



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Mid-Month Meeting held at Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg at 7pm on 14th November 2018

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1. Apologies for absence: J Bailey, L Fry.

Present: Cllrs R Caston, A Whitfield, D Evans, M Smart, K Sayer, K Harries, P Gregory, J Harris, W Haigh, P Appleton, K Thomas, N Tarr, D Williams. Chaired by P Gregory.

2. To receive public representations: None.

3. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2018, previously circulated were read and approved. Proposed Cllr Caston seconded Cllr Harries. The action points of the minutes were briefly discussed. **Action: None required.**

4. Reports:

- a. Police - The Police were unable to attend but sent a report for October. Cllr Gregory read out the report to Council. The report contained the following information: During October there had been 65 calls to the Police, 29 of which were crimes. The breakdown was as follows: Public Order - 8, Violence Without Injury - 3, Miscellaneous Crime - 0, Shoplifting - 0, All Theft Other - 5, Criminal Damage & Arson - 8, Burglary Dwelling - 1, Rape - 0, Drug Offences - 0, Theft from Person - 0, Other Sexual Offences - 1, Violence with Injury - 0, Vehicle Crime - 2, Burglary Non-Dwelling - 0 Other Notifiable Offences - 0, Violence Against a Person - 0, Possession of Weapons - 1.

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

Actions and activities by the local teams included the following: Police are continuing to monitor parking issues outside Bassaleg School. They had attended on multiple occasions; however, no action was needed as vehicles were being parked legally. They will continue to monitor the area.

There had been calls received regarding anti-social behaviour outside Morrisons. A group were identified and spoken to regarding their behaviour, there had been no further incidents reported.

PCs 1316 Turner and 2043 Richens were now based at Rogerstone Police Station as part of the Neighbourhood Team. Council had also been advised that Sergeant Giles will be attending Council's 28th November meeting. **Action: None required.**

- b. City Councillors – Cllr Williams updated Council on the S106 contributions, some of which it was hoping to have diverted to the Safe Routes to Schools project as Council is concerned that the safety of children walking to school should be much improved. Cllr Williams had received news that the money was not only earmarked for the schools in the Graig ward, but also in other wards in the school catchment area. He was asked to continue to monitor the situation carefully and do all he could in the best interests of the Graig ward and keep Council updated.

He mentioned that Bassaleg School's new Headmistress would like the school to have closer ties with the Council, and it was agreed that Council would contact her in the new year to arrange a meeting to discuss. Cllr Williams also told Council he was trying to get the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to consider renovating the graves of local residents who lost their lives in service. Cllr Gregory asked if he would ask for members of Bassaleg School orchestra to play at Council's forthcoming Christmas Event.

Action: Cllr Williams to keep Council updated on S106 progress, ask Bassaleg School to contribute to the Christmas Event if possible and keep Council updated on his progress with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Council to contact Bassaleg School Headmistress in the new year.

5. Items for discussion:

- e. Wild flower beds at Lower Machen (brought forward in the agenda) – Cllr Williams advised Council that a resident had suggested to him that the City Council consider placing wildflower beds at the junction with the A468 and the road to Draethen. NCC told him they had no funding available for this, so he asked if the Community Council would consider funding it instead. Council said it would need approximate costs before consideration but were concerned that if wildflowers were placed too close to the junction, the traffic visibility spays could be affected as some flowers grow to a decent height.

Cllr Appleton advised Cllr Williams that there appeared to still be issues of anti-social behaviour in the Clearwell Court area. Council were concerned about the suitability of some residents being placed so close to a primary school. Cllr Williams stated that residents affected needed to be encouraged to report incidences to the Police. Nothing could be done unless issues are reported, as housing associations and the Police are unable to react to the situation and find a solution if they are unaware there is a problem.

Action: Cllr Williams to look into costs for wildflower beds. Cllrs to advise anyone making complaints about issues in Clearwell Court to report incidences to the Police and the housing associations.

- a. Finance & Admin Cttee meeting date (2019/20 budget) – The Clerk asked Council to set another date for a meeting to set the budget as news regarding the possible withdrawal of Concurrent contributions from NCC resulted in the previous meeting being postponed until a firm decision had been received. A meeting was set for 20th November 2018. **Action: Clerk to prepare the necessary paperwork for the meeting and distribute.**

Cllr Williams left the meeting at 8.30pm

Meeting dates for meetings were set at: 20th Nov. at 6pm – Finance & Admin meeting
21st Nov. at 7pm – Graig Hall defibrillator training
26th Nov. at 11am - Graig Hall internal tree decoration

- b. Concurrent expenditure update – Council were advised of the reason the Finance & Admin meeting had been postponed and updated on the latest situation, which was that NCC were very likely to withdraw Concurrent funding from 2019/20 onwards leaving Council with a deficit in funding of £14,037 per year. **Action: Clerk to keep Council apprised of the situation and prepare paperwork for the Finance & Admin team to make a fully informed decision on Council's 2018/20 budget needs.**
- c. Dog fouling signs – Cllr Tarr advised Council that he had carried out a survey and believed that Council needed an additional 18 dog fouling signs erected throughout the villages. Council felt that number would be a little excessive but agreed that the current signage should be larger and displayed more prominently. **Action: Cllr Gregory offered to look into the costs, so it could be discussed at the Finance and Admin meeting.**
- d. Christmas event update – The event preparations were discussed and agreed. **Action: All to assist in any way they were able.**
- f. Remembrance Day service – The service at the Church went well, and feedback on the lamp post poppies had been very positive. **Action: None necessary.**
- g. Burial Board – Following RCC's refusal again to consider equal representation, Cllr Gregory spoke of his frustration and disappointment. He told Council that problems with the Burial Board and other ongoing issues, he was so disheartened he was considering his resignation. He was writing again to NCC to advise that Council is very dismayed and is seriously considering its position with regard to the future of the Burial Board Committee. **Action: Cllr Gregory to write to NCC as discussed.**

6. Items for next agenda if agreed: None

7. Urgent other business not on the agenda:

- a. Cllr Tarr asked the Clerk when the noticeboard in Afon Village would be back in commission. The Clerk advised that the board had been vandalised a number of times and at present the door was being amended to receive 4 separate panes of wired glass to make it more robust and hopefully deter further issues. Once amended the door would be replaced, but as this was being overseen by Cllr Fry, she was unable to confirm the time frame. **Action: Clerk to update when repaired.**

Cllr Sayer left the meeting at 9.25

Cllr Whitfield left the meeting at 9.30pm.

8. Accounts for payment: Proposed Cllr Caston, seconded Cllr Tarr and approved.

TalkTalk – Graig Hall broadband costs	£30.00
Welsh Water – Allotment water costs Apr18-Oct18	£107.82
Welsh Water – Graig Hall water additional cost May18-Oct18	£90.90
Cllr M Smart – Reimbursement for plant costs for planters	£130.00
Total	£358.72

Receipts

None

9. Planning - Applications to be considered:

- a. 18/0961 – Proposal: Single storey rear extension. Site: 6 Foss-y-Fran, Bassaleg, Newport. NP10 8LU. Application Type: Full **Comment: Council felt unable to comment as there was insufficient information submitted with the application.**
- b. 18/1005 – Proposal: Single storey side and rear extension. Site: 8 Pentre Tai Rd, Rhiwderin, Newport. NP10 8RL. Application Type: Full. **Comment: No objections provided sufficient parking is retained and neighbours are consulted and agree.**

10. Correspondence for information: Not discussed

11. Dates of next meetings:

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 28th November 2018 at 7pm

Mid-Month Meeting - Wednesday 12th December 2018 at 6pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.48 pm. Confirmed, this 12th day of December 2018.

Signed..... (Chair) – December 2018

Posted to notice boards & on website 04.01.19

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