



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning and Environmental Meeting held at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg 6pm on 12th March 2014.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Stokes

Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, W Haigh, N Mountain, K Harries, L Fry, J Harris, D Evans, A Whitfield, P John, M Smart, V Cox-Wall

2. Public Representations: None

3. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2014, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Harries seconded Cllr Evans.

4. Planning: Discussed later

5. Items for next agendas:

Fairtrade - March 26th meeting

6. Items for Discussion:

- a. Notice board refurbishment - Cllr Fry reported that the Council notice boards were in need of refurbishment and produced a quote of £575 for the work. It was suggested that the now de-commissioned notice board at St Basil's Church be uplifted to another position as previously discussed. It was agreed following a 7/5 vote to approach NCC with a view to placing the board at the bus stop in Park View - Clerk to action. It was also agreed to paint the boards in the blue colour adopted by the Council and also to add Council's Logo.
- b. Graig Hall architect fees and building regulations fees for approval - Council approved the cost of architect fees and building regulations approval to move forward with the Graig Hall meeting room and kitchen proposals previously discussed. Cllr Fry had completed the pricing exercise and final costs were approved at £16,844. Cllrs Fry & Evans to liaise and discuss if it was feasible for works to be carried out in early April as this was preferential to Cllr Fry. The Hall is expected to close for a 3 week period in order to complete the works. Cllr Fry was thanked for his hard work on bringing the project to delivery point so quickly, especially in comparison with the work being carried out at Rhiwderin Community Centre which, even taking into account is more complex, is taking much longer than expected in the initial stages and looks like it will not be delivered in the timescales originally agreed. Council approved all fees and quotes and asked Cllr Fry to proceed. Photovoltaic cells for the Hall were also discussed but Cllr Fry asked that this be deferred for the time being until a better understanding of the benefits/pitfalls could be researched.
Cllr Whitfield left the meeting at 7.55pm.
- c. Further discussion of Council finances and wish list - A new spreadsheet was produced and discussed. Following confirmation that the allotment fence had become a security issue since being damaged by a falling tree in the recent bad weather, the Clerk had arranged for a contractor to repair the fence and also to place extra security barriers along the top of the allotment gates. This was viewed as an urgent matter, and following discussion with the Chairman, work went ahead without prior approval from the Council as the cost of the repair and the extra security measures were brought in under the already approved budget for security improvements alone. Council were happy that this matter had to be dealt with in this manner and approved of this work being carried out without prior consultation with the group.
- d. Welsh Government - Disposal of Local Authority Playing Fields regulations for review - Cllr Caston to review and report back to Council. Cllr Gregory reported that he had spoken with an NCC representative who assured him that NCC have approximately £500K to be spent in the area on recreation and the likelihood that much of this money would be spent on play areas in the ward was very good. Further news is expected in April.

7. Urgent Business not on the Agenda:

Cllr Gregory reported that he was concerned following the recent Burial Board meeting, as he had been made aware that the meeting was quite difficult and uncomfortable. A representative from Rogerstone Community Council came across as quite forceful and laboured in his attitude when trying to get his point across, and this had necessitated a response Graig representatives to request a more calm and measured approach. It was noted that the Councillor later apologised to the group for his manner.

Cllr Haigh requested an update on the maintenance of the planters discussed in the previous full council meeting. Cllrs Fry and Smart were still looking for the best options and would report back in due course.

Cllr Gregory reported that there were some concerns with the opening and closing procedures for Graig Hall and requested that the Hall management committee review the matter.

- 8. Accounts for payment:** Approved Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr Evans
Newport City Council - building regulation fees for Graig Hall (if approved above) £117.98

Receipts

None

9. Correspondence for information:

Not discussed.

4. Planning:

- a. CONEX/14/0165 - Two storey rear extension, single storey extension to side and porch to front, plus associated drainage and external works and minor widening of existing boundary. Site: 8 Bluebell Way, Rogerstone, Newport. NP10 9JB. Application Type: Full. Comment: Council has concerns as there is no detail on the encroachment of the existing boundary mentioned, nor notification of permission of such.
- b. CONEX/14/0172 - Prior notification for agricultural barn for hay and machinery storage. Site: Pen Y Groes, Penylan Road, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8RW. Application Type: Agricultural Determination. Comment: No objections.
- c. PG/jed/13/0382 - Notice of planning appeal. Appeal Subject: Proposed erection of two storey dwelling with vehicular access. Appellant: Mr K Proctor. Clerk to check if previous objections to this application will be forwarded to the Inspector for consideration. If not, is it possible to make written representation to reiterate former objections.

10. Dates of next meetings:

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 26th March 2014 at 7pm
Planning Meeting – Wednesday 16th April 2014 2013 at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.35pm. Confirmed this 9th day of April 2014.

Signed..... (Chair) – April 2014

Posted to notice boards 04.04.14

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