



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Planning and Environmental Meeting held at Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg 7pm on 14th October 2015**

Minutes of the Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 14th October 2015.

**1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs P Stokes, K Harries, P John, D Williams.

**Present:** Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, V Cox-Wall, P Appleton.

**2. To receive public representations if required:** None.

**3. Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2015, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Mountain.

### **4. Reports:**

a. Police - Not in attendance - The police report for September was read out. During September there had been 99 calls to the Police, 10 of which were classed as crimes. The breakdown was as follows: All Other Theft - 3, Violence With Injury - 1, Vehicle Crime - 2, Public Order Offences - 1, Burglary Dwelling - 1, Possession of Weapons - 1, Miscellaneous Crime - 1. Following reports of anti-social behaviour in the area of Lavender Way an action plan was put in place and numerous youths were identified and had their names taken. The last call to the area was on 05.09.15. Calls regarding off-road bikes in the Five Lanes area are being attended to, and an operation is being planned to counter the activity, at present foot and mobile patrols are being carried out. Residents have expressed concerns about speeding traffic on Laurel Road and at Park View, a speeding operation is being arranged. There have been no further reports of youths throwing stones at vehicles in Rivermead Way. There appears to be a trend again for off-road bikes using the riverbank on weekends to get to the Five Lanes area via the bridge over the A467.

### **5. Items for discussion:**

- a. Play areas update - Cllr Gregory reported that the official opening of the play areas on Bassaleg Green had taken place on Tuesday 6th October and went well. Parents were thrilled with the activities on offer and the open space was being well used. The Fort View play area would probably be finished by around 16th October and the play area at the rear of Rhiwderin Community Centre had broken ground. Cllr Gregory had asked NCC for the plans of the areas to be forwarded. Council nor the Centre Committee had been informed of when the work at Rhiwderin was to begin, but this would have been useful to be able to notify Centre users in advance. It was believed the footprint of the play area had been changed, and that now some of the boulders placed on the green area some years ago would need to be repositioned to allow enough space. Maintenance schedules for the play areas were discussed. Council were concerned that the Clerk's contact details would be on all notices in the play areas as first point of contact instead of NCC's contact centre as this effectively made her on call 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- b. Welsh Government invitation to comment on Draft Statutory Guidance for the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (VCW) - Deferred.
- c. Welsh Government invitation to comment on Proposed Changes to Planning Policy Wales Chapter 10 and Technical Advice Note 4: Retail Centre Development (AW) - Deferred.
- d. Vale of Usk Action group (JH) - Cllr Harris asked if anyone would be able to take his place at a forthcoming meeting as he would be on holiday when it was taking place.

### **6. Planning:**

a. CONEX/15/1186 - Erect a single story rear extension and convert the garage into a habitable space. Site: 6 Lilac Grove, Rogerstone, Newport. NP10 9JW. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are informed and agree and there would be no loss of off street parking.

### **7. Items for next agenda:**

Refurbishment of toilets at Graig Hall - 28th October 2015 meeting

Cllr Fry asked that the use of the planters stored at Rhiwderin Community Centre be added to 28th October meeting.

## 8. Urgent Business not on the Agenda:

Cllr Fry asked that the planters as mentioned in Item 7 be briefly discussed. He suggested that Cllrs look at the plans for using some at Bassaleg Shops as he previously submitted, and any other areas thought to be appropriate or to consider if they should be scrapped instead. Cllrs to bring suggestions for use to the end of month meeting.

Cllr Appleton suggested that as Council wanted to find a project in Lower Machen, that there was a bench and 2 concrete planters outside the church which were in need of attention and suggested that the concrete planters be replaced and the bench refurbished. It was agreed that this would be a good idea, and that previously it had been suggested that planters on both entrances to the village from the A468 would enhance the area.

Following a request by a resident to hold a pop-up pizzeria in Graig Hall car park, Council discussed the subject. Most felt it would be a good idea provided strict rules were put in place and adhered to. Cllr Harris to contact the resident and invite them to a site visit to find out more information.

Cllr Cox-Wall informed Council that the SOWB group were to hold a Community Allotment open day on their recently acquired allotment at Bassaleg Allotment site, and requested permission to put a table outside the allotment fence on the open space to promote the group and their work. Permission was granted.

Cllr Gregory reported that following a disagreement at Rhiwderin Community Centre, a Korean Church Group were considering renting another venue, and that the Graig Hall Committee may be interested in offering the group space to worship at Graig Hall instead.

Cllr Appleton advised Council that on a recent walk she had spotted some reindeer, and felt it would be nice to have reindeer at the Christmas Lighting Event. Council agreed, Cllr Appleton to explore the possibility.

Cllr Gregory reminded the group that Remembrance Sunday would be on 8th November this year.

## 9. Accounts for payment: Approved, proposed Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr Whitfield.

British Legion - Wreath & donation

£100.00

## 10. Correspondence for information:

Not discussed.

## 11 Dates of next meetings

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 28th October 2015 at 7pm

Planning Meeting – Wednesday 11th November 2015 at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.30. Confirmed this 11th day of November 2015.

Signed..... (Chair) – November 2015

Posted to notice boards 20.11.15

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