



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Mid-Month Meeting held at Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg at 6.30pm on 13th September 2017

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1. Apologies for absence: J Bailey, D Williams

Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, K Sayer, K Harries, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, T Appleton, K Thomas, N Tarr. Also present Mr P Powell and Miss C Powell of Gwent Energy CIC

2. To receive public representations: None.

- 5.a. Mr Phil Powell and Miss Cyrene Powell from Gwent Energy CIC were welcomed and gave a presentation on electric vehicle charging points. The presentation contained information about the expected increase in the use of electric vehicles and the need for charging points. It covered how the charging points could be installed, how the service could be run and charged for, and benefits of using electric cars as opposed to petrol or diesel, the models of cars, their current distances before recharging and the length of time to fully charge vehicles with different chargers. Council found the presentation informative and interesting. Both were thanked for their time and left the meeting at 7.15pm. Cllr Whitfield joined the meeting at 6.53pm.

- 3. Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th August 2017, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Tarr seconded Cllr Caston. The action points of the minutes were briefly discussed. Regarding Item 5b, Cllr Appleton expressed concern that Council had agreed to assist with a donation of up to £900 but this had not all been needed by the group. The Clerk confirmed that the group had reimbursed the difference to Council and provided evidence of the costs of all funding provided.
Action: None requested

4. Reports:

- a. Police - The Police did not attend the meeting but a report for August had been provided to Council and was discussed. The report contained the following information: During August there had been 85 calls to the Police, 10 of which were crimes. The breakdown was as follows: Public Order - 1, Violence Without Injury - 1, Miscellaneous Crime - 1, Burglary Dwelling - 1, Drug Offences - 1, Shoplifting - 1, All Theft other - 2, Vehicle Crime - 2. The next Your Voice survey will take place in November 2017, please email <https://www.gwent.police.uk/yourvoicesurvey/> with any suggestions or issues. The ward priority for Graig is now anti-social behaviour in McDonalds, Rivermead Way and Lilac Grove. Actions and activities by the local teams during July included the following: There had been concern about cold callers visiting the area of Chapel Terrace, Rhiwderin, this was still an ongoing issue and was being monitored by the neighbourhood team. Patrols were being carried in the areas of Forge Mews and Churchmead due to information being received from a member of the public with reference to anti-social behaviour. No reports of any issues in the location of Afon Village had been received. It was noted that PCSO Evans had now moved on and would no longer be one of Graig's PCSO's as he had joined the traffic camera unit. Council were saddened by this as PCSO Evans had worked in Graig for many years. All wished him good luck in his new post. **Action: None requested.**

5. Items for discussion:

- a. Presentation on electric vehicle charging points - discussed above. **Action: None requested except that if Cllrs were aware of any suitable businesses in the area where they felt a charging point could be installed, these could be reported to the Clerk who would pass on any suggestions to Mr Powell.**
- b. Councillor identification badges (deferred from last meeting) - Cllr Thomas suggested that Cllrs should be provided with ID badges which would show they were indeed Cllrs and were acting on behalf of Graig Community Council. This was something that was identified as being of use during the recent risk assessment undertaken. All agreed this would be good idea. **Action: Clerk to investigate costs, Cllr Gregory to approach Griffiths Signs to determine if this is something they could supply and if so, the costings.**
- c. Invitation to comment on NCC's Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance on Development Management and Air Quality (deferred from last meeting) - It was suggested that in light of concerns raised recently about air quality because of the heavy traffic on the A468, Council should make comment. **Action: Clerk to fill in online form expressing Councils concerns for the area's air quality.**

- d. Update on Waste Transfer Station planning application decision - The decision by NCC to refuse the application was discussed briefly, Council expressed relief at the decision. **Action: None necessary, but the situation will be monitored.**
- e. Litter bins (deferred from last meeting) - Suggestions for locations of larger bins was discussed and it was agreed to concentrate on replacement of the bins in the play areas first. Council agreed to purchase 10 large floor mounted bins initially, and have Council's logo manufactured on small discs which could be riveted to the outside. The budget agreed to purchase and mount the bins on plinths was set at £3000 at all 10 bins. **Action: Clerk to source suitable bins and return to Council to discuss locating them on plinths.**
- f. Rhiwderin play area - Cllr Gregory told the group that the fencing at Rhiwderin Play area had been replaced. There were still issues with the stream running alongside which a local resident believed Welsh Water could be responsible for. **Action: Cllr Gregory to look into this.**
- g. Fort View play area - Cllr Fry reported that there were a number of grounds maintenance issues in the park. Some were the responsibility of Newport City Homes, and some were Council's responsibility. Cllrs Fry and Cornelious had carried out a site visit. Cllr Fry suggested the residents of some of the neighbouring properties may need to be contacted regarding the boundaries between gardens and the play area. **Action: Cllr Cornelious to liaise with NCH and NCC to determine who would be responsible for some of the issues.**
- h. Bollards on St Basil's roundabout - Cllr Sayer asked for a decision regarding the broken bollards on the roundabout. He asked that even if Council wanted to pursue placing boulders instead of bollards, as that could take some time to resolve, could the bollards be replaced for the time being to tidy-up the area as it looked very unkempt. This was agreed unanimously. Cllr Fry agreed to oversee this. He was thanked for taking on this responsibility. **Action: Cllr Fry to have the missing bollards re-sited.**
- i. Invitation to WG approach to community safety with Gwent PCC - Council were advised of a forthcoming WG/Gwent PCC event to be held in Newport and were asked if they wished to accompany Cllr Gregory as he intended attending. Cllr Tarr expressed interest and agreed to accompany him. **Action: Clerk to arrange for both to attend the meeting.**
- j. RCC Clerk's request - The Clerk advised Council that the Rogerstone CC Clerk had requested information from her regarding Burial Board documents for circulation to Rogerstone Burial Board Members. Council's feelings were that Rogerstone Burial Board Members should approach the Burial Board Clerk directly themselves for any information either the Board Members or Rogerstone Council needed. **Action: Clerk to relay this information to the Rogerstone CC Clerk.**

6. Items for next agenda if agreed:

- a. Finance Meeting recommendations - 27th September meeting
- b. Approve Annual Return following external audit - 27th August meeting
- c. Reverend Christopher Stone - 27th September meeting

7. Urgent other business not on the agenda:

- a. Cllr Harris told the group he had noticed workers with maps surveying Laurel Drive and Caerphilly Road. He approached them to ask what they were doing but all they could confirm was that they were tracking utilities in the vicinity. It was hoped that it was because the long hoped for dedicated turn into Laurel Drive would be going ahead.. **Action: None required.**
- b. Cllr Caston submitted a newspaper clipping stating that the play area at Rhiwderin would be officially handed over to Council. The Clerk and Chair confirmed they had not been contacted by NCC regarding this, and all were surprised that it had been placed in the local newspaper prior to Council being informed. **Action: To give time for NCC to contact Council regarding this, but to follow up with NCC if none received.**
- c. Cllr Fry had obtained quotes for a number of maintenance issues he had noticed. He felt that the notice boards should be redecorated and the quote for this was £480. The Clerk confirmed that most did need attention and the quote was accepted. It was also agreed to change the colour from mid-blue to a royal blue to match the planters being redecorated, and to reinstate the signage above the boards which looked shabby. He had also obtained a quote to create wheelchair access to the patio and side door at Graig Hall for £950 and also the option to refurbish the patio area at £2650. It was agreed that the wheelchair access should be progressed, but that the patio area was in a reasonable state at present and should not be refurbished just yet. He felt that some of the older benches on the green at Bassaleg needed refurbishment and gave a quote of £480 which was discussed briefly but no decision was made. **Action: Cllr Fry to progress with the notice board redecoration, Cllrs refurbishing the planters to supply him with the colour details of the planters to match up the paint colour. Also to progress with the creation of the wheelchair access, but to obtain further quotes as per requirements prior to offering the contract to ensure value for money.**

d. Cllr Tarr confirmed to Council he had submitted the Council's views on the Active Travel Plan discussed at the previous meeting. **Action: None required.**

8. Accounts for payment: Accepted, proposed Cllr John Seconded Cllr Sayer

Jacks Appeal ABUHB - Cost of defibrillator cabinet x 2	£1230.00
Cllr M Smart - reimbursement for planter redecoration costs	£8.09

9. Planning - Applications to be considered:

- a. 17/0779 - Site: 3 Buttercup Close, Rogerstone, Newport NP10 9JT Proposal: Single storey extensions to the front, side and rear and enlarged parking area to front. Application type: **Full. Comment: No objections.**
- b. 17/0836 - Site: Plas Machen, Caerphilly Road, Newport NP10 8GW Proposal: Conversion of existing agricultural barn to provide flexible workshop and office units (use Class B1 and B2), car parking area, refuse and recycle storage area. Application Type: Full **Comment: Council objected to this application. There are concerns regarding access onto the A468 as visibility is poor and traffic is very fast flowing on this stretch of the road. Also it was felt that this would be an inappropriate development for such an historical site and building.**
- c. 17/0837 - Site: Plas Machen, Caerphilly Road Newport NP10 8GW Proposal: Listed building consent for conversion of existing agricultural barn to provide flexible workshop and office units (Use Class B1 and B2) Application Type: Listed Building **Comment: As above.**

10. Correspondence for information

Not discussed

11. Dates of next meetings

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 27th September 2017 at 7pm

Mid-month meeting - Wednesday 11th October at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.03pm. Confirmed, this 11th day of October 2017.

Signed..... (Vice-Chair) – October 2017

Posted to notice boards 20.10.17

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