



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning and Environmental Meeting held at Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg 7pm on 13th May 2015

Minutes of the Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 13th May 2015.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs K Sayer, K Harries, V Cox-Wall, M Smart.
Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, J Harris, D Evans, N Mountain, L Fry, W Haigh, P Stokes, A Whitfield, P John, M Cornelious. Also present Neil Woollard and Joanna Lane from Tidal Lagoon Power
- 2. Presentation on Tidal Lagoon Power:** Mr Woollard introduced himself and his colleague to the Council and showed a video of the proposals for a tidal lagoon at Swansea Bay. The project was dependant on Welsh Government and planning approval, but should the proposal be accepted there were further plans to create more lagoons to the west and east of Newport. These would be larger in size and the largest alone would be capable of supplying the energy needs of half of Wales. The details of this can be viewed on the Tidal Lagoon Newport website. Following the presentation Councillors discussed concerns regarding the local ecosystem and marine life and it was agreed by Mr Woollard that much research needed to take place before any decisions were made. The concept was thought to be very interesting, and dependant on wildlife, could be a good form of renewable energy which would easily surpass currently used solar panels and wind turbines. Mr Woollard and Ms Lane left the meeting at 7.25pm.
- 3. Public Representations:** None.
Cllr Cornelious left the meeting at 7.30pm
- 4. Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2015, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Stokes.
- 5. Items for Discussion:**
 - a. Keep Us Rural Meeting (reminder) - Council were reminded of an invitation to a meeting at Michaelstone-y-Fedw regarding wind turbines and solar panels.
 - b. Play Areas - Cllr Gregory informed Council that there had been communication from a resident who had attended a Council meeting along with other residents on 25th March 2015 to discuss the consultation process carried out by NCC regarding the creation and refurbishment of the play areas. He felt that the minutes of that meeting did not properly reflect all the points made by residents at the meeting. Council discussed the matter and reviewed the minutes, they noted the comments of the resident but believed the minutes to be a true reflection of the discussion that took place and agreed that they should not be amended. Cllr Gregory reported that he believed NCC had not yet purchased the land to be used for the reinstatement of the former play area in the village to date.
 - c. Velathon Wales 2015 (update if available) - the proposals for the Velathon was discussed briefly, there was no additional information available other than what had already been reported and discussed.
- 6. Planning:**
None
- 7. Items for next agenda:**
Planning Training - Wednesday 10th June 2015 Planning Meeting (6.30pm start)
- 8. Urgent Business not on the Agenda:**
 - a. Cllr Gregory reported that he had completed a telephone survey with ARUP regarding footfall and cyclists in consideration of the proposals for the M4 motorway realignment.
 - b. Cllr Fry reported that the area under and around the footbridge over the A467 had been cleaned up by a local contractor as agreed by Council, but was amongst other things, concerned that there is no litter bin at the foot of the bridge. The Clerk reminded Council that following a request for a bin to be re-sited there as the previous bin had been removed, NCC had responded that there was no funding available to add it to an emptying schedule. Council were unhappy with this result and the issue will be added to the list for discussion with the head of Streetscene when he agrees to attend a meeting. AW to chase up.

- c. Cllr Haigh advised the group that since a new drainage ditch had been installed in a field alongside Penylan Road, the road was much improved. The only issue remaining was that the amount of mud that had washed down onto the road had obscured and blocked the drains. A local resident had offered to identify the buried drains along the road to enable NCC to clean them out.,
- d. Following the attendance of residents of Caernarvon Drive in Rhiwderin at the March full Council meeting, Cllr Gregory reported that he had contacted Mr Mike McGow to advise him of the attendance, and of the groups comments at the meeting as he had agreed to do. Mr McGow stated that the City Council believed the consultation had been more than sufficient, and was in dialogue with the group as they had contacted him themselves too.
- e. It was noted that a resident in Church Crescent in Bassaleg had organised a protest against the proposed development to build 14 houses on land alongside the railway at the rear of Church Crescent to be accessed from Station Approach. 40 people attended.

9. Accounts for payment:

None

10. Correspondence for information:

Not discussed.

11. Dates of next meetings

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 27th May 2015 at 7pm
 Planning Meeting – Wednesday 10th June 2015 2013 at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.08pm. Confirmed this 24th day of June 2015.

Signed..... (Chair) – June 2015

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