



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Graig, Community Centre Bassaleg 7pm on 28th August 2019.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs D Williams

Present: Cllrs R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, M Smart, K Sayer, K Harries, P Gregory, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, P Appleton, J Bailey, K Thomas, N Tarr. Chaired by P Gregory. Also present, Police Sergeant R Giles.

2. To receive and welcome Police Inspector and Sergeant: The Sergeant was welcomed, he explained that the Inspector had been unable to attend and sent apologies, but it was hoped she would arrange to attend a future meeting. The Sergeant explained that there would be 8 extra PCSOs for Newport West, and that the Police website would be updated to reflect all the changes. The report for July (previously reported in minutes of 14th August) was discussed. Council pointed out that much of the information was repeated each month and improvements to the report were suggested. The Sergeant agreed to look at these.

He advised that following the recent fires in the villages, Police had met with residents and an action plan was formed which included leaflet drops and monitoring. The issue seemed to have settled but the situation was still being monitored closely. Regarding the drugs concerns at Bassaleg School, the Police met with the school and parents and carried out some advisory work, the Police are very focused on stopping supplies being available to students, and robust action had been taken by the school.

The Police were keen to set up mediation between residents in the surrounding area of the Friendly Fox pub and the licensee following issues at the pub in recent times, they were also monitoring the problems in the Clearwell Court area following anti-social behaviour issues. It was believed this may settle as a problematic resident had now left the area. Council suggested Police surgeries be held on a more mobile basis in crime hot spot areas rather than at the two venues currently being used and, if possible, for the timing of the surgeries to be geared more toward the evenings when working residents are more likely to be able to attend.

Cllr Tarr presented his spreadsheet logging crimes for the area since January this year (as previously presented to Council and reported in the 14th August minutes). The Sergeant showed interest in the report and asked that a copy be forwarded to him. In all, it was agreed that the Graig ward was fortunate to have a low crime rate and Council were keen to work with the Police to ensure this remained so. The Sergeant was thanked and left the meeting at 7.50pm. He asked that a copy of Council approved minutes be forwarded to him regularly for review. **Action: Cllr Tarr to forward his spreadsheet to the Sergeant, the Clerk supply copies of all approved minutes to him in future.**

3. Public Representation: None

4. To receive declarations of interest: None

5. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held 31st July 2019 previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr Whitfield. Arising from the minutes, it was noted that all the action points had been dealt with save for Item 9a concerning Bassaleg Roundabout maintenance. Cllr Gregory advised there had been complaints regarding lane markings which were leading to confusion for motorists as to which was the appropriate lane for their direction of travel. Cllr Appleton advised she had called the NCC Call Centre to complain about the lack of maintenance on the roundabout and was assured an officer would get back to her but she had not been contacted to date. Cllr Williams was unable to attend the meeting, but it was noted that the action points in the 31st July minutes were still outstanding. **Action: Cllr Williams to address the action points on 31st July minutes.**

6. Clerk's Report: The Clerk's Report previously circulated was briefly discussed and accepted as a true reflection of matters to date. Proposed Cllr Tarr, seconded Cllr Evans. The report was briefly discussed and the Clerk informed Council of an update to Item 9 – Maintenance at Grosvenor Rd Underpass. Following NetworkRail advising the missing flagstones on the underpass was the responsibility of NCC to repair/replace, the Clerk contacted NCC. NCC advised they had checked land registry documents and were insistent that the ground belonged to NetworkRail so would not take

responsibility. The Clerk contacted NetworkRail again advising them of this and was awaiting a response. **Action: Clerk to monitor this issue closely and ask Cllr Williams for a S106 update. Cllr Smart to contact the S106 officer for an update also.**

7. Accounts for Payment: Proposed Cllr Haigh seconded Cllr Thomas and accepted.

Clerk salary and office allowance for August 2019	£2068.77
Misc expenses for August 2019 (mileage & postage)	£33.64
TSO Host – Monthly webmail charge	£5.00
Newport City Homes – Fort View grass cutting July 19	£212.04
Total to date:	£2319.45

Receipts: None to date

8. Planning:

- 19/0854 – Proposal: Retrospective application for retention of kitchen and ventilation equipment and TV aerials. Site: Tredegar Arms Hotel, 2-4 Caerphilly Road, Bassaleg, Newport NP10 8LE Application Type: Full **Comment: No objections.**
- 19/0821 – Proposal: Conversion of garage into habitable accommodation. Site: 21 Delphinium Road, Rogerstone, Newport NP10 9JF. Application Type: Full. **Comment: No objection provided neighbours are consulted and agree.**
- 19/0853 – Proposal: First floor extension to the rear of the flat and roof to existing flat and raised decking and access stair. Site: Springfield Post Office, Tredegar Street, Rhiwderin. Newport NP10 8RJ Application Type: Full. **Comment: Concerns regarding overdevelopment of the site and impingements on both neighbouring properties.** A debate took place over a recent discussion with the owner of this property where permission was requested for patrons of the business to use Rhiwderin Centre car park. There were a number of concerns such as ongoing obligations to allow patrons to park if permission was given, safety issues surrounding children using the area, what would happen if the business grew and/or became extremely popular, what if the business was sold on at a later date etc.. **Action: Cllr Gregory to speak with the owner and return to Council with more information.**

9. Items for Discussion/Action:

- Bassaleg & Rhiwderin Directory submission – The Clerk advised Council that the agreed advert had been placed and presented the finished advert to Council for information. The advert promoting the Council will be placed in each edition of the Directory for 1 year as agreed. **Action: Clerk to add cost to the next agenda for payment to be authorised.**
- Finance & Admin meeting update – Cllr Gregory advised that some policies and procedures had been updated at the meeting and the amended documents would be checked over by committee members and approved at the next Finance & Admin meeting set for 4th September. Once the committee had approved, the documents will be added to the next available full council meeting agenda for ratification by Council so they can be accepted as replacements/additions to the documents Council has authorised previously. **Action: Clerk to present to the next F&A meeting as part of this process.**

10. Reports:

Sub Committees

- Newport City Councillors – None in attendance. **Action: Clerk to remind Cllr Williams of issues not resolved from the 31st July meeting and ask that he have an update for these and a progress report on S106 funding ready to relay at the 11th September meeting.**
- Graig Community Centre – Cllr Fry reported that due to scheduled electrical work being carried out at the Hall, it would be closed from 16th September 2019 for 1 week, then again for 2 weeks at the beginning of November (date yet to be confirmed) for redecoration. **Action: Cllr Fry to oversee work being carried out.**
- Rhiwderin Community Centre & Fundraising Group - Cllr Gregory reported that the external and internal doors damaged from the recent break-in were being repaired/replaced within the next week or so. Cllr Whitfield confirmed she had contacted the Welsh Government regarding the recent submission for grant assistance to carry out work to the centre and was told that a decision should be made soon on whether if the application was successful or not. **Action: Cllrs Gregory and Whitfield to progress.**
- Allotments – Cllr Caston reported the next inspection would take place on Sunday 8th September at 10.30am. The Allotment Association had confirmed they would be unable to cut back the Pyracanthus as requested due to a lack of volunteers willing to assist. They also had concerns about accepting a sapling St Cecelia apple tree offered, as they did not know what root stock it had been grafted to. They

agreed that above issues would be discussed with Council representatives during the inspection.

Action: Allotment Committee members to attend if possible.

- e. Burial Board – Cllr Caston reported an issue had arisen between the Chairman of the committee and the Clerk regarding obligations arising from a recent committee financial meeting. Cllr Gregory read an email to the group from a NCC officer who confirmed that no decision could be given yet on Council's recent request for assistance with resolving issues with the joint committee with Rogerstone CC, as due diligence needed to be performed on suggested solutions prior to submitting the information to the Head of Department for City Services who would be asked to review and rule on a fair way forward.

Action: Cllr Gregory to progress.

Working Groups

- f. Play Areas Group – Cllr Gregory advised that the spare trim trail equipment purchased for Caernarvon Drive by NCC but never installed would not be purchased from Council as previously agreed. Despite assurances from her predecessor that NCC would most likely find a home for the surplus equipment and purchase it from Council, the current Playgrounds officer said she would not be interested in this solution as she had nowhere for it to be placed and no need for such equipment in the foreseeable future. Additionally, the place it was being stored had asked for it to be removed as soon as possible at Council's cost. Cllrs were asked to consider a solution for the extra equipment and advise Cllr Gregory of any suggestions. **Action: Cllrs to pass any suggestions on to Cllr Gregory asap.**
- g. Horticultural Group/ BKV Group – Cllr Appleton advised she had 2 quotes for placing the proposed large stones on St Basil's roundabout but would clarify what the quotes entailed and progress. **Action: Cllr Appleton to progress.**
- h. Technology Group – Cllr Appleton advised she had not sent links to the new website to other Cllrs yet as some work was still needed to complete information on it. The Clerk confirmed she was still waiting for some personal information to come in from Cllrs to submit to the site creators prior to the launch. **Action: Clerk to submit any missing or incorrect Cllr profile information to the site creators asap and investigate the costs of supplying each Cllr with a dedicated Council email address.**
- i. Events & Social Group – Cllr Gregory advised he was waiting on costs from Centregreat for various options regarding Christmas lighting. **Action: Cllr Gregory to progress.**
- j. Consultation Review Panel – Cllr Tarr asked for volunteers to sit on a panel to review the National Development Framework consultation. Cllrs Caston and Appleton volunteered to help, a decision on a date to hold the review meeting to be made at the 25th September meeting. **Action: Panel members to attend a drop-in session at Newport on 11th September to assist with decision making if they are able.**

11. Items for forthcoming agendas:

- a. Finance & Admin Committee meeting – 4th September 2019 (for committee members only)
b. Graig Hall Car parking – 11th September 2019 meeting

12. Urgent Business not discussed above:

- a. Cllr Thomas advised of some issues at Graig Hall, it was agreed these should be discussed at a Hall committee meeting. **Action: Cllr Thomas to discuss at the forthcoming committee meeting.**
- b. Cllr Fry had brought 8 St Cecelia apple tree saplings to the meeting and asked anyone interested in growing a tree to take one home with them. **Action: 5 trees were allocated to interested Cllrs to take home to plant and keep the species growing in the area.**
- c. The Clerk advised she had received the offer of some free door stickers to help prevent cold callers. Council agreed to taking 20 stickers which could be offered to elderly and vulnerable residents in the ward. **Action: Clerk to place the order.**

13. Correspondence for Information: Not discussed

14. Dates of next meetings:

Mid-Month meeting – Wednesday 11th September 2019 at 7pm.

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 25th September 2019 at 7pm.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.30pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 25th September 2019

Posted to notice boards 04.10.19

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