



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning and Environmental Meeting held at Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg at 7pm on 14th September 2016

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1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs K Sayer, P Gregory, V Cox-Wall, P Appleton.

Present: Cllrs L Fry (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, K Harries, P John, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, D Williams. P Gregory & P Appleton from 7.55pm.

2. To receive public representations: None

3. To welcome Mr Julian Hayman of NHS Wales for a presentation to Council: Mr Hayman was introduced to the group and told them he was employed as part of a new "Engagement Team" for the NHS serving the Greater Gwent area. Since becoming a larger organisation rather than individual health boards, the NHS felt it needed a new interface with the public, and his job was to meet the public in various places and interact with them about the NHS, then take the feedback from groups to improve services. He told the group that following demographic changes in population, the NHS needed to review plans for services. He advised that there were plans for a new hospital which would be for acute cases and would take in "blue light" ambulances on the site of the old Llanfrehfa Grange Hospital in Cwmbran, and that this would make a huge difference to emergency cases. He also mentioned that certain hospitals would be turned into "centres of excellence" where treatment would be seen through in one single department making the visit more comfortable and reassuring for patients without the need to travel between departments for individual treatments relating to their illness. This would be both more effective and would prevent the need for visiting the X-Ray Dept for an X-Ray then returning to another department for results for example. Councillors told Mr Hayman of their experiences of the NHS, and Mr Hayman made it clear that he was available to discuss any suggestions and peoples experiences as this would help to improve services. Council agreed the organisation is under huge pressure. Mr Hayman was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting at 7.30pm.

4. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th August 2016, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Harries.

5. Reports:

a. Police - The officers were unable to attend but a report for August was received and read to Council. The report contained the following information: During August there had been 85 calls to the Police, 24 of which were crimes. The breakdown was as follows: Vehicle Crime - 1, All Other Theft - 3, Criminal Damage & Arson - 5, Shop Lifting - 1, Bicycle theft - 1, Violence Without Injury - 7, Violence With Injury - 1, Burglary Non Dwelling - 1, Miscellaneous Crime - 2, Rape - 1, Public Order - 1. Following the latest Your Voice survey, the Ward priority is still parking issues in the area of Bassaleg High School. The next survey will take place in October, please email <https://www.gwent.police.uk/yourvoicesurvey/> with any suggestions or issues. Actions and activities by the local teams during August included: Patrols and visits being carried out in the Rhiwderin area along with house to house inquiries after graffiti was sprayed on people's private property and on the council bollards on the road islands. There were no issues with parking in Court Crescent during August at the school due to the summer break, officers have been dealing with the newly formed residents committee, the neighbourhood watch co-ordinator, the head teacher and Councillor David Williams to try and resolve the issues over parking in the area. Emerging Trends: Several incidents of graffiti have been reported in the Bassaleg and Rhiwderin area. Following requests from the Community Council, extra evening Police surgeries are being held as follows: Friday 23.09.16 at Bassaleg Shops 6pm to 7pm. Normal ward surgeries will be held in the Rhiwderin Village area Thursday 01/09/2016 11am to 12pm and the Afon Village area Thursday 22/09/2016 1pm to 2pm. **Action: Cllr Gregory to ask that the report contains previous crime statistics for comparison with the present month being reported, and also that information be given regarding the calls to the Police during the month.**

6. Items for discussion:

a. Boundary Commission's invitation to comment on review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales - Noted and discussed briefly. **Action: No action required.**

- b. Thank you email from residents of Afon Village regarding assistance with litter bin replacements - A thank you email was received for Council's offer to fund larger litter bins at Afon Village. NCC are reviewing the situation and it was hoped the new bins will be approved and installed soon. To date it is expected there will be 5 pavement mounted large bins which will replace the small post mounted bins at present. The cost has not yet been determined. **Action: Clerk to advise Council of progress at future meetings.**
- c. Adoption of footpaths update - The Clerk had received the forms needed to apply for the adoption of the footpaths from Woodland Drive, though Penylan Close into Fort View play area and from the end of Penylan Close onto Caerphilly Road opposite Garth Terrace. **Action: Cllrs Whitfield, Haigh, Caston and Williams to assist with encouraging residents who use the path regularly to fill in evidence forms for their use, then return them to the Clerk to progress the application.**
- d. Request for assistance from Afon Village regarding flood alert leaflets - A request was provisionally made to Council to assist with the costs of production of an information leaflet for residents of Afon Village about what to do in the event of a flood alert being placed on the area should the Ebbw River be in danger of bursting it's banks. Council agreed in principle to help. **Action: Clerk to await costings and bring the issue back to Council when more information is available.**
Cllr Williams left the meeting at 7.50pm. Cllrs Gregory and P Appleton joined the meeting at 7.55pm.
- e. Councillor vacancy update - The Clerk reported that the current vacancy was being advertised and would advise Council at the next meeting if an election was necessary. **Action: Clerk to progress.**

7. Items for next agenda if agreed:

- a. Precept discussion - 12th October 2016 meeting

8. Urgent other business not on the agenda:

- a. Cllr Mountain submitted samples of the Graig Community Calendar for approval, and requested permission to use the Council's logo as a watermark, which was agreed. **Action: Cllr Mountain to progress.**
- b. Cllr Appleton advised Council that she should be able to secure the reindeer for attendance at the Christmas Lighting Event again this year, Council approved the cost. She had also made enquiries of Machen Rotary Club to explore the cost of having the Santa sleigh which travels around the area attend the event too. It was felt the cost was prohibitive and Cllr Appleton was asked to negotiate and try to reduce the cost considering it was a community event free to all residents. **Action: Cllr Appleton to progress both items.**

9. Accounts for payment: None

10. Planning - Applications to be considered:

- a. CONEX/16/0859 Proposal: DEMOLITION OF EXISTING SINGLE GARAGE AND SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION AND ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND REAR EXTENSION WITH INTEGRAL GARAGE Address: 8 Laurel Drive, Bassaleg, Newport NP10 8NL Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.
- b. Consultation on the intended removal of some BT public payphones in the Newport area - BT wrote of its intention to remove the payphone located at St Basil's shops in Bassaleg amongst others in the Newport area. The payphone had made no calls during the preceding 12 months and it was thought to be surplus to requirement. Council felt there was no reason to object, but wished to explore the fact that BT were offering the chance to purchase a heritage red phone box which could be used for other community purposes. **Action: Cllr Appleton to explore if purchasing a box would be available to Council.**

11. Correspondence for information

Not discussed

12. Dates of next meetings

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 28th September 2016 at 7pm

Planning Meeting – Wednesday 12th October 2016 at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.21pm. Confirmed, this 12th day of October 2016.

Signed..... (Chair) – October 2016

Posted to notice boards 21.10.16

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