



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Graig, Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 29th May 2019.

- 1. Public Representation:** A resident of Caerphilly Rd in Bassaleg asked to speak with Council on a number of issues she had highlighted in the area. Amongst other things, she had noted graffiti on the lighting columns of the pelican crossing close to The Griffin and on electricity substation cabinets in the lane behind the Tredegar Arms pub and was again concerned about the pollution and speeding in the area. She informed Council that a local resident had been “egged” by a passing car on Caerphilly Road. Cllr Appleton advised that she had spoken with a NCC Officer who stated that the city council has a plan in place to tackle pollution, and that he has intimated that he would be happy to attend a Council meeting. Cllr Bailey suggested it would be good to include the schools in the meeting and pointed out that the play areas are alongside the road causing the most pollution. The resident was thanked for her time and left the meeting at 7.18pm. **Action: Clerk to advise NCC regarding the graffiti and agenda Caerphilly Rd Issues for the next full council meeting.**
- 2. Apologies for absence:** R Caston, M Smart, J Harris, M Cornelious, D Williams.
Present: Cllrs A Whitfield, D Evans, K Sayer, K Harries, P Gregory, W Haigh, L Fry, P Appleton, J Bailey, K Thomas, N Tarr, S Grey. Chaired by P Gregory.
Also present: A resident from Caerphilly Road to speak with Council (mentioned above) and two local residents who wished to observe the meeting only.
- 3. To receive declarations of interest:** None
- 4. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held 24th April 2019 previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Haigh. Arising from the minutes, it was noted that all the action points had, or were in the process of being dealt with. Regarding Item 9a it was noted that NCC had confirmed that they were now responsible for the maintenance of the Bassaleg roundabout and were to meet with the WG regarding the condition it had been handed over in. **Action: Any outstanding items in the minutes being approved, to be actioned as soon as possible.**
- 5. Clerk’s Report:** A Clerk’s Report previously circulated was briefly discussed and accepted as a true reflection of matters to date. Proposed Cllr Harries, seconded Cllr Evans. The Clerk confirmed there had been no news on when the flagstones on the underpass at Grosvenor Road would be repaired despite having chased for a response a number of times. **Action: Clerk to chase for an update from NetworkRail again.**
- 6. Accounts for Payment:** Proposed Cllr Thomas seconded Cllr Evans and accepted.

Clerk salary and office allowance for May 2019	£2068.77
Misc expenses for May 2019	£38.70
TSO Host – Monthly webmail charge	£5.00
Newport City Homes Ltd - Grass cutting at Fort View play area	£212.04
Welsh Water – Water services to Bassaleg allotment site	£21.30
Welsh Water – Water services to Graig Community Hall	£108.46
SLCC – Event attendance for Cllr Tarr	£108.00
PWLB – 6 monthly loan payment	£5412.00
Newport City Council – Hanging basket costs for community centres	£180.00
Newport City Council – Summer bedding plants for planters	£299.00
Total to date:	£8453.27

Receipts: None to date

7. Planning:

- a. 19/0461 – Proposal: Proposed single storey front extension Site: Garth View, Caerphilly Road, Bassaleg, Newport, NP10 8LW. Application Type: Full **Comment: No objections.**
- b. 19/0471 – Proposal: Demolition of existing garden room and replacement with new garden room incorporating existing lean-to structure. Site: The old Post Office, Old Road, Lower Machen, Newport, NP10 8GU. Application Type: Full. **Comment: No objections provided the proposal conforms with Listed Building Regulations.**
- c. 19/0472 – Proposal: Listed building consent for demolition of existing garden room and replacement with new garden room incorporating existing lean-to structure. Site: The old Post Office, Old Road,

Lower Machen, Newport, NP10 8GU. Application Type: Listed Building. **Comment: No objections provided the proposal conforms with Listed Building Regulations.**

- d. 19/0501 – Proposal: Two storey side extension. Site: 8 Penylan Close, Bassaleg, Newport, NP10 8NU. Application Type: Full. **Comment: No objections in principle, as the proposal follows other properties already extended in the vicinity. Council does however have concerns because parking issues in this Close could be exacerbated. Emergency vehicles would have great difficulty accessing this road due to the large number of resident's cars parked up at certain times of the day.**

8. Items for Discussion/Action:

- a. Sundial vandalism – Cllr Thomas reported that the sundial at Graig Hall had been further vandalised. Solutions for repairs were discussed. Cllr Fry reminded Council that he had submitted quotes for this last September which were for £2040 and £1860 for a full repair. He had obtained a further quote for £600 for repointing the stones instead. The merits of a full refurbishment or just pointing were discussed but no decision was made at the meeting. **Action: Clerk to add to mid-month agenda.**
- b. South Wales Directories – The Clerk had received an email stating that the Bassaleg & Rhiwderin Directory producers were looking for support and making an offer of advertising in the directory at a reasonable price. Council discussed taking out a regular quarter or eighth page advert and producing articles more regularly to inform residents of its latest achievements. **Action: Clerk to find out more detail and return to Council.**
- c. Update on Finance & Admin meeting – Discussed later.
- d. Update on meeting with NCC Officers and Court Crescent residents – Cllr Gregory updated Council on the Court Crescent residents meeting. The residents put forward the issues they were experiencing such as the number of busses which turned up early before the school gates were open causing congestion, along with the number of student's cars being parked in the area and the problem of parents picking up/dropping off students at certain times of the day. The residents also have issues with litter and had heard that potentially, the school could be taking an extra 500 pupils. Council sympathised with their situation and attempted to help with potential solutions. It was noted by Cllr Grey that the students also have issues such as having their cars vandalised whilst parked in the local area. Council felt that the City Cllrs, and especially Cllr Williams as Head of Governors should be more involved with finding a solution. **Action: Situation to be monitored and pressure to be put on City Cllrs to act.**

Regarding the meeting with NCC Officers, Cllr Gregory reported that it was a positive meeting, and that some items had been resolved and others were being attended to. An update on each issue will be reported on the next Clerk's report. **Action: Clerk to update the Clerk's Report on items discussed.**

- e. Councillor IRPW allowances – Discussed later.

9. Reports:

- a. Newport City Councillors – No Cllrs present. **Action: None necessary.**

Sub Committees

- b. Graig Community Centre – Cllr Evans reported that the AGM would be held on 10th June 2019 at 7pm. Cllr Appleton expressed dismay that members of the committee were not asked if they would be free prior to the date being set. **Action: Clerk to advertise the AGM and attend with the Chair as required.**
- c. Rhiwderin Community Centre & Fundraising Group Cllr Gregory reported that the AGM would be held on 17th June 2019 at 7.30pm. Also, that following confirmation that the works to repair the doors damaged at the recent break-in would be covered by insurance, he would seek to have them attended to as soon as possible. It was noted that Cllr Whitfield had worked hard on the funding application for the centre and things were progressing. Meetings were to be held to complete the application in the following weeks. **Action: Funding group members to attend the meetings, Cllr Gregory to arrange permanent repairs for the doors.**
- d. Allotments – Following issues with bees being kept on the allotments, the Allotment Association asked Council to consider that following the 2 month trial of the hives being moved to another location, if the bees were still an issue for other allotment holders, could the owner be asked to remove them from the site. Council discussed and a vote was taken, it was agreed by majority that if the bees were still causing problems, the owner should be asked to remove the hives. **Action: Clerk to advise the Allotment Association of Councils' decision.**
- e. Burial Board – A new meeting had been arranged for the committee. There was no further news on the position of RCC or NCC to date. The water issue in the cemetery previously discovered had been

resolved. A water main running through the cemetery had burst and needed repair. **Action: Cllr Gregory to request decisions go to the Democratic Services Committee, and that Council wished for the committee to be kept in the hands of the community councils. Cllrs on the committee to mention the ivy on the walls at the next meeting as previously requested.**

Working Groups

- f. Play Areas Group – NTR. **Action: None necessary.**
- g. Horticultural Group/ BKV Group – Cllr Sayer relayed that he felt that not enough support is being given to do the amount of work needed with the group. He felt that this was also an issue with other groups Council ran too. He would like to see Cllrs take on the responsibility of a planter each to maintain. Cllr Bailey said one of the main issues was watering the planters. Last year was particularly hard for the group as the summer was so hot and dry and that maybe a rota could be made to share responsibility. The group discussed work that needed to be done during the next months. **Action: Group to meet and discuss St Basil's roundabout planting scheme.**
- h. Technology Group – The Clerk updated Council on information she had supplied for the new site and told the group that the providers were to look at the information with a view to launching the site on the 7th or 14th June. **Action: Group to progress.**
- i. Events & Social Group – It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged to begin discussions for the Christmas events. **Action: Cllr Gregory to call the meeting.**
- j. Consultation Review Panel – NTR. **Action: None at this time.**

10. Items for forthcoming agendas:

- a. Grassed area at junction of Caerphilly Rd and The Griffin – 12th June 2019 meeting.

11. Urgent Business not discussed above:

- a. Cllr Appleton suggested Council consider donating the cost of supplying cycling tops for a group of local residents doing the Welsh 3 Peaks challenge to raise funds for MIND in memory of local boys. Council agreed to fund the tops at a cost of £90 by majority vote. **Action: Cllr Appleton to provide the Clerk with details for a cheque to be raised.**
- 8. Deferred from earlier in the meeting:
 - c. Update on Finance & Admin meeting – Cllr Gregory reported that the F&A group had met to review the final accounts for the year which were now with the internal auditor and reviewed and amended the budget for 2019/20. With the additions made, Council were set to be over budget by almost £20k and savings would need to be found elsewhere in the budget to balance the books. It was agreed that Council would look at the budget and the Clerk would agenda it for discussion at the 26th June 2019 meeting. **Action: Clerk to supply budget information sheets to all and agenda the item to be discussed.**
 - e. Councillor IRPW allowances – The Clerk advised that following another term of office being started, IRPW allowances were payable if necessary. The Clerk gave out forms to those wishing to forfeit the allowance and asked for them to be returned promptly. **Action: Any Cllr wishing to forfeit the allowance to return the form to the Clerk by the end of June.**

12. Correspondence for Information:

Not discussed

13. Dates of next meetings:

Mid-Month meeting – Wednesday 12th June 2019 at 7pm.
Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 26th June 2019 at 7pm.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.35pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 26th June 2019

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