calls to the Police, 27 of which were crimes. The breakdown was as follows: Public Order - 4, Violence Without Injury - 5, Miscellaneous Crime (threats to damage/destroy property) - 2, Shoplifting - 0, All Theft Other - 5, Criminal Damage & Arson - 5, Burglary Dwelling - 3, Drug Offences - 0, Theft from Person - 0, Other Sexual Offences - 0, Violence with Injury - 1, Vehicle Crime - 2.

The Your Voice survey completed in April was being assessed and new priorities were being released shortly. The next survey will take place in October 2018, to help set the priorities please speak with local officers or go to <https://www.gwent.police.uk/yourvoicesurvey/>

Actions and activities by the local teams included the following: There had been reports of youths jumping into the river from the river bridges. Words of advice had been given and the youths had been moved away. There were reports of vehicles racing and doing donuts in Morrison's car park, the Neighbourhood team were aware and would carry out patrols when able.

- b. City Councillors - Cllr Williams confirmed he had been given a contact to speak to about traffic issues on Caerphilly Road and would hopefully be able to update Council at the forthcoming end of month meeting. He reported that NCH were investigating the St Basil's Shops roundabout issue, he hoped to have news of this to report at the end of month meeting. The S106 NCC Officer had agreed to meet with Council and would contact the Clerk to arrange a suitable date.

He believed the following issues were now resolved and asked that the Clerk remove them from her report: Cycle Path and Berkley Close gullies.

He said that NCC Planning Enforcement were still looking into the details of the landfill site, and that the fly-tipping on Penylan Road had been reported and was hopefully removed. The lighting on the amended Bassaleg roundabout was an ongoing issue, and had not been amended to date but was being addressed. Re-seeding of the grassed areas around the roundabout would take place during the following week.

He had received complaints about the general mess in Llwyn Deri Close and was hoping that the NCC Enforcement Team would deal with the matter. He had received complaints from residents in Lower Machen about motorcycles speeding through the village when travelling up to the mountain and this matter was being investigated.

He confirmed to Cllr Gregory that the garages at the end of Highfield Road will be demolished but that a time frame had not been confirmed. He did not have any idea what plans were made for the land once this had taken place. Concern was expressed by Council about confusion as to which lane/s should be used when approaching Bassaleg roundabout from Park View when exiting from the roundabout for Bassaleg. Cllr Whitfield also said it was felt that yellow grid boxes were needed to prevent the roundabout becoming snarled up as is currently happening. Cllr Williams believed this was intended, but would be carried out towards the end of the upgrades.

Cllr Williams was asked as a Bassaleg School Governor to address the issue of youths climbing the oak tree by the Scout's Hut and have the practice deterred as it was damaging the tree and concerning locals. **Action: Cllr Williams to update Council of any news on the above issues, Clerk to update the Clerk's Report accordingly.**

5. Items for discussion:

- a. Invitation to the Head of Streetscene to attend a meeting to follow up on issues reported - Cllr Gregory agreed to follow this up and asked that Cllr Williams become involved and urge officers for a response. **Action: Cllrs Gregory and Williams to progress.**
- b. Deliveries to St Basil's shops update if available - Discussed above in 4b. **Action: Cllr Williams to progress and provide an update.**
- c. Best practice for Community Council meetings - re-added to the agenda following discussion at the previous Mid Month meeting. It was agreed that Council would follow best practice and any items needing to be added to the agenda for any Mid Month or Full Council meetings would be reported to the Clerk by the Wednesday prior to the meeting to enable her to properly agenda and advertise. The Clerk agreed that save for very urgent items which could not be deferred, no items would be added after this deadline. **Action: Cllrs to report items to be added to the agenda by the agreed timescales, Clerk to refuse to add items which could be deferred to the next available meeting.**
- d. Redecoration of benches in open spaces - Cllr Fry submitted a quote for the redecoration of 5 benches in the ward of £525. Council agreed that compared to the previous cost in 2013 of £485, this offered value for money and the spend was approved. Proposed Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr Thomas. **Action: Cllr Fry to progress.**
- e. Armed Forces Day update - Cllr Harries had reviewed the paperwork sent and reported that the grant offer was quite rigid in that it only allowed a grant for one specific event to be held. As Council had hoped the grant could be used for the purchase of lamp post poppies, it was agreed that this option would be unsuitable. Cllr Harries was asked to investigate how Council could obtain lamp post poppies, Cllr Williams suggested that Bassaleg School could become involved with the Remembrance Day service. This item to be added to the next Mid Month agenda to progress. **Action: Cllr Harries to progress, Clerk to re-agenda this item for July.**
- f. Speeding issues - This item was discussed in item 4b above. **Action: See action point for 4b.**
- g. Gullies from Rhiwderin Heights to Pentrepoeth Road - Cllr Tarr reported that it had been suggested to him by a local resident that there be a handrail installed on the footpath from Pentrepoeth Rd through Pant Glas Close to Cwm Cwddy Drive as this path is steep and well used by local residents for school, to catch buses etc.. **Action: Cllr Williams agreed to investigate this and the Clerk was asked to request this addition via NCC's Contact Centre.**
- h. Political Neutrality Policy - The draft policy was discussed again and the general consensus was that to have a policy would be desirable. Cllr Gregory felt that a response to the email written by NCC's Head of Law and Standards was necessary hence a draft reply was circulated. Following debate it was agreed to discuss this further at the end of month meeting. **Action: Clerk to add to 27th June agenda.**
- i. Planning Inspectorate decision on waste transfer station - News that the planning decision had been upheld by the Planning Inspector was relayed to Council. It was felt by all that this was very good news. The business had been given until 12th December 2018 to vacate the premises. **Action: This still to be monitored by Council until the deadline for vacation of the premises has passed.**

6. Items for next agenda if agreed:

None

7. Urgent other business not on the agenda:

- a. Cllr Caston reported that an allotment inspection follow-up meeting had been set of 4th July 2018 at 7pm. **Action: All members of the Allotment Committee to attend if able.**
- b. Cllr Gregory reported that Council had written to the Head of Law and Standards regarding the Burial Board issues. **Action: None at this time.**

8. Accounts for payment: Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Haigh and approved.

Cllr J Bailey - reimbursement for planter costs incurred	£48.00
Cllr P Appleton - reimbursement for hanging basket liners x 12	£11.88
Complete Business Solutions - office stationery (2 invoices)	£232.48
Came & Company - annual Council insurance premium	£2148.66
TalkTalk Business - broadband supply to Graig Hall (taken by DD)	£28.74
TSO Host - Council webmail monthly charge (taken by DD)	£5.00
Total to date	£2474.76

ICO - direct debit approval for annual data controller registration fee of £40.00 (minus £5.00 for paying by DD making a total of £35.00 per annum)

Receipts

None to date.

Cllr Gregory commented on how lovely the hanging baskets and planters looked and thanked the HWG and Best Kept Villages groups for all their hard work. **Action: The HWG group asked all Cllrs to help with watering and dead heading the plants if they were able.**

9. Planning - Applications to be considered

- a. 18/0481 - Proposal: Removal of conservatory and construction of a single and two storey extension. Address: Cwrt-y-llaca, Pentrepoeth Road, Bassaleg, Newport, NP10 8RR. Application Type: Full. **Comment: No objections.**

10. Correspondence for information: Not discussed

11. Dates of next meetings:

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 27th June 2018 at 7pm
Mid-Month Meeting - Wednesday 11th July 2018 at 7pm

Cllr Whitfield gave apologies for the forthcoming 11th July meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.10pm. Confirmed, this 11th day of July 2018.

Signed..... (Chair) – July 2018

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Clerk to the Council: Sian Davies
Email: clerk@graigcc.co.uk Website: www.graigcc.co.uk

Website: www.graigcc.co.uk

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