



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Graig, Community Centre Bassaleg at 7pm on 8th January 2020

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs A Whitfield, J Bailey, S Grey, D Williams.
Present: Cllrs R Caston, D Evans, M Smart, K Sayer, P Gregory, J Harris, W Haigh, L Fry, P Appleton, K Thomas, N Tarr, S Davies (Clerk). Chaired by P Gregory.
2. **Public Representation:** None
3. **To receive declarations of interest:** None
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meetings held 27th November 2019 & of 11th December 2019 previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Evans, seconded Cllr Tarr for 27th November 2019 minutes, proposed Cllr Thomas and seconded Cllr Tarr for 11th December 2019 minutes. Arising from the minutes, it was noted that all the action points had been dealt with. **Action: None required.**
5. **Clerk's Report:** The Clerk's Report previously circulated was briefly discussed and accepted as a true reflection of matters to date. Proposed Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr Thomas. **Action: None required.**
6. **Accounts for Payment:** Proposed Cllr Tarr seconded Cllr Caston and accepted.
The utility bills for Rhiwderin CC were discussed briefly and it was suggested that due to high gas bills, the heating regimes for the centre should be reviewed.

TSO Host – monthly webmail charge (taken by DD)	£5.00
Planning Aid Wales – Cllrs Gregory & Smart attendance at training session	£80.00
SSE – Electricity charges Sep 19 – Dec 19 for Rhiwderin CC (taken by DD)	£836.37
SSE – Gas charges Sep 19- Dec 19 for Rhiwderin CC (taken by DD)	£727.33
SSE – Gas charges Sep 19 – Nov 19 for Graig Hall	£255.96
Total to date:	£1904.66

Receipts:

SSE – Solar panel energy refund Sep 19 – Dec 19 (paid by DD)	£201.71
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7. Planning:

None

8. Items for Discussion/Action:

- a. Councillor vacancy – Council agreed to advertise the post following the resignation of Cllr Harries.
Action: Clerk to make the necessary arrangements for the post to be advertised from 17th January 2020.
- b. Events Committee meeting date – It was agreed to set a meeting at a later date but the internal Christmas tree in Graig Hall needed dismantling. **Action: Cllr Harris to inform Council Members when the hall would be free to carry out this task. All available were asked to assist.**
- c. Finance & Admin meeting date (review of docs & Bio-diversity obligations) – It was decided not to hold a meeting until April when a review of the final accounts for the year would be available. However, any necessary risk assessments due for review would be carried out for approval by the 25th March 2020 meeting as required. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllrs Thomas and Haigh to have risk assessments completed and return recommendations to the end of March meeting or sooner.**
- d. Local Electricity Bill – Cllr Tarr carried out a review of the bill as agreed and proposed to Council Support the bill in principle. This was seconded by Cllr Caston and carried by majority with 2 abstentions. **Action: Clerk to advise the source which sought support.**
- e. BKV sign – Cllrs Fry and Thomas explored the stability of the sign and in their opinion, it was structurally sound. Cllrs were asked to consider if the sign itself needed updating or changing, and if so to bring suggestions to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk to agenda for the February Mid-Month meeting.**

9. Reports:

Sub Committees

- a. Newport City Councillors – None in attendance. Cllr Sayer expressed his concern at the lack of attendance by City Cllrs at Council meetings. It was recognised they have no responsibility to attend,

but felt it was appropriate they attend whenever possible to properly represent the Graig community
Action: Clerk to request attendance when the paperwork for the next meeting is delivered.

- b. Police - No officers present but a report for November & December had been received. The reports were read out to Council. The reports contained the following information: There had been 77 calls to the Police in November, 31 of which were crimes, and 62 in December, 16 of which were crimes. The breakdown was as follows (please note figures below are for November and December respectively): Public Order – 5&1, Violence Without Injury – 11&5, Miscellaneous Crime – 0&0, Shoplifting – 3&0, All Theft Other – 1&3, Criminal Damage & Arson – 1&3, Burglary Dwelling – 2&1, Drug Offences – 0&0, Theft from Person – 0&0, Other Sexual Offences – 1&0, Violence with Injury – 3&1, Vehicle Crime – 4&1, Possession of Weapons – 0&0, Burglary Non-Dwelling – 0&0, Bicycle Theft – 0&0, Other Notifiable Offences – 0&0, Violence Against a Person – 0&0, Misc Crimes Against Society – 0&1, Rape – 0&0, Theft from a person – 0&0.

The ward priority for Graig is still currently Anti-Social Behaviour in the Morrisons and McDonalds area.

Actions and activities by the local teams included the following: Police were continuing to monitor anti-social behaviour levels around Morrisons and McDonalds. Multiple calls had been received during both months in relation to anti-social behaviour in the area throughout the month. Officers continue to attend the store and patrol when they are able. There were no calls on 5th November.

The team are working extremely hard to identify and engage with vulnerable adults living in the ward. They receive regular visits from the team to check their welfare, wellbeing and to discuss any issues they may have.

A vehicle had been seized in December in the Bassaleg area for no insurance

A ward surgery was to be held at the following venue:

Wednesday 22nd January 3pm – 4pm at McDonalds in Afon Village

Council commented that the reports meant little as they gave scant detail, and that the information appeared to be cut and pasted into new reports with no difference to the previous information given the month before. **Action: None requested.**

- c. Graig Community Centre – It was noted the internal Christmas tree had not been dismantled. Cllr Harris agreed to let Cllrs know when the Hall would be free to carry this out. A Hall management meeting would be held soon, and bookings were doing well. **Action: Cllr Harris to advise when Hall was free to dismantle the Christmas tree, Cllrs to assist if they were able.**
- d. Rhiwderin Community Centre & Fundraising Group - Cllr Gregory reported work on the upgrade was progressing. Damp issues inside meant that the Railway Society had moved some items away from the walls. The next management meeting was scheduled for 27.01.19. The Christmas carol event went down well with residents, and £156 was raised. He again stated that he was under a lot of pressure and needed help with managing the Centre. **Action: Cllrs to help Cllr Gregory where possible.**
- e. Allotments – NTR. **Action: None necessary.**
- f. Burial Board – Cllr Gregory reported that much had happened with Burial Board arrangements. The Clerk had now left the post and a meeting had been held at the Civic Centre attended by Graig & Rogerstone Members and Clerks. The Clerk to Rogerstone Community Council had kindly offered to administer Board business for an interim period whilst more permanent arrangements could be made, and a meeting of the Board would be held in due course. **Action: Following the handover of documents for the Board, the Clerk agreed to help out the Rogerstone Clerk as much as possible.**

Working Groups

- g. Play Areas Group – NTR **Action: None required.**
- h. Horticultural Group/ BKV Group – It was agreed that the St Basil's roundabout scheme was settling in nicely, group to arrange a meeting in due course. **Action: Group to arrange a meeting.**
- i. Technology Group – Cllr Appleton advised Council that the group was to meet soon. **Action: Cllr Appleton to arrange.**
- j. Events & Social Group – It was agreed that a meeting should be held to review the Christmas Event, but it would not be necessary to arrange it until March. **Action: Meeting date to be set as agreed.**
- k. Consultation Review Panel – Cllr Tarr asked for volunteers to attend a consultation meeting to review NCC's 2020-21 budget proposals. There were not enough volunteers to form a meeting, so this was cancelled. **Action: None required.**

10. Items for forthcoming agendas:

None

11. Urgent Business not discussed above:

- a. It was noted that there had been 2 incidents of fly-tipping within 24hrs at the fly-over on Pentre Tai Road. Council were dismayed, and briefly discussed waste bins in Bassaleg. **Action: None necessary.**
- b. Cllr Harris asked Council if anyone was aware of why someone had put a padlock on the chain across the bottom of Tredegar Street in Rhiwderin. No-one was aware of this. **Action: None necessary.**
- c. Cllr Harris informed Council that the Community Health Council wished to meet with Council and residents of the ward. **Action: Cllr Harris to find a suitable date and inform the Clerk when arrangements were being made.**
- d. Cllr Thomas advised Council that the broken-up sections of path through the open space in Bassaleg was worsening. Cllr Smart agreed to look into this as it was on the list of works drawn up by Cllr Fry that she had been working on. **Action: Cllr Smart to progress.**
- e. Cllr Appleton expressed concern that the left-over selection boxes from the Christmas Event were still in storage. Cllr Gregory explained that he had planned to donate them before Christmas. However, he had been ill since the event and had not had the opportunity to carry this out. **Action: Cllr Tarr to ask if they could be donated to the Royal Gwent Hospital.**
- f. Cllr Smart asked for the list discussed in item 11d could be added to the agenda for the 29th January meeting. **Action: Clerk to agenda.**

12. Correspondence for Information: Not discussed

13. Dates of next meetings:

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 29th January 2020 at 7pm.
Mid-Month meeting – Wednesday 12th February 2020 at 7pm.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.07pm

Signed..... (Chair) – 12.02.20

Posted to notice boards 21.02.20

Clerk to the Council: Sian Davies

6 Vale View, Gelli Park, Risca, Newport. NP11 6HS Tel: 01633 614119, Mobile: 07971 094382

Email: clerk@gragcc.co.uk

Website: www.gragcc.co.uk



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