



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015.**

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs K Harries, L Fry  
**Present:** Cllrs P Gregory (Chair), R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, P Stokes, M Smart, K Sayer, P John, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, V Cox-Wall, P Appleton, M Cornelious, D Williams
- 2. Public Representation:** None
- 3. Cllr Deb Davies, Cabinet Member for Streetscene and City Services for Newport City Council:** Cllr Davies and Mr Martin Coombes, Streetscene Senior Operations Manager for NCC were welcomed and introduced to Council. Cllr Davies thanked Council for the opportunity to work with them to attempt to solve some outstanding issues in the ward that had previously been difficult to resolve. She did inform Council that there would be a further 2.5% cut to services by the City Council during 2016-17 and that financially things were already very tight. The list of issues were discussed individually, Council were satisfied that they were being addressed – and that some had already been resolved. Both Cllr Davies and Mr Coombes agreed to keep Council informed of progress. Both were thanked and left the meeting at 8.45pm.
- 4. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015, previously circulated were read and approved - proposed Cllr John, seconded Cllr Sayer.
- 5. 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 John, seconded Cllr Sayer.
- 6. Projects:**
  - a. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade – Cllr Gregory reported that the toilet block had been signed off by the architect and the issues with the hand dryers and flooring had been resolved. Still to do in the programme of works were internal and external painting, rainwater goods, pointing and roof repairs.
- 7. Reports:**
  - a. City Councillors – Cllr Williams told Council he had spoken to the Police and Crime Commissioner about Council's concerns over the lack of Police presence in the ward and had been put in touch with a contact to discuss this issue. There was a continuing problem with dog nuisance in Rhiwderin and he advises anyone who has an issue to report incidences to the Police by telephoning them on 101 as to resolve the issue the Police need more evidence. He also informed Council that he had received objections to the planning application being discussed under Item 10a.
  - b. Graig Community Hall – NTR.
  - c. Rhiwderin Community Centre – NTR.
  - d. Best Kept Villages Group – The results of the Best Kept Villages competition which took place in June were read out, both Graig Community Hall and the Rhiwderin Inn received commendations and the general comments for the ward were improved on previous recent years.
  - e. Allotments - NTR.
  - f. Play Areas – Issues discussed with Cllr Davies earlier and being attended to.
  - g. Burial Board – Meeting being held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015.
- 8. Items for Next Agenda:** None
- 9. Items for Discussion/Action:**
  - a. Precept allocation for 2016/17 – following news that NCC's Concurrent allocation is under review and will most likely be phased out in coming years meaning Council will potentially lose over £10k of income, it was agreed that it would be necessary to increase the Precept request by 3% for 1016-17 which will be an increase of 54p per household per year. Proposed Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr John. Clerk to submit the necessary paperwork to NCC.
  - b. Highfield Lane adoption – discussed with Cllr Davies who confirmed that the adoption will be going ahead in the near future.
  - c. Utilising Graig Hall to its full potential – deferred.
  - d. Council flower planter locations & St Basil's Shops improvement scheme – deferred.

- e. Christmas lighting event – the final arrangements were briefly discussed for the event being held in 2 days. All available Councillors were asked to attend early to assist with setting up the event.
- f. St Basils Shops improvement scheme – deferred.
- g. Welsh Government invitation to comment on Proposed Changes to Planning Policy Wales Chapter 10 and Technical Advice Note 4: Retail Centre Development (AW) – discussed briefly, no action needed.
- h. Consultation on the draft Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Bill (PG) – discussed briefly, no action needed.
- i. Protection and improvement of places where people walk (PS) – Cllr Stokes advised Council that the Ramblers Society would like to be affiliated to Community Councils which would be a cost of £60 per annum. He stressed how important it is to use all the available footpaths in the ward as they are an ancient right and could well be lost if unused. Council decided it would not join the Association as a Council but encourages everyone to consider joining the Association personally which would be much more effective. Cllr Stokes was thanked for his assistance and advice.
- j. Items for the Liaison Meeting on 10th December 2015 – no items were suggested.
- k. Invitation to comment on the Welsh Government's Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill – Cllr Harris agreed to review and return to Council with advice.
- l. Bassaleg Post Office Local Public Consultation Decision – Council had been notified that Royal Mail had decided that the Post Office would remain in its current location.

## 10. Planning:

- a. CONEX/15/1066 - Demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of horse hospital with associated residential accommodation and associated works. Site: Flatholme Stables, Penylan Road, Bassaleg, Newport. Application Type: Full (major) - Comment: Graig Community Council supports the objections of the surrounding neighbours, and feels this application should be denied for the following reasons. It is an overdevelopment of the site. The proposed structures are very large and would be overbearing for the location right alongside Penylan Road. The access road to the property (Penylan Road) is no more than a country lane which is too narrow to support large horse transport vehicles. The development would not be in keeping with the surrounding area.
- b. CONEX/15/1360 - Proposed detached single storey garage. Site: 2 Berkley Road, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8PP Application Type: Full – Comment: No objections.

## 11. Correspondence for Information:

Not discussed.

## 12. Accounts for Payment: Accepted. Proposed Cllr John seconded Cllr Evans

Clerk salary and office allowance for November & December 2015	£3432.44
November miscellaneous expenses	£53.65
Mr C Ricci - bin cleaning for November 2015	£160.00
Monmouthshire County Council - installation & repair of wooden bollards	£150.00
Newport City Homes - grass cutting October 2015	£212.04
TalkTalk - Graig Hall broadband - (By DD)	£24.60
<b>Total to date:</b>	<b>£4032.73</b>

### Receipts

Forge Lane/Court Crescent Paddock Committee – ground rent	£20.00
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## 13. Dates of next meetings:

Planning Meeting - Wednesday 2nd December 2015 at 6pm  
 Full Council Meeting - Wednesday 6th January 2016 at 7pm

## 14. Urgent Business not on discussed above.

None

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed 9.40pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Posted to notice boards 22.01.16

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