



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning and Environmental Meeting held at Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg 7pm on 15th October 2014.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr P Stokes.

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

2. Public Representations: None

3. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2014, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr John seconded Cllr Caston.

4. Planning:

- a. CONEX/14/0860 - Detached garage to front of property. Site: 51 Caernarvon Drive, Rhiwderin, Newport. NP10 8QT. Application Type: Full. Comment: Unable to make comment as insufficient information was received. Council does have concerns about the site and feel there are access issues.
- b. CONEX/14/0907 - Change of use of verge to form part of residential curtilage to 11 Buttercup Close and associated fencing. Site: 11 Buttercup Close, Rogerstone, Newport. NP10 9JT. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided land ownership issues are resolved.

5. Items for next agendas:

Budget & Precept - 29th October meeting: It was decided that a separate Finance Sub-Committee meeting was needed to discuss Council's finances and to bring recommendations back to Council for setting the Precept for 2015/16. The meeting was arranged for Thursday 23rd October at 6.30pm.

6. Items for Discussion:

- a. Play areas - Cllr Gregory informed the group that the Clerk, City Cllrs Williams and Cornelious and himself had attended a meeting with NCC officers to discuss plans for play areas in the ward. NCC advised that they had £438K collected via Section 106 monies from developments in the ward which were to be spend on play areas in Graig. Proposals were that land would be purchased at Rhiwderin (the site of the previous play area) and money would be set aside for any maintenance needs for the next 20 years. NCC proposed the upgrade and possible extension of the toddlers play area alongside Graig Hall and to turn the area into a space for older children, to fully upgrade Fort View Play area and to create a toddlers enclosed play area on the triangular piece of land on the junction of Caerphilly Road and The Griffin in Bassaleg. Also to re-instate the previous play area on the old site in Rhiwderin, to create a small play area on Caernarvon Drive, and create a toddlers play area at the rear of Rhiwderin Community Centre. As for maintenance, the sum being set aside could either be used by the Community Council who could make its own arrangements for maintenance, or the money could be used by NCC who would provide maintenance for the sites. NCC proposed to consult with residents and local children and asked for the Community Council's assistance to do so which was gladly given. Council were very pleased that at last progress was being made, and despite some reservations about some of the details of the plans were happy to support this initiative. It was also agreed for Council's local contractor to refresh his qualification as an RPII Level 2 Operational Play Inspector to meet compliance standards.
- b. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade - Cllr Caston commented that the upgrade was looking good and the Gent's toilet facilities were very much improved. Cllr Gregory reported that he had had nothing but praise from the users of the Centre. There is more work to be done, and snagging of the work to date had been carried out.
- c. Rhiwderin Community Centre Secretary - Following the resignation of the Treasurer and Secretary of the Centre, a local lady, Julia Mercer had come forward and offered her services. Cllr Gregory told the group she was from a financial background and was very keen to be involved with the Community Centre. Council were pleased that someone had volunteered to fill the position and look forward to working with Mrs Mercer in the future. It was understood the former Treasurer and Secretary, Mr Geoff Smith still wanted to be involved with the Centre and Council were very pleased to have him still on board as he is considered to be so valuable to both the Centre and the Community.
- d. Caerphilly Rd/Close Junction - Cllr Fry reported that he was seeking quotes for enabling works for a proposed scheme to be put into action when ready. Cllr Gregory had talked with Pentrepoeth Primary staff who want to run a competition during November for a suitable scheme, the school have offered to

take on the maintenance of the area. Some ideas for a lower maintenance scheme of possibly wild flowers and heather mixes was discussed. Council were asked to think about the area and bring their thoughts back to the next Planning meeting.

7. Urgent Business not on the Agenda:

- a. It was noted that workers were installing cameras and measuring equipment on the roundabout at the end of Forge Road.
- b. Cleaning schedules for both Centres were discussed.
- c. Cllr Gregory reported that Council's article for the Bassaleg and Rhiwderin Directory had been submitted and would be going to print for the Nov/Dec issue.
- d. The Clerk reported that the new Council website was completed and live, tweaking of the site and uploading of data would be carried out in due course.

8. Accounts for payment: Accepted. Proposed by Cllr John and seconded by Cllr Whitfield.
C D Heatley Services - creation of new website costs £500.00

9. Correspondence for information:
Not discussed.

10. Dates of next meetings:

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 29th October 2014 at 7pm
Planning Meeting – Wednesday 12th November 2014 2013 at 7pm (Cllr Gregory unable to attend, Vice Chairman Cllr Fry to Chair the meeting)

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.35pm. Confirmed this 12th day of November 2014.

Signed..... (Vice-Chair) – November 2014

Posted to notice boards 21.11.14

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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