



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Combined Council AGM & Planning and Environmental Meeting held at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg 7pm, 9th May 2012.**

**1. Apologies for absence:** G Morris, M Smart, M Cornelious.

**Present:** Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, D Evans, K Harries, L Fry, N Mountain, J Harris, P Stokes P John, W Haigh, A Whitfield, K Sayer.

**2. Internal Elections:** The meeting was opened by Cllr Fry as previously acting Vice Chairman. Cllr Fry advised Council that he did not wish to step into the Chair as is the usual practice, but would be happy to remain as Vice-Chairman. Cllr Gregory was nominated by Cllr Fry to stand as Chairman; this was seconded by Cllr Whitfield and unanimously accepted by Council. Cllr Gregory thanked Council and accepted the role. Cllr Gregory then took over the meeting. As Cllrs C Williams and R Powell stood down at the recent elections, two positions were vacant, one of which was taken up by Cllr William Haigh who sat on the Council previously. Cllr Gregory welcomed back Cllr Haigh. With these exceptions, all other Councillor posts remained the same. Cllrs were voted on to the various sub-committees and representations, full details were logged and Clerk to display in the notice boards and on the website along with contact details for each Councillor.

**3. Public representations:** None

**4. Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Harris.

### **5. Planning:**

- a. CONEX/12/0367 – Conversion of integral garage to living accommodation. Site: 37 Dewsberry Grove, Rogerstone, Newport. Np10 9JY Application Type: Full. Comment: Council questioned the practical ability of parking 3 cars on the allocated space and asked that NCC take note that the property is situated on a bend which would cause problems with on-road parking.
- b. CONEX/12/0369 – Construction of dormer to rear elevation. Site: Old Station House, Station Road, Lower Machen, Newport. NP10 8GW Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections.
- c. CONEX/12/0382 – Erection of proposed 2 storey dwelling with vehicular access. Site: Land adjacent to 10 Pentre Tai Road, Rhiwderin, Newport. NP10. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.
- d. CONEX/12/0394 – Erection of rear conservatory. Site: 17 Gerbera Drive, Rogerstone, Newport. NP10 9JD Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.
- e. CONEX/12/0398 – Construction of detached dwelling (resubmission following refusal of 07/1138). Site: Land adjacent to and North West of Bryn Deri, Caerphilly Road, Bassaleg, Newport. Application Type: Full. Comment: Council strongly objects and reiterates all its former objections to the development of this site. The entrance is on the bend of the busy road through the village, there have been constant problems with the erosion of the bankings along the footpath due to previous developments which will be made worse, and it would be overdevelopment due to the size of the plot and existing developments surrounding it.
- f. CONEX/12/0412 – Pruning of Acacia tree T34 protected by TPO 11 of 87. Site: 5 Badgers Wood Close, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8SG Application Type: Tree preservation order. Comment: Council supports the decision of the tree preservation officer.
- g. CONEX/12/0413 – Cutting back of Beech tree T2, protected by TPO 9 of 97. Site: 7 Badgers Wood Close, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8SG Application Type: Tree preservation order. Comment: Council supports the decision of the tree preservation officer.

**6. Items for next agenda:** Agreed.

### **7. Other Business:**

- a. LDP response for submission before 28<sup>th</sup> May 2012 – responses were requested from Councillors to enable the Clerk to submit a comprehensive and cohesive response from Council by the deadline.

- b. Email received from Cllr Powell re problems in Afon Village – it was agreed that the matter was in hand with City Cllrs Cornelious and Williams who were attending to the matter.
- c. Advertising vacant post for Community Councillor for the Rhiwderin ward – Clerk to advertise the post in the notice boards and on the website. The closing date to be set at Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June for informal interviews to take place at the next Planning & Environmental meeting on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June.
- d. Police report - The monthly report received from the Police was read to Council. From 1<sup>st</sup> April to 8<sup>th</sup> May the Police received 150 calls, 24 of which were crimes, 2 of which had been detected, with on-going enquiries with the remainder. The breakdown was as follows: 5 x Criminal Damage, 1 x Assault w/o injury, 6 x Burglary, 5 x Theft, 1 x Violence, 1 x Fraud, 1 x Vehicle Crime, 3 x Domestic Burglary, 1 x Other. Regarding youth disorder, regular patrols were still being carried out in Springfield Lane by Neighbourhood teams. Alcohol is continued to be confiscated from youths in the local area. There had been acts of vandalism in the grounds of Bassaleg High School, and residents are asked to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity within the school grounds. Police investigations were still on-going in relation to Bassaleg High School. There had been several thefts of diesel and horse tack from farms in the local area over the last few weeks, the Police requested that members of the public report any suspicious activity or behaviour in the areas of our local farms. There is an on-going problem with off road bikes in the area of Park Woods and Coch-y- North Lane. There is also an off road bike problem in the area of Tredegar Park, regular patrols are being carried by the NPT to identify the machines and riders. At the last PACT meeting it was brought to the attention of the Police that there are incidents of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour in the area of Viaduct Way, an action plan is in place to identify the youths responsible. The rear lane behind Caerphilly Road is also being targeted to combat the anti-social-behaviour. To assist the neighbourhood team there is a pro-active patrol car in operation.

**8. Accounts for payment:**

M&M Gas Services – Repair to gas boiler at Rhiwderin CC	£367.20
Component Force – Purchase of protective lugs for chair & table legs at Graig CC	£123.00
Newport City Homes – Contribution to grass cutting at Fort View play area (March & April)	£424.08
Networkwaste – skip for churchyard clean-up	£330.00
Plaque – payment for commemorative plaque for Pentrepoeth School	£135.00

**9. Correspondence for information:**

NCC Planning decisions, Clerks & Councils Direct magazine, The Clerk magazine, office furniture brochure.

**10. Dates of next meetings:**

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May  
 Planning Meeting – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012

Also discussed was the problem of the lack of movement to works on the old coach house on Caerphilly Rd in Bassaleg. The site remains covered in scaffolding and a skip has been present there for some years. Council agreed it was an eyesore and was in a very prominent position on entering the village. Clerk to report to the City Contact Centre to attempt to get the area tidied up.

Cllr Harries spoke of continued parking problems at the post box at the top of Laurel Road. Council agreed that this issue had been addressed many times over the years and most recently at the beginning of the year when a request that the post box be relocated was refused, and agreed that nothing further can be done.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.10pm. Confirmed on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012

Signed..... (Chair) – June 2012

Posted to notice boards 22.06.12