



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council & AGM held at Graig Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 18th May 2016.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs K Sayer, P John, M Cornelious

Present: Cllrs P Gregory, R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, P Stokes, M Smart, K Harries, N Mountain, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, V Cox-Wall, P Appleton, D Williams.

2. **To hold internal election and appoint members to sub-committees**

Cllr Gregory was nominated to be Chairman for a fifth term (proposed, Cllr Smart, seconded Cllr Whitfield and accepted unanimously). Cllrs Fry (proposed Cllr Stokes, seconded Cllr Evans) and Cox-Wall (proposed Cllr Whitfield, seconded Cllr Smart) were both put forward as Vice-Chairman, both candidates were asked to leave the room whilst a vote was taken, good support was shown for both candidates, and by a small majority Cllr Fry was accepted for a sixth term. Cllr Gregory thanked Council for their support, and for the support of the Clerk. Accreditation to both the Chair and Clerk was requested to be noted which was supported by all. Councillors were voted onto the various committees of interest to Council. **Action: Clerk to be posted in the notice boards and on the website in due course.**

3. **Public Representation:** None.

4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 27th April 2016, previously circulated were read, briefly discussed and approved. Proposed Cllr Haigh seconded Cllr Stokes.

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 Harries, seconded Cllr Caston. It was noted that the issue of overgrowth at Park View could be the responsibility of NetworkRail and that NCC should be asked to look at drainage issues in the area as standing water was a problem in wet weather.

Action: Clerk to advise NCC of drainage issues and explore if NetworkRail are responsible for attending to overgrowth.

7. **Reports:** (brought forward to allow Cllr Williams to leave the meeting early)

a. Newport City Councillors - Cllr Williams discussed the recent fly tipping issues at both the burial ground and the Afon Village end of Pentre Tai Road. Both had been attended to but fly tipping is becoming more of an issue in recent times. He told Council that despite previous information, he believed that Rhiwderin Post Office would not be closing for business. Following NCC's recent vote, new Cabinet Members had been elected and the list would be circulated. He felt that it may be advisable for the Community Council to clean up the graffiti in the ward rather than rely on NCC to attend to the issue. He reported that there are still parking issues in Park View when Whiteheads hold events and matches, and that he was liaising with residents and the club to alleviate the issue. Cllr Stokes asked about the traffic issues on Pentrepoeth Road and was updated with the latest information. It was agreed there were a number of issues. Cllr Cox-Wall had asked for the road to be assessed by the GoSafe team and was waiting for their recommendations. Cllr Caston reported that there are ongoing parking issues at the bus pull-in outside Bassaleg School and that buses are rarely able to use the pull-in during school times as it is used for parking cars making it dangerous and difficult for passengers. Cllr Williams agreed to look into the matter.

Cllr Williams left the meeting at 8pm. **Action: Cllr Williams to forward the new list of City Council Cabinet members, to advise Council of the outcome of the parking issues at Park View and to speak with the Head of Bassaleg School about the bus pull-in issue.**

6. **Projects:**

a. Rhiwderin Community Centre upgrade – Cllr Whitfield was to meet with an architect and the Heritage Lottery regarding the Centre. The hope is to gain funding for the stonework, rainwater goods and exterior painting for the building. It was suggested that there are condensation issues in the Headmasters House section of the building due to there not being any heating in that area. It was advised that internal decoration should not be carried out until the building had dried out. Volunteers had offered to carry out some internal paintwork. Cllr Whitfield felt she would need some assistance to progress with applying for funding and suggested a sub-committee should be formed. Cllr Haigh asked

if Cllr Cornelious could find out if the anonymous benefactor who wanted to assist with a project in the ward some years ago would still be interested in helping the community as the Centre could be a good project. **Action: Cllr Whitfield to progress meeting with the Heritage Lottery Fund group and look to set up a sub-committee. Clerk to enquire about the benefactor with Cllr Cornelious.**

- b. Lower Machen replacement bench - Deferred as Cllr John was unable to attend. **Action: Cllr John to progress.**
- c. Flower planter redecoration - Cllr Gregory thanked all who assisted with the preparation of the planters. Cllr Smart reported that she was ordering the plants. Placement of the planters was briefly discussed. **Action: Cllr Smart to progress and advise when planters needed planting.**
- d. Graig Community Council calendar - The sub-committee had met and chosen the photographs to be used for the calendar. Outlets for selling the calendar was discussed and concern was expressed for the amount that could be sold. Council felt that a cost for 500 calendars should be sought in addition to the costs for the 1000 already obtained for the option of a smaller production run if it was felt necessary. **Action: Cllr Mountain to obtain costs for a production run of 500 calendars.**
- e. **Queen's 90th Birthday** - Cllr Stokes reported that he had obtained one quote for the agreed commemorative Welsh Oak tree as previously discussed and was awaiting another. The Clerk confirmed she was about to compile the congratulatory letter to the Queen from Council. **Action: Cllr Stokes to progress, Clerk to send the letter on behalf of Council.**

7. Reports:

- a. City Councillors – Discussed above.
- b. Graig Community Hall – Cllr Evans reported that the Committee were to hold their AGM shortly. Feedback on the newly refurbished toilets was very good. It was the Committee's intention to display new signage regarding returning tables and equipment back to their original positions for hirers. Cllr Fry briefly mentioned that he was working on a solution for keeping waste secure and out of sight and was exploring a new opening and closing procedure for the hall. Cllr Gregory asked that when the Committee meets, that they discuss the recent issues regarding opening and closing and address the negative comments on the Graig News Facebook page. It was noted that the Facebook page was one set up by Cllr Williams some time ago, but it could easily be assumed by readers that the page was something to do with the Community Council even though this was not the case. Cllr Cox-Wall offered to compose a statement from Council acknowledging the difficulties for Cllr Williams to post on the page. Cllr Gregory also asked the Committee to consider placing a notice board outside the main door which held contact details of the committee members for use if there were any issues. **Action: Cllr Evans to hold a Sub-Committee meeting and AGM as soon as possible, and to discuss the issues noted above. Cllr Cox-Wall to compile a statement for Council and forward to Cllr Williams requesting he posts it on his page.**
- c. Rhiwderin Community Centre – Cllr Gregory reported that a very large water bill had been received and was being investigated. **Action: Cllr Gregory to progress.**
- d. Best Kept Villages Group – NTR
- e. Allotments - The allotment inspection was set for Sunday 19th June at 10.30am. **Action: Clerk to advise all concerned.**
- f. Play Areas – Cllr Gregory reported that it was hoped things would move on faster, but objections by residents were holding up proceedings. Cllrs Gregory and Appleton had been working with a local resident and NCC to ensure a suitable swing that could be used by both able and disabled children would be installed in Rhiwderin. **Action: Cllr Gregory to progress.**
- g. Burial Board – The recent fly tipping incident was discussed, it was hoped that as there was some evidence a prosecution could be made. Cllr Gregory had put to the Burial Board Clerk that Rogerstone CC becomes her legal employer but she felt that was unacceptable. Graig CC agreed to be the employer but under the same conditions that were set for Rogerstone CC. The Chair and Vice Chair of both CC's were due to meet the following evening. **Action: Cllrs Gregory and Fry to meet with Rogerstone Chair and Vice-Chair and report back to Council at a later date.**

8. Items for Next Agenda:

None to date

9. Items for Discussion/Action:

- a. Bollards at St Basil's shops roundabout - The Clerk advised Council that quotes had been obtained and matters for claiming against Stagecoach's insurers was in hand. **Action: Clerk to progress.**
- b. Bassaleg Post Office - A letter had been received stating that the Post Office would be closed for a period of time whilst being refurbished, this was duly noted. **Action: no action necessary.**

- c. NCC CIL information - Information on the new NCC Community Infrastructure Levy which is to replace Section 106 money collected was relayed to Council. **Action: No action necessary.**

10. Correspondence for Information:

Not discussed.

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

Clerk salary and office allowance for May 2016	£1682.92
May misc. expenses	£103.15
Mr C Ricci - bin cleaning & litter picking April 2016	£220.00
Newport City Homes - grass cutting costs for Fort View play area April '16	£212.04
Zurich - additional insurance premium	£79.32
SW Directories - Article submission cost	£130.00
PWLB - loan repayment cost (taken by DD)	£5773.80
Tsohost - monthly website admin cost (taken by DD)	£5.00
Welsh Water - 6 months Bassaleg Allotment water costs	£81.78
Best Kept Villages - extra planting costs donation	£100.00
Total to date:	£8388.01
Receipts	
NCC - Concurrent allocation	£14037.00

12. Urgent Business not discussed above:

- a. Cllr Whitfield reported that on closer inspection she still felt that the gap in the Armco barrier at the riverside was still large enough for a child to fall through and should be amended. **Action: Clerk to write to NCC advising of Cllr Whitfield's concerns.**

13. Planning:

None

14. Dates of next meetings:

Planning Meeting - Wednesday 8th June 2016 at 7pm
Full Council Meeting - Wednesday 29th June 2016 at 7pm

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed 9.15pm

Signed..... (Vice-Chair) – 29th day of June 2016

Posted to notice boards 08.07.16

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