

GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Rhiwderin Community Centre Rhiwderin 7pm 29th June 2011.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs R Caston, A Whitfield, K Sayer, M Cornelious, D Williams.

Present: Cllrs C Williams (Chair), D Evans, P Stokes, M Smart, K Harries, P John, L Fry, R Powell, N Mountain, P Gregory, G Morris.

Tour of Rhiwderin Community Centre: Councillors were given a guided tour of the building by Mr G Smith the Caretaker, who pointed out the maintenance issues which needed addressing to bring the building up to a satisfactory standard. Mr Smith then left.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held 25th May 2011, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr John seconded Cllr Harries.

Induction and Welcome to New Councillor: Mr Gary Morris of Bassaleg was welcomed by Council as the new representative for the Bassaleg ward vacancy which arose due to the resignation of Mr Steve Pickard. Mr Morris was sworn in and the relevant paperwork was dealt with.

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting:

Viaduct Way adoption is ongoing. NCC hope to resolve the issue soon, but delays have been caused by the new development works.

The Rhiwderin CC lease was discussed, as was the maintenance issues needing addressing at the centre, as so much money needs to be spent on it's upgrade, Clerk to negotiate as long a lease as possible when NCC are in a position to offer a renewal.

Cllrs Caston and Gregory met with an Environmental Agency officer regarding the river Ebbw clean-up and installation of a fish pass. Work was to start during the first week of July.

Clerk to purchase signage for the prevention of parking on Forge Road grass verges.

The Police have passed on their findings to NCC regarding the safety issues raised regarding Tredegar House roundabout. NCC to review the report during July and August. Clerk to chase up for August meeting.

Clerk to continue to chase up when the rumble strips on Forge Road are to be amended.

A tree preservation order has been given to Council to trim back the overhanging branches at Orchard Close/Wentworth Lane, Clerk has arranged for a survey to be carried out on all trees on Community Council property with a view to carrying out any remedial work to the area at the same time as trimming the branches.

The larger litter bins at Laurel Road and outside the Friendly Fox have been installed.

Clerk to email Pentrepoeth School to advise Headmistress that section 106 money is available to the area and the school can apply directly to NCC for any needs they have, but that the Community Council is unable take this matter any further on their behalf.

Council approved the refurbishment of the planters loaned from NCC, Cllr Fry to arrange. Locations for planters were decided, Clerk to seek approval for sites from NCC Highways.

The Police have monitored the speed of traffic using the through road at Afon Village and are compiling a report. Clerk to write to Rogerstone Community Council to ask for support in improving traffic calming measures on this road and seek support for zoning side roads on the estate to 20mph.

The issue of the scrap lorries has not yet been resolved, awaiting a response from police, Cllrs requested to take down the registration numbers of offending vehicles as evidence. Clerk to chase for a response from Police.

Projects:

Bassaleg CC: Cllr Fry has obtained a quote for replacement windows and decoration to the toilets, Clerk to seek two further quotes as required. The architect has been asked to put together a scheme to enable tendering for refurbishment. Annual planned maintenance was being carried out by a local contractor.

Caerphilly Rd/Close Junction landscaping: Cllrs to meet with NCC Highways representative on 4th July for final approval to proceed with plans to improve the area. Permissions from utilities have all been given to proceed. Cllr Fry was thanked for all his efforts in getting this project off the ground. Clerk to seek quotes for carrying out the work and planned maintenance.

Priority List: Not discussed.

Reports:

Police – Not present. In future, if the Police are unable to attend they have agreed to issue the Clerk with a report which can be read out at the meeting highlighting relevant issues. This month's report included an increase of shed break-ins and urged residents to keep valuables out of sight and ensure all outbuildings are locked. Lead theft had occurred at Pentrepoeth School and anti social behaviour had decreased at Rhiwderin Community Centre. Both areas will continue to be patrolled and monitored. A speed analysis had been carried out on Laurel road in May where the average speed of over seven thousand vehicles monitored was 28mph. Clerk to advise Police that the grounds of Pentrepoeth School are being used after hours by both children and adults and ask them to help stop this practice.

City Councillors – Not present.

Graig CC – Day to day running issues deferred to next planning meeting.

Rhiwderin CC – New bookings clerk has been appointed. Maintenance issues were deferred to next Planning meeting.

Best Kept Villages Group – The group offered to plant up the planters not maintained by NCC, Council gratefully accepted the offer and provided £100 for plants (see accounts below).

Bassaleg Allotments – The planning application to be forwarded to the architect to draw up plans acceptable to NCC before re-submission.

Play Areas – Council gave authorisation for the usual maintenance contractor to carry out all maintenance issues highlighted in the annual inspection report.

Burial Board – Cllr Mountain has been voted to Chairman of the board with Rogerstone and City Cllr Val Dudley as Vice Chair. The cemetery is being well maintained and the previous issues Rogerstone Community Council has with the ongoing running seem to be resolved.

Items for Next Agenda: (Planning Meeting) Vacancy for a new Councillor, Laurel Road parking issues, Graig staffing issues, budgeting.

Planning – Discussed at this Meeting:

CONEX/11/0507 – Erection of conservatory on front elevation Site: Meadow Barn, Church Road, Lower Machen, Newport. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections.

CONEX/11/0521 – Single storey extension to rear of garage to form storage area and relocation of access, new gate and 2.1m high close boarded fence. Site: 12 Garth Close, Bassaleg, Newport, NP10 8NX. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.

Planning – Discussed at Planning Meeting on 08.06.11:

CONEX/11/0449 – Variation of condition 6 (affordable housing) relating to appeal ref: APP/G6935/A/09/2118975 for residential development with new allotments affecting public right of way 393/73. Site: Former allotment site Harlech Drive, Rhiwderin, Newport. Application Type: Delegated decision. (More information as previous application contained the wrong details). Comment: No objections.

CONEX/11/0481 – Erection of single storey rear extension extending to link on to garage. Site: 18 Afon Mead, Rogerstone, Newport. NP10 9JL. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objection.

CONEX/11/0514 – Replace flat roof with pitched roof. Site: 98 Caerphilly Road, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8LH. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objection.

Also Discussed at Planning Meeting on 08.06.11:

Interviews were carried out to fill the vacancy left by Cllr Steve Pickard's resignation. Of the three candidates Mr Gary Morris of Bassaleg was chosen. Cllrs were asked to think about ideas for funding for the halls and of locations for the planters loaned by NCC. It was agreed to hold the next meeting at the Rhiwderin Community Centre so Cllrs could have a tour to see how much work needed to be carried out in upgrading the building. Also discussed was the staffing needs of both community centres and the issue of parking problems on Laurel Road.

Items for Discussion/Action

Council agreed to fund a new computer for the Clerk to carry out duties.

It was agreed to purchase two new notice boards to service the top of Laurel Road and Viaduct Way and surrounding areas, in addition to the planned annual maintenance for the existing notice boards. Clerk to seek permission for the locations of the two new boards.

The potential for increased traffic problems at rush hours was discussed as schools in the area bring start and end times in line with each other instead of being staggered.

Cllrs Stokes and Smart left at 9.00pm.

Planning for Christmas lighting was deferred to the August planning meeting.

Correspondence for Information - Not discussed

Accounts Approved for Payment

Clerk salary and expenses for June 2011	£1389.53
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance June 2011	£220.00
Green & White Ltd – Buffer machine for Graig Hall	£435.00
SLCC WWYC Clerks Training Course	£210.00
Welsh Water – Bassaleg Allotments Water Rates	£60.31
Glasdon UK Ltd – Litter bin for Rhiwderin Play Park	£263.41
Mike Yearsley – Drawings for Caerphilly Rd/Close Junction project	£324.05
Shedstore – Bassaleg Allotments Sheds Purchase	£998.90
Combined Playground Services Ltd - Play parks inspections & risk assessments	£216.00
Combined Playground Services Ltd – RPII assessment and certification	£375.00

Receipts

HMRC – Reclaim of VAT for 2010 – 2011 financial year	£7112.42
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There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.15pm. Confirmed, this 27th day of July 2011.

Signed..... (Vice - Chair) – July 2011

Posted to notice boards 01.08.11