



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Mid-Month Meeting held at Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg at 7pm on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

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### **1. Apologies for absence:** A Whitfield

**Present:** Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, D Evans, M Smart, K Sayer, K Harries, L Fry, J Harris, W Haigh, T Appleton, J Bailey, K Thomas, N Tarr, D Williams.

### **2. To receive public representations:** None.

**3. Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Tarr seconded Cllr Harries. The action points of the minutes were briefly discussed. Regarding Item 3, the proposed colour of the noticeboards was discussed, and it was agreed that Cllr Smart would check on the exact colour of the planters and give the details to Cllr Fry. Regarding Item 5b, it was agreed that the NCC Officer responsible for installing the play areas be contacted again regarding the number of litter bins installed and if there was any update on the guarantee of the path through the Harlech Drive play area. Regarding Item 5c, Council decided that it was not in a position to consider Cllr Cornelious' request. Regarding Item 5f, Cllr Gregory reported that an architect had been engaged as agreed and that Cllr Whitfield had met with the Vale of Usk group who were helpful with funding advice. She was progressing all options. Regarding Item 5g, the group were informed that NCC refused permission for a planter to be placed outside Bassaleg Post Office and Cllr John had been asked if he was aware who had repainted the planters in Lower Machen a different colour. Regarding Item 7a, Cllr Tarr had reported the faulty street lights to NCC and was thanked by Council. Regarding Item 7b, Cllr Fry confirmed the broken bench had been repaired. **Action: Cllr Gregory to contact the NCC Officer regarding the play areas. Cllr Whitfield to continue progressing funding options.**

### **4. Reports:**

a. Police - The Police did not attend the meeting but a report for October had been provided to Council and was discussed. The report contained the following information: During October there had been 98 calls to the Police, 22 of which were crimes. The breakdown was as follows: Public Order - 3, Violence Without Injury - 8, Miscellaneous Crime - 1, Shoplifting - 1, All Theft other - 2, Vehicle Crime - 1, Criminal Damage & Arson - 4, Violence with Injury - 1, Burglary Dwelling - 1. The Your Voice survey had closed and new priorities were being set. 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. A fixed penalty notice was issued to a vehicle parked on double yellow lines on Station Approach. Several reports had been received about anti-social behaviour in Afon Village and the Neighbourhood Team had been patrolling in the area. Inconsiderate parking leaflets had been delivered to Pentrepoeth Primary School for pupils to take home to inform their parents of complaints from residents in the area, and due to reports of drugs being used in Highfield Road, the Neighbourhood Team will be patrolling the area. Emerging Trends: There had been several reports of youths knocking on doors and throwing eggs in Afon Village. Other Information: the area has a new PCSO, Gareth Llewellyn. Council commented that the report was meaningless, and that despite earlier assurances, no higher ranking Officers than PCSO's have attended Council meetings for a long period of time. **Action: None requested.**

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

a. Remembrance Sunday – Cllr Gregory reminded Cllrs about the service being held at St Basil's Church and handed out poppies given to Council by the Royal British Legion. **Action: All Cllrs who were able should attend the service to represent Council.**

b. Noticeboards & litter bins – Cllr Fry asked the Clerk to enquire from a company who supplied litter bins how best to secure them to grassed areas. He submitted a quote for repairs and refurbishment of the noticeboards which exceeded the amount allowed in Council's Standing Orders to be spent without obtaining further quotes. Council were satisfied that the cost was reasonable for the amount of work being carried out, and the quote given by the contractor was the one usually used by Council. Therefore it was decided to suspend the Standing Order in this case to negate the need to obtain further quotes as the

work was needed to be carried out as soon as possible. Cllr Fry was given the authority to have the work completed. Cllr Fry to bring quotes for fabricating new header boards for each notice board to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk to enquire about litter bin fixing, Cllr Fry to progress with the notice board repair/refurbishment and bring quotes for the headers to the end of month meeting.**

- c. Donation request from Whitehead Steelers - Council agreed by majority vote to donate £150 as requested to help with kit costs. **Action: Clerk to present a cheque for payment at the next meeting for authorisation.**
- d. Review of Community & Town Council Sector - Council looked at this and items under 5e & 5F and agreed it would be best to form a consultation group to review and make recommendations **Action: Cllrs Caston, Tarr, Bailey, Appleton and Smart to review this and the two following consultation opportunities and bring recommendations to the next meeting for approval prior to submission.**
- e. Independent Review Panel Wales consultation - **Action: See 5d above.**
- f. Concessionary Bus Passes consultation (re-agenda'd following info given to Cllrs) - **Action: See 5d above.**
- g. Additions to Councils Policies and Procedures documents - The Clerk told Council of new procedures that would need to be written and included into Council's suite of documents and procedures. It was agreed these would be reviewed and constructed in the new year. **Action: Clerk to agenda for the end of January 2018 meeting.**
- h. Christmas Events update - Details of the forthcoming event were discussed and Cllrs were asked to donate a prize for the raffle or money if they were able. It was noted that a local contractor had offered to donate a Christmas tree to Rhiwderin Community Centre which was gratefully accepted. **Action: All who were able to bring donations to the next meeting. Cllr Gregory to make arrangements for the Rhiwderin Christmas tree.**
- i. Rural Transport Study Workshop - For information, Council were advised by the Clerk of a workshop taking place in Abergavenny on 24th November. **Action: None necessary.**

#### 6. Items for next agenda if agreed:

Invite the Head of Streetscene to a meeting to follow up on issues raised - 10th January 2018 meeting  
Deliveries to St Basil's shops - 10th January 2018 meeting.

#### 7. Urgent other business not on the agenda:

- a. Cllr Sayer suggested that a letter would need to be send to a resident requesting his perimeter hedge be trimmed that fronted onto the footpath between Caerphilly Road and Penylan Close. It was overgrown and encroaching on the footpath. **Action: Clerk to send a letter in the new year if the hedge had not been attended to in the meantime.**
- b. Cllr Harries asked if something could be done about the pathway to the rear of Duffryn Close, it was agreed that Cllr Cornelious would be asked to speak with him on the issue to try to resolve any problems he highlights. **Action: Clerk to ask Cllr Cornelious to speak with Cllr Harries.**
- c. Cllr Fry asked for an update on the refused planning application for the proposed Waste Transfer Station. His concern was that traffic was still operating from the site. Cllr Williams expressed an interest at this time. It was noted that although the application had been refused, it would be some time before it was all sorted and that the operator would be given 6 months to find an alternative site. **Action: None necessary at this time, but issue to be closely monitored.**
- d. Cllr Thomas asked if Council would have the allotment hedge cut as NCC had not returned to cut it as expected. Cllr Caston said that this had been discussed at the allotment inspection and would discussed again at the inspection follow-up meeting scheduled for the following day. It would be dealt with if NCC did not attend to it. **Action: To discuss again at the allotment inspection follow-up meeting and addressed as necessary.**

#### 8. Accounts for payment: Accepted, proposed Cllr Haigh Seconded Cllr Evans

Taffspeed Cleansing - final extra play area cleansing invoice for 2017	£200.00
SSE - Graig Hall electricity costs Jun-Sep 17	£218.25
Welsh Water - allotment water costs Apr-Oct	£52.98
Cllr T Appleton - reimbursement of banqueting roll cost	£11.96
Cllr M Smart - reimbursement for planting costs	£110.00
<b>Total to date</b>	<b>£593.19</b>

Council also thanked the HWG for all their hard work since forming the group.

#### 9. Planning - Applications to be considered

None to date

**10. Correspondence for information:**

Planning information if available, Play for Wales and Clerks & Councils Direct magazines

**11. Dates of next meetings:**

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 30th November 2017 at 7pm

Mid-month meeting - Wednesday 13th December at **6pm**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.10pm. Confirmed, this 13th day of December 2017.

Signed..... (Chair) – December 2017

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