



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning and Environmental Meeting held at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg 6pm on 11th December 2013.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs K Sayer, V Cox-Wall, D Williams
Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, W Haigh, N Mountain, K Harries, L Fry, J Harris, D Evans, M Cornelious, P Stokes, Kathryn Ashton, P John, M Smart
- 2. Public Representations:** None
- 3. Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2013, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Ashton seconded Cllr Harries.
- 4. Planning:**
None
- 5. Items for next agendas:**
Lorraine Bottomley, Assistant Chief Constable - 12th February 2014 meeting
- 6. Items for Discussion:**
 - a. Christmas Event Review: Cllr Gregory informed Council that the event raised a total of £1,001 for the chosen Rhiwderin Village Meithrin Charity. It was agreed that the event was very successful, but due to its success and unexpectedly large attendance, the management of the event needed to be looked at closely. Due to the limited number of people the hall could accommodate, thought would be given to either issuing tickets for the event, or possibly holding more of the event outside. The issues which arose will be analysed and measures taken to improve the event next year. Council gave special thanks to the Chairman, Cllr Gregory who did an excellent job of running the event despite being quite ill at the time.
 - b. Orchard Close: Following a letter sent to all resident of Orchard Close regarding the issue with the trees lining Caerphilly Road, the Clerk was contacted by a resident who offered to pay one eighth of the cost of lopping the trees identified by an NCC survey as a possible hazard. The hope of the resident was that others in the Close would also agree to pay one eighth, which would cover the entire cost of remedial works to ensure the trees safety at least in the short term. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the residents again in February, to allow things to return to normal after the Christmas break.
 - c. Complaints procedure: Cllr Harris informed Council he had read an article regarding problems at Rogiet Community Council and was concerned as to whether Council's complaints procedure was robust. Following assurance from the Clerk and having read a copy of the procedure Cllr Harris was happy to report that he felt Council was sufficiently covered by the procedure should it ever be needed to be used. It was noted that all Council's procedures are reviewed bi-annually and updated as necessary by the Finance and Administration Sub-Committee.
 - d. Welsh Government - Consultation on the Proposed Revocation and remaking of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005 review: Cllr Caston reviewed this document and informed Council that it was a proposal to amend financial regulations. Some of the proposed changes to dates of submissions to auditors were already in place and any other changes were mainly straightforward and just a tidy-up of the regulations. **Cllr Caston suggested Council respond in support of the changes.**
- 7. Urgent Business not on the Agenda:**

Cllr Gregory reported that his recent letter of complaint to both the Editor and the letters page of the Argus expressing disappointment regarding the non-coverage of the opening event for the Graig Diamond Jubilee Path had neither been replied to, nor printed. Cllr Gregory to follow up in the New Year.

Cllr Cornelious reported that she had been to a meeting regarding NCC's LDP submission, and that she believed that rebuttals to Council's objections regarding alternative sites were still being put forward. Cllr Gregory agreed to look into this at the Liaison meeting the following evening, and to find out if Council needed to take further action.

Cllr Harris was in the process of setting up a Facebook account for the Council and queried under which heading Council should fall, Cllr Gregory to check and inform Cllr Harris.

8. Accounts for payment:

Clerk salary & office allowance December 2013	£1540.20
October miscellaneous expenses	£60.83
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance December 2013	£250.00

Receipts

None

9. Correspondence for information:

Not discussed.

10. Dates of next meetings:

Combined Full Council & Planning Meeting – Wednesday 8th January 2014 at 7pm
Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 29th January 2014 at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.50pm. Confirmed this 29th day of January 2014.

Signed..... (Chair) – January 2014

Posted to notice boards 07.02.14

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