



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Clerk's Report

31<sup>st</sup> October 2018

Additional information to the agenda for the meeting being held on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 at 7pm at Graig Community Centre, Bassaleg (**Item No 4 on the agenda**)

**Graffiti in the ward (May '16)** - This item will not be removed until the graffiti has been cleared. The Clerk has reported the graffiti on the bollards at the junction of Caerphilly Road and Pentre Tai Road to NCC again. No further update available.

**Parking on grass verges at bus stop on Forge Road (Jan '15)** – Parking still regularly takes place in this area which Council believes is a major health and safety risk. NCC sees this as a Policing issue, the Police say they do not have the resources to monitor, therefore the damage to the verges is being ignored. This item is less of an issue at present as the Bassaleg Roundabout is being amended and road works are deterring the practice, but it will likely return once works are completed.

**Dedicated right turn into Laurel Drive (May '14)** - City Cllrs did meet with NCC and the developers to discuss this option, and it was noted that workmen had mapped utilities in the area, but the latest response in June 2018 from NCC is that there is no funding available to carry this out.

**Additional lighting on Caerphilly Road and Laurel Road (Jan '14)** - This issue was added to a list of number of issues which was forwarded to NCC some time ago. Following much chasing, a reply has finally been received. This will be investigated.

**Dirty Highway Signage (Oct '16)**- NCC recognised the need for cleansing but are no longer carrying out signage cleansing schedules due to lack of funds. This was confirmed at a meeting with the Senior Officer for Transport and Road Safety. Head of Streetscene response says " Cleansing/replacement will be undertaken where signs are no longer legible. Additional signs will only be considered on safety grounds".

**Adoption of footpaths (Numerous times from July '11)** - The footpath between Woodland Drive and Fort View Play area, and also the footpath between Penylan Close and Caerphilly Road are both now being reviewed by NCC with regard to whether they will be accepted as PROWs. The Clerk discovered recently that the paperwork handed in to the reception desk at the Civic Centre had been mislaid and no action had been taken at all since March 2017. The Clerk has supplied copies to NCC and details for both paths are now being considered by NCC's Legal Department.

**Overgrown footpath from Woodland Drive to Penylan Close (as above)** - This path as mentioned above is in the process of being adopted.

**St Basil's Roundabout bollards repair (Feb '17)** - The bollards are in place, but the grassed verge of the roundabout is being heavily damaged by large vehicles unable to negotiate the turning circle of the roundabout. Delivery to the shops from the rear is still being pursued, but NCH has advised that NCC's waste lorries are causing the damage. This is to be investigated too. NCH have asked that if anyone sees lorries mounting the roundabout to please pass on their registrations and descriptions to them. It has been noted that the shop deliveries are now being attempted at the rear of the buildings as Council requested.

**Parking on grass verges on Laurel Road (Mar '15)** - NCC will not take up this issue and have only offered the Community Council to pay for bollards to be installed to alleviate the problem. The damage to the verges is being ignored. This situation is unlikely to change and has been reiterated by the Head of Streetscene.

**Boundary fencing along Caerphilly Road between the Rhiwderin Inn and Laurel Road Junction (Mar '15)** - NCC do cut the verge but only a 1 metre strip between the pavement and the boundary fence as per their schedule, NetworkRail cut back only to their fence. This leaves a strip of land that no-one will maintain.

**Pentrepoeth Road issues (Oct '16)** - Problems on the road have been reported numerous times and suggestions for improvements have been requested, but NCC state that nothing can be done due to the road layout. Council will continue to work on helping alleviate the problems. A recent planning application has complicated this matter further and was discussed at a public meeting. Cllr Gregory met with the Senior Officer for Transport and Road Safety who agreed there were some issues which would be attended to by his department, but nothing has improved to date. This was also discussed with the new Head of

Streetscene, but no suggestions were approved. Council has also highlighted the issues for walkers and pedestrians in its comments on the Active Travel Integrated Map it has been asked to comment on.

**Bus stop time tables (Feb '17)** - Cllr Cornelious reported at the August meeting she was still struggling to have RTI displays installed/repared in certain stops. The Clerk has asked Cllr Cornelious to ensure that all stops, regardless of whether they have an electronic timetable or not, be provided with paper timetables, and that the maintenance needed to bus shelters be carried out. This was reiterated at the August meeting by other Cllrs. Cllr Tarr is attempting to progress this further and has asked Cllr Cornelious to also pursue moving the bus stop on Harlech Drive to a safer location.

**Section 106 funding (Jul '17)** – The City Cllrs have been asked to Liaise with the NCC officers in charge of the funding and have some money diverted to particular areas of concern discussed by Council at the September 2018 full council meeting.

**Footbridge over A467 (Aug '18)** – The issues with the footbridge surfaces was reported to NCC in August '18, and confirmation received that it had been passed on to Streetscene for assessment. Latest update received confirmed that NCC will be closing the bridge during the October school half-term break to carry out essential repairs.

**The Griffin/Allotment Site Hedgerow (Sept '18)** – Following attempts by the Clerk to access a timetable for grass cutting and hedge trimming in the ward, and reporting several times that the hedgerow is overgrown, all to no avail, Cllr Thomas visited the Contact Centre. He was able to discover that NCC are approximately 1 month behind in their hedge-cutting schedule and that this hedge should be cut by the end of October. He raised this as a query and was given a reference number which will be held by the Clerk along with the other numbers allocated to this issue.

**Defective light on The Griffin (Oct '18)** - Cllr Thomas reported a defective streetlight on The Griffin which has not been working for a number of weeks. NCC have advised this will be investigated within 5 days so it is expected to be repaired by middle November at the latest.

**Overgrowth and maintenance to NetworkRail assets (Oct '18)** – The Clerk has reported the issue of brambles and other overgrowth originating from the railway banking and growing through the fencing onto the verges and footpath along Caerphilly Rd between the Rhiwderin Inn and the rear of the first house on the junction of Caerphilly Rd and Laurel Rd. Also, the overgrowth on the underpasses on both Caerphilly Rd and Grosvenor Rd, and the weeds in the steps and missing coping stones from the wall of the underpass at Grosvenor Rd. Confirmation has been received that NetworkRail maintenance teams are now investigating.

26.10.18

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 and reduce time spent at meetings discussing updates unnecessarily.

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