



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk's Report

28th March 2012

Additional information to the agenda for the meeting being held on Wednesday 28th March 2012 at 7pm at Graig Community Hall Bassaleg.

(Item No 4 on the agenda)

Viaduct Way Issues – NCC have advised that the adoption has not been settled as the original developer – Bellway Homes have been slow in completing the remedial works needed before completion. Clerk has also asked that consideration be given to installing traffic priority signs where the road narrows under the viaduct, Cllr Cornelious has been chasing and there are some problems with the original developers. Adoption will still take place but may take longer than anticipated. Clerk will continue to chase. Problems related to vandalism and groups of youths causing problems for residents in Viaduct Way have been highlighted, residents are working with the Police and Councils to attempt to resolve the situation. A neighbourhood watch scheme is being set up and the Police have confirmed they have increased patrols in the area.

Rhiwderin Community Centre Lease – City Cllrs Cornelious and Williams together with Community Cllrs Gregory and Caston have met with an NCC representative to discuss renewal of the lease. The meeting was positive and Council are hopeful that a new lease will be offered in the near future.

Laurel Road Parking Issue – Local residents from the top of Laurel Road attended the Council meeting on March 14th. Following discussions it was decided to pursue the option of placing bollards on the green to the west of Laurel Road which houses the post box. It was decided that as the houses which line the green to the east of Laurel Road do not all have sufficient parking facilities elsewhere, and bollards would only exacerbate the parking issues residents experience at present. Council agreed to work with a representation of the residents to try to come up with a better solution to the issue, and petition NCC to consider the option of a dedicated parking bay. A letter has been sent to NCC to this effect, no reply has been received to date.

Junction 28 Tredegar Roundabout Safety Issues – No update has been obtained on this issue, Clerk will continue to chase.

Overhanging Tree Branches in Orchard Close and Associated Wentworth Lane Issue – The broken fencing along the footpath up to Berkley Close has been removed and a new permissive pathway sign erected. Council are still in the process of seeking permission from NCC to place bollards and barriers at either end of the lane to prevent vehicular access, to date no reply has been received, Clerk to chase.

Speed Reduction for Afon Village & Laurel Road – Council have received an email from NCC stating that to reduce the speed to 20 mph along these roads would be too costly and surveys completed do not highlight the areas as having sufficient problems to warrant the reduction. Clerk has written to request that the issue be re-visited should money become available and Council will review again in 6 months time.

Rumble Strip on Forge Road – NCC has added the cost of replacing the rumble strips to the budget for 2012-13. Work is not expected to be undertaken in the near future

Caerphilly Close Junction Landscaping Project – This project is temporarily on hold. Cllr Cornelious is petitioning the City Council to have the junction improved by adding an extra lane for traffic exiting left onto Caerphilly Road from Caerphilly Close.

Graig Hall – Quotes for new blinds and a deep clean will be reviewed at the mid-April meeting as not all quotes have been received as yet. Rubber stoppers for the feet of the furniture in the hall are being ordered to protect the floor once it has been stripped and re-sealed.

Play Areas – Cllrs Williams, Whitfield and the Clerk is meeting with a representative of Groundworks Caerphilly in April who may be able to help with funding of the Fort View play area.

Notice boards – The notice board proposed for installation alongside the church wall opposite Churchmead has been approved by NCC and is being installed. The notice board proposed at the top of Laurel Road is also being installed as residents were consulted and have not objected to its installation. This item will be removed from future reports.

Adoption of Footpath Opposite Garth Terrace – Clerk has received the necessary paperwork and a number of residents and Cllrs have kindly offered to assist in gathering completed evidence forms in support of the adoption of both the footpath opposite Garth Terrace and at Highfield Lane. Clerk will collate and submit to NCC in due course.

St Basils Lytchgate and Brass Memorial Plaques – As the church considers repairs to its boundary wall a priority, this issue will remain on hold for the foreseeable future.

Moving of the Goalposts on the Open Space – The new brackets have been installed so the posts can now be periodically moved to allow the grass to recover. This item will be removed from future reports.

NO GOLFING sign – The new sign has been installed and this item will be removed from future reports.

Caerphilly Road Issues – Clerk has received an email from NCC who agrees that there is an area of the road which is unlit, but due to financial constraints NCC cannot rectify this for the foreseeable future. Cllr Gregory has spoken with another NCC official who has agreed a number of issues need along this road need addressing and has passed the information on to the appropriate departments to be dealt with. It is hoped that adding his weight to Council's concerns will prompt for the issues to be dealt with. No correspondence has been received since that time, Clerk will chase for an update.

Community Council Website – The website is being updated regularly with miscellaneous information and copies of Council documents.

Litter Bins – A full inventory of litter bins in the villages is being undertaken with a view to increasing or replacing a number of bins with larger models where necessary.

Footpath and area behind the Tredegar Arms and St Basil's Church & Church Wall – No response has been received after a second letter and a number of emails have been sent to Greene King to request information regarding the ownership of the area behind the fencing at the rear of the Tredegar Arms pub and the boundary wall which is in need of repair. Clerk will continue to pursue.

Gate Erection at Highfield Lane encroaching on footpath – The formal adoption if the lane is underway (please see item above on adoption of footpaths). No response has been received to a second letter sent to the owner of the new property at the top of the lane despite confirmation of receipt of the letter has been verified. The metal gate has been amended and now opens fully.

Vandalism at Schools – An email has been received from NCC stating that installing temporary CCTV cameras at the schools would not be effective due to the size of the site, and that enclosure fencing would be costly and there is no currently no budget for this. Council will continue to lobby.

Compiled 23.03.12

Please note: The contents of this report have been compiled by the Clerk and are subject to change as and when new information is received. This report has not been approved by the Community Council before publication as meeting minutes would be, and is intended only as a useful tool to give information on the current status of ongoing issues to reduce time spent at meetings discussing updates unnecessarily.