



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Combined Full Council and Planning & Environment Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 7th January 2015.

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1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs K Sayer, A Whitfield, P Stokes.

Present: Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, D Evans, M Smart, K Harries, D Williams, M Cornelious, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, V Cox-Wall.

2. Public Representations: None.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held 26th November 2014, previously circulated were read and approved - proposed Cllr Harries, seconded Cllr Caston.

4. Clerk's Report:

The Clerk's Report previously circulated was briefly discussed. The report was accepted as a true reflection of matters to date. Proposed Cllr Harries seconded Cllr Caston. It was agreed to remove item 5.

5. Projects:

- a. Footpath through Bassaleg open space - As quotes were being discussed which involved a family member, Cllr Williams declared an interest and left the room whilst this and the following item was discussed. Cllr Fry submitted 3 quotes for the re-instatement and improvement of the footpath. The costs ranged between £3500 and £6984. Council decided to award the contract to the regular contractor who came in with the most competitive price, was local and reliable. Cllr Fry to progress.
- b. Caerphilly Rd/Close junction - Cllr fry submitted 3 quotes for the enabling ground works needed for any scheme to be successful, the costs ranged between £8950 and £30K. The middle quote of £9700 was chosen as was recommended by Cllr Fry. Cllr Williams was invited to re-join the meeting.
- c. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade - Cllr Gregory reported that he was happy with the progress, and that some redecoration remained to be completed. He was waiting for a quote from a local contractor for the extension of the fire alarm system but the works with the main contractor had been signed off. Cllr Cornelious reminded Council that there was a quiz planned for 30th January.
- d. Graig Hall photovoltaic cells - Cllr Fry told the group that work was progressing well. The chosen contractor was ready to install the cells and work alongside another contractor who would repair the roof and install the hooks for the fixing of the cells simultaneously. The scaffolding contractor was chosen from 3 quotes submitted and the total cost of the project would be approximately £12K. It is anticipated that this cost will be recouped within 7 years in addition to the Community Centre using free energy during the day. All profits generated will belong to the Community Council. Cllr Fry was thanked for his efforts in overseeing this project and it was recognised that it had taken a lot of organisation and research. It was noted that as volunteers, Councillors devote much of their time for no financial reward and this is very much appreciated.

6. Reports:

- a. Police – Not present and no report forwarded. The Clerk had invited the new Inspector and Sergeant to the next Planning meeting on 11th February 2015. It was agreed to write to the PCC to relay disappointment at the lack of Police presence at Council meetings and the high turnover of Inspectors and Sergeants for the area (whilst acknowledging the hard work of the areas PCSO's).
- b. City Councillors – Cllr Williams asked Council if they were aware of any changes to a listed bridge in the former Tredegar Park Golf Club area, as it was believed that the river may have eroded the foundations. Cllr Cornelious reported that the City Council had produced a new shorter route for pupils walking to Bassaleg from Afon Village meaning they no longer qualify for free transport. Cllr Cornelious and others believe that although the route is shorter it is not safe, as it involves walking though an industrial estate and over a river footbridge which is not suitable for lone pupils or small groups to walk, especially in the dark winter months.
- c. Graig Community Hall – Cllr Harris had been working on the licensing agreement and realised the document needed updating, along with fire prevention and emergency evacuation procedures. Cllr

Harris and Fry to work on the details. Cllr Fry asked Cllrs to consider who to take charge of the responsibilities as the appointed person and bring suggestions to the 11th February meeting.

- d. Rhiwderin CC – Discussed above.
- e. Best Kept Villages – The letter of thanks for the donation of half of the profits from the Christmas Lighting Event from the group was read out to Council. It was agreed that the event was very successful.
- f. Allotments – NTR
- g. Play Areas – Cllr Gregory advised Council that he had been informed that not enough questionnaires had been completed so NCC had put a survey online which residents could complete which was open until 11.01.15.
- h. Burial Board – The next meeting of the Board has been arranged for 2nd February 2015. It was noted that the 2 trees on the open space alongside Graig Hall which had been removed due to disease and the weather had been replaced.

7. Items for Next Agenda

Fire evacuation procedures - 11th February meeting

8. Items for Discussion/Action:

- a. Chairman's board - The Clerk reported that all was in hand, and the final layout had been submitted.
- b. Dog litter bins - Cllr Fry suggested that Council consider providing more dog bins and maybe supply waste bags in dispensers attached to the bins. Other suggestions were discussed and it was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should meet again with the Community Safety Wardens to find ways of addressing the increasing problem of dog waste in the villages.
- c. Wentworth Lane & Highfield Lane clean-up - Following a complaint, Wentworth lane had been cleared of all overgrowth.
- d. Donation request from Windsor School of Dance - Noted, but unable to help. Clerk to advise of other funding streams which may be available to the group.
- e. NCC LDP - Cllr Cornelious advised Council that the LDP had been formerly adopted and contained no issues of concern for the ward. It was noted that the green belt between Newport and Cardiff is to be retained which pleased all.

9. Planning:

- a. CONEX/14/1179 - Proposed two storey dwelling with associated vehicular access (resubmission of planning application 12/0382). Site: 10 Pentre Tai Road, Rhiwderin, Newport. NP10 8RL. Application Type: Full. Comment: It was accepted that the new parking arrangements improved the site but Council re-iterated it's former objections and continued to consider this an overdevelopment of the site. (Cllr Williams took no part in the discussion of this item).
- b. CONEX/14/1200 - Replacement dwelling. Site: Brynhedydd, Pentrepoeth Road, Bassaleg, Newport NP10 8LN. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections.
- c. CONEX/14/1228 - Demolition of conservatory and erection of part two storey, part single storey, part single storey rear extension, insertion of new window and new retaining wall and steps. Site: 5 Lowndes Close, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8pu. Application Type: Full. Comment: No objections.

Prior to leaving the meeting Cllr Williams was asked if there had been any movement on the issue of keeping the street light switched on opposite Garth Terrace. He suggested there could be an argument for keeping the light switched on for longer if it could not be agreed to keep it on all night. Clerk to write to the Member for Streetscene to enquire.

Cllr Williams left the meeting at 9pm.

10. Correspondence for Information:

Noted but not discussed.

11. Accounts for Payment: Accepted. Proposed Cllr Stokes seconded Cllr Harries.

Mr C Ricci - bin cleaning for December 2014	£190.00
SSE/Swalec - Graig Hall Electricity invoice	£630.61
HMRC - PAYE & NI Oct-Dec	£1771.77
Signing of direct debit for gas payments for Graig Hall	

Total to date: £2592.38

Receipts

NCC - 3rd Precept Payment	£16529.45
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12. Dates of next meetings:

Full Council Meeting - Wednesday 28th January 2015 at 7pm
Planning Meeting - Wednesday 11th February 2015 at 7pm

13. Urgent Business not on discussed above.

Cllr Haigh informed the group that at an 80th Birthday party at Graig Hall thr room was very cold. Cllr Fry advised that the heating is on a timer, and that if the room was being used outside of normal occupation times this could be adjusted if the Management Committee was informed. Cllr Evans to relay to the bookings Clerk so this issue can be addressed.

Cllr Harris informed Council that a Folk Festival and Food Festival had been booked at Graig Hall for 18th April 2015.

Cllr Harris confirmed to Cllr Smart that the Graig Hall Management Committee was applying for a full premises license including the sale of alcohol.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.05pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 11th February 2015

Posted to notice boards 06.02.15

Clerk to the Council: Sian Davies
6 Vale View, Gelli Park, Risca, Newport. NP11 6HS
Tel: 01633 614119, Mobile: 07971 094382
Email: clerk@graiGCC.co.uk

Website: www.graiGCC.co.uk



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