

GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 31st August 2011.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs P Stokes, M Cornelious, D Williams.

Present: Cllrs C Williams (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, M Smart, K Sayer, K Harries, P John, L Fry, R Powell, N Mountain, P Gregory, G Morris. Also present PC Sally Ladd, PCSO Mandy Dean, and a local resident.

The Police were heard first to allow them to continue their duties. PC Ladd reported that August had seen 105 calls to the Police of which 21 were as a result of crimes being committed. Crimes included farms having diesel and livery tack stolen. Local schools, a house and cars being broken into, and purses stolen from shoppers at Morrisons. PC Ladd urged residents to be cautious and vigilant. Anti-social behaviour in the ward improved during August. 6 of the 21 crimes committed have been detected whilst further investigations into the other crimes are on-going. PC Ladd and PCSO Dean left the meeting at 7.20pm

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held 27th July 2011, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Powell seconded Cllr Smart.

Clerk's Report:

The Clerk's report previously circulated had been read, Council were satisfied all issues in the report were being dealt with appropriately so no discussion was necessary.

Projects:

Bassaleg CC: Cllr Fry reported on a meeting with Lovell's representatives who are looking to help with a project in the area as part of their Considerate Constructors obligations. They are looking into two projects the Community Council are involved with and will return with a decision on whether they are able to help at a later date. The Pump House of Graig Hall has been externally decorated and further decoration work is on-going to the Hall. The public notice-boards have also had maintenance work completed.

Caerphilly Rd/Close Junction landscaping: One quote for work has been received, two more are expected. Cllr Smart reported that the Best Kept Villages group have expressed concerns regarding the on-going maintenance should the scheme go ahead.

Priority List: Not discussed.

Reports:

Police – Reported above.

City Councillors – Not present.

Graig CC – The Hall Committee meeting had taken place, the possibility of installing a vending machine was discussed, Clerk to investigate.

Rhiwderin CC – NTR.

Best Kept Villages Group – NTR.

Bassaleg Allotments – The planning application is still being dealt with by the architect. The inspection of Bassaleg allotment site was set for Sunday 18th September at 10am.

Play Areas – The Clerk reported that she was due to meet with some play equipment suppliers who were able to assist with funding during September and hoped to report on progress at the next meeting.

Burial Board – The Burial Board Clerk had been approached by Rogerstone Community Council with a number of questions regarding future financial plans which she was in the process of answering.

Items for Next Agenda

Invitation to join in Jubilee celebrations for 2011 to be discussed at the October full Council meeting.

Budgets (to be discussed at the September Planning & Environmental meeting).

Planning:

It was noted that the proposal for installing a mobile phone antennae above Duffryn Close has been passed by NCC. Council were distressed at the decision and had strongly opposed this application. Clerk to write to the Welsh Assembly regarding this.

CONEX/11/0820 – First floor extension over existing garage together with rear balcony. Site: 7 Viaduct Close, Bassaleg, Newport. Np10 8FT Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.

CONEX/11/0848 – Extension to hunting lodge to provide secure storage/display area and disabled w.c.
 Site: Treetops Sporting Ground Ltd, Cefn Llogell Farm, Cardiff Road, Newport. NP10 8UD. Application
 Type: Full. Comment: No objections provided neighbours are consulted and agree.
 PG/jed/E10/0609 – Appeal against enforcement notice. Site: 6 Park View, Bassaleg. Newport. NP10 8LA.
 Appeal Subject: Boundary Enclosure. Comment: None.
 Consultation pack from Veolia re: proposals for energy recovery facility east of Newport – passed on to Cllr
 Caston to review.

Items for Discussion/Action

Applicants for the vacant Councillor position to be asked to attend an informal interview prior to the
 Planning & Environmental meeting on September 14th. Clerk to arrange.

The accounts previously audited by the approved internal auditor and the completed annual return was
 presented to Council for approval and was signed by the Chair in preparation for the Clerk to submit to the
 external auditor for final scrutiny.

The Chair signed off Councils previously approved procedures and documents presented and approved at
 the May full Council meeting.

Cllr Whitfield requested that Council consider financial assistance to St Basil's Church to repair the
 boundary wall. It was agreed that as Council are waiting on decisions from other bodies, budgets cannot be
 settled at the present time, so were unable to make a commitment. However, once finances were settled
 this request would be revisited.

Cllr Caston received a certificate after Council nominated him for his longstanding commitment to the
 Council and the local community. Cllr Caston thanked the Council for the recognition and said he felt
 humbled that he was considered worthy of recognition. Council gave a vote of thanks and congratulations.

Clerk to arrange a meeting with Monmouthshire Council and Cllr Fry to discuss spending the remaining tree
 planting fund with a view to planting in the Autumn.

Cllrs Sayer, Morris, Smart and Evans volunteered to work with the Clerk and form a job-and-finish
 committee to arrange a Christmas tree lighting ceremony to take place on Friday 2nd December at 6pm.

It was decided to base the Graig Community Council logo on the design of the Chairman's regalia, Cllr
 Powell to assist with designing a logo to attach to all Council stationery to help with improving the Council's
 identity and profile.

Cllr Sayer and local resident left the meeting at 8.50pm

Correspondence for Information - Not discussed

Accounts Approved for Payment

Clerk salary and expenses for August 2011	£1250.85
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance August 2011	£250.00
Graig Electrical Services – Fire alarm test and installation of lighting at Graig Hall	£276.00
Graig Electrical Services – Fire alarm testing at Rhiwderin Community Centre	£90.00
Boiler & Burner Maintenance Ltd – Installation of new heating boiler	£2602.20
Newport City Council – Annual Lease of Rhiwderin Community Centre	£25.00
Griffiths Signs – Signs for Forge Road	£72.00
R Charles Plastics – Repairs to Pump house and fixing signs on Forge Road	£120.00
R Charles Plastics – Repairs to Pump house and notice boards	£1310.00
Celtic Fire Protection – Testing fire extinguishers at Graig Hall	£74.83
Rob Williams Fencing – Works to Graig Hall, car park area & allotments	£2646.00
Steve Rose – Re-decoration to Pump House, benches & notice boards	£1415.00

Receipts

NCC – 2 nd Precept	£13903.50
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Other Business

Cllr John asked that the Clerk request NCC to attend to the circular bed at the northern end of Lower
 Machen which has always been maintained by them.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55pm. Confirmed this day, 28th September
 2011.

Signed..... (Chair) – 28th September 2011

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