



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg 7pm 24<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

Minutes of Meeting held at the Graig Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

**1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs M Cornelious, D Williams, K Ashton.

**Present:** Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, P Stokes, M Smart, K Sayer, K Harries, P John, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, V Cox-Wall. Also present was Sgt Angela Jones and PC Sally Ladd.

**2. Public Representations:** None

The Police were heard first to enable them to leave the meeting if they wished. Sgt Jones introduced herself to Council and Cllr Gregory thanked both Sgt Jones and PC Ladd for their attendance as they had agreed to attend the meeting despite it being non working days for them both. Sgt Jones updated Council on the statistics for the year. Crime is down by 1.8% meaning there had been 218 crimes committed in the ward since April 2012. Many were thefts from insecure cars, garages or sheds or minor criminal damage. A large percentage of reported crimes originated from Morrison's, which were drive offs without paying for petrol at the pumps, this inflated figures for the ward. This issue is currently being addressed with updated security equipment. Of the crimes committed, 17.4% had been detected. Anti-social behaviour is down by 42.2%, but it had been noted that ASB in Afon Village and especially around McDonalds is on the increase. The police are working with Bassaleg School to target youths causing problems inside and in the vicinity of the school. Work is being carried out to raise the awareness of OWL, and all residents are encouraged to join. Through OWL a recently launched Online Policing Priority Survey was carried out which has highlighted the issues of parking in the ward (and in Laurel Road particularly), and youth disorder. This has resulted in a change in PACT priorities for these issues to be dealt with.

**3. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> January 2013, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Evans.

**4. Clerk's Report:**

The Clerk's Report previously circulated was discussed. Clerk to amend the report for future editions as it was noted that there is a grit bin on both sides of the footbridge over the A467. It was also noted that the defective light reported opposite Garth Terrace is one which is switched off at night. As this light is essential, Clerk to attempt to have it kept on for safety reasons.

**5. Projects:**

- a. Play Areas: Cllr Gregory reported that the planning application for Fort View needed to be submitted. The funding application had been deferred twice as a result and the issue needed to be attended to as a matter of urgency. Council requested that the Chairman and Clerk attempt to resolve the issue.
- b. Jubilee Path: Cllr Harris submitted a new draft of Council's logo to be printed on way-markers which was a much improved image, leaflets are also being arranged to promote the path.
- c. Fencing between open space and Caerphilly Road: Cllr Fry reported that following a meeting with an NCC planning officer, the project would need planning permission. Council were shown three options costing between £17.1K and £12.4K. It was decided that the new hoop top fence should run from the hedge at the car park, along Caerphilly Road down to where the fencing meets the allotment fencing at its closest point. A kissing gate to be placed between the new fence and the allotment fencing, and another at the lay-by where there is an existing entrance into the open space. The application also to include the option of removing the existing piece of chain link fencing close to the pelican crossing beyond the allotment fencing and the placing wooden bollards around the perimeter of the small triangular green from the allotment fencing around to the hedgerow on The Griffin, together with the inclusion of a grasscrete area in front of the allotment gates to prevent cars from damaging the grass when entering the allotment site. Cllr Stokes thanked Cllr Fry for all his efforts with the project which was seconded by all.

## **6. Reports:**

- a. Police – Discussed above.
- b. City Councillors – NTR
- c. Graig CC – Cllr Fry reported that the drainage issues outside the Centre had been attended to. It had been necessary to excavate the access manhole and construct a new inspection chamber which had cost in excess of £1500.
- d. Rhiwderin CC – Cllr Gregory reported that the Meithrin play area had been made temporarily safe and was now open again for the children, plans were being made for a permanent solution. The Clerk had written to Network Rail to open up discussions regarding the boundary wall between the railway and the Centre as it had been flagged as a potential future issue on a recent survey, the Clerk is awaiting a reply. The Caretaker had tendered his resignation as he felt Council had been making decisions recently without his knowledge and input, this was detracted on the understanding that he and the centre management committee be included in all issues which affect the centre, both were kept fully aware of Council's plans for the centre during the upgrade, and that Council explore the possibility of training up another person who would be able to take over the caretakers position when he did eventually resign for good.
- e. Best Kept Villages Group – NTR from the group. Cllr Gregory reported on the meeting he and some other Cllrs had with the group. Notes of the meeting were read, and Cllrs agreed they would try to commit some time to working with the group throughout the year.
- f. Allotments – NTR.
- g. Play Areas – Cllr Gregory reported he had spoken with a representative of the owner of the land on which Rhiwderin Play area sits. The representative said the owner had plans for the area and she would be very surprised if Council were able to secure another lease for it. She did think there would be the possibility of Council being offered a lease on some land close by but could not confirm this until the landowner has recovered from illness and this could be discussed.
- h. Burial Board – Cllr Evans reported that an extended business plan had been produced by a Rogerstone Cllr and that Rogerstone Council seemed happy to move forward with it. It was hoped that the previous issues have now been resolved.

## **7. Items for Next Agenda**

- a. Funding of Rhiwderin CC upgrade and wish list items – March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting
- b. Clerk's appraisal – March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting

## **8. Planning:**

- a. CONEX/13/0107 – Construction of single dwelling (Outline with all matters reserved). Site: Land Adjacent to and West of 1 and 2 Ruperra Close, Bassaleg, Newport. Application Type: Outline  
Comment: Council objects to this development as they consider it to be overdevelopment of the site.

## **9. Items for Discussion/Action**

- a. Council's policies & procedures review – Council accepted the recent changes made to the documents and thanked the members of the sub-committee for attending to the review. Clerk to print the documents and present to the next full council meeting for official adoption.
- b. Cllr Fry's proposals for improvements to Station Approach/Viaduct Way junction (update) – Council are waiting for a decision from an NCC highways officer who has been requested to attend a site meeting to discuss options for possible improvements to be made. Cllr Cornelious has made the request and will advise if the meeting is to go ahead.
- c. Signage for Pentrepoeth School (update) – The signage issue has been taken up by Pentrepoeth School who will discuss the matter with NCC and return to Council if assistance is needed.
- d. Overgrown trees on Orchard Close – Deferred to March Planning Meeting.
- e. Fairtrade Coffee morning – Cllr Cox-Wall described to Council her involvement with Fairtrade Newport and informed Council of a coffee morning which had been arranged if anyone was interested in attending.
- f. Welsh Government communication regarding Community Council website funding – Clerk to investigate.
- g. Request to hold a "walk for life" event or make donation to the Kidney Wales Foundation – noted.
- h. Invitation to Gwent Wildlife Trust event – noted.
- i. Donation request from Wales Air Ambulance – noted.

## **10. Correspondence for Information:**

Not discussed.

<b>11. Accounts for Payment:</b> Approved – Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Harries	
Clerk salary and expenses for February 2013	£1620.40
C Ricci – bin cleaning, litter picking & maintenance February 2013	£280.00
S Rose – decoration of meeting room at Graig Hall	£240.00
Alberto Ubaldi – plumbing works to meeting room at Graig Hall	£810.00
R Charles Plastics – dado rail to meeting room at Graig Hall	£300.00

**Receipts**

None

**12. Dates of next meetings:**

Planning & Environment Meeting – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013

**13. Urgent Business not on discussed above.**

Cllr Harris informed Council he had been invited to join Newport Access Forum. The Clerk was asked to contact NCH regarding walkways in the area for which they are responsible which are in need of attention.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.25pm. Confirmed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 2013.

Signed..... (Chair) – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Posted to notice boards 05.04.13