



GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council held at
Graig Community Hall (and remotely via Zoom)
at 19.00 on Wednesday 9th August 2023

Members present: Cllr D Williams, Cllr N Tarr, Cllr P Appleton, Cllr J Harris, Cllr L Fry.

Members of the Public: 2 members of the Allotments Committee

Minutes: Mrs C L Cotterell (Locum Clerk/RFO)

Meeting started at 19.03

1. Chairman's Welcome and Public Participation

Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence – None.

Cllr Sayer was absent.

Item 7 Allotments – item brought forward.

To consider Allotment rents.

Several items for consideration were brought to the meeting by the Allotments Committee:

Rents

- are they increasing for 23/24? – noted for discussion and resolution at future meeting.
- Senior citizen discount, is it changing? – noted for discussion and resolution at future meeting.
- Printing of rental letters – Cllr Williams agreed to print the rental letters.

Secretary's personal number on Council website

- Requested to remove the number from the website – Locum Clerk to action (this action was completed post meeting).

Payment of Allotment Committee expenses

- Will the Council cover the expenses of the Committee for rat bait, printing, stamps etc? – Allotment Committee to provide an expected amount for annual expenditure of expenses for resolution at future meeting.

Mowing of grass track

- NCC no longer provide mowing free of charge – Allotments Committee to provide the likely annual cost for mowing for resolution at future meeting.

Skip for removal of rubbish

- Can a skip be provided for rubbish removal? It was noted that not all rubbish could go in a skip - Agreed that Cllrs/Allotments Committee will obtain a quotation for rubbish clearance for resolution at future meeting.

More plants for gaps in hedge

- It was noted that approximately £50 is required to purchase plants to fill the gaps - noted for discussion and resolution at future meeting.

New Signs

- Request for new signs to Allotments - noted for discussion and resolution at future meeting. Cllr Fry to look at site.

Provide power to site/shed

- Can power be provided to the site/shed? Noted for discussion and resolution at future meeting.



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It was noted that inspections of the allotments should be carried out twice a year - noted for discussion and suggestion that 2/3 Cllrs carry out the inspections.

3. To resolve to declare a member vacancy due to non-attendance of a member for six consecutive months

Cllrs **resolved** to declare a member vacancy due to non-attendance of a member for six consecutive months – Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Fry.

4. Declarations of Interest

Members to declare an interest in any items of business on the agenda – None received.

5. Minutes

To agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 28th June 2023.

Resolved to approve the minutes of 28th June 2023 – Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Williams.

6. Co-option of New Members

No expressions of interest have been received so far. It was **agreed** that Cllr Tarr will draft a document advertising the current Cllr vacancies.

7. Allotments (item brought forward - see above)

To consider allotment rents.

8. Noticeboards

To consider replacement and/or re-siting of noticeboards – Item **deferred**.

9. Finances

a) To receive available financial documents – Financial documents were not available as still awaiting access to bank statements.

b) To approve the following schedule of payments:

Resolved to approve the following payments – Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Fry.

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
SLCC (Locum services – June)	£2,755.38
N Tarr (reimburse zoom fees)	£62.36
Secure Systems Services LLP (Fire alarm service – Graig Hall)	£336.00
SSE electricity Graig Hall Apr-June 2023	£210.75

c) To approve member remuneration for 2023-24 - **Resolved** to approve Member remuneration payments for 2023-24 at £156.00 per member and £52.00 for office consumables per member. Cllrs also **resolved** to pay Cllr Tarr an additional amount of £142.00 as Vice Chairman but not to pay an additional amount to Cllr Williams as Chairman. Members were reminded by the Locum Clerk that if they wished to refuse their payment then this refusal should be received in writing to the Locum Clerk as soon as possible. – Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Fry, voted 4 for, Cllr Tarr abstained.

d) To consider and approve improvements to planters near Bassaleg shops and ongoing maintenance. It was **resolved** to remove the planters at a cost of approx. £350.00 as they are a danger to public – Proposed Cllr Fry, seconded Cllr Tarr, voted 4 for, Cllr Williams abstained.



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- e) To consider replacement benches – There was no action to report on this project.
- f) To consider replacement village signs – This project is still at the design and development stage.
- g) To consider annual Zoom subscription – It was **agreed** to set up an annual direct debit subscription if possible, Cllr Tarr to investigate.

10. Burial Board Accounts 22-23

To receive the Burial Board accounts for 22-23 – **Noted**.

It was noted that one Graig Cllr attended the last meeting of the Burial Board.

11. EV Charge Point

To consider request by Newport City Council to install an EV charge point at Graig Community Centre. Cllrs felt the need to further discuss issues which may arise such as reduced number of parking spaces and investigating whether additional funding may be available to increase the size of the car park – Cllr Harris was asked to provide contact details at NCC.

12. Planning

- a) To consider delegating responses to planning application consultations to appointed Council members.

It was **resolved** to delegate the responsibility of reviewing all planning consultations to Cllr Tarr. All consultation letters for planning applications to be circulated to all Cllrs, and Cllr Tarr to draft responses and bring any applications to the Council which he feels need full discussion. Responses will then be submitted to the planning department by Cllr Tarr or the Clerk – Proposed Cllr Williams, seconded Cllr Tarr.

- b) To consider any planning applications recently received and agree a response.
 - i) 23/0462 - CONSTRUCTION OF A COVERED SPECTATOR STAND ALONGSIDE THE FOOTBALL PITCH - Whiteheads Sports Club, Park View, Bassaleg - **Graig Community Council supports this proposal in principle. However, the Council are aware that there are some issues with parking within the vicinity of the site, and the closeness of the proposed stand on the edge of the field to residential properties. The Council ask that these issues are taken into account to ensure that there is no adverse impact to residents within the vicinity of the site.**
 - ii) 23/0598 - REPLACEMENT OF A DOOR WITH A WINDOW TO ENABLE STORE TO BE USED AS A BEDROOM - Corner House, Church Road, Lower Machen - **No Objection, subject to the following:**
 - That departments with the relevant expertise in historic buildings are in agreement with the proposals.
 - That the proposed changes are in keeping with both the building and the wider area.
 - iii) 23/0599 - LISTED BUILDING CONSENT TO CONVERT AN EXISTING STORE TO A BEDROOM - Corner House, Church Road, Lower Machen - **No Objection, subject to the following:**
 - That departments with the relevant expertise in historic buildings are in agreement with the proposals.
 - That the proposed changes are in keeping with both the building and the wider area.



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- iv) 23/0518 - PARTIAL DISCHARGE OF CONDITION 9 (ECOLOGICAL SURVEYS) OF PLANNING PERMISSION 21/1084 FOR THE DEMOLITION OF EXISTING STRUCTURES, PROPOSED NEW TEACHING BLOCK AND ASSOCIATED WORKS INCLUDING NEW CAR PARKING AND DROP-OFF ARRANGEMENTS, FLOOD LIGHTING TO SPORTS PITCH, SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE, LAND RE PROFILING AND LANDSCAPING AFFECTING PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY 393/112 - Bassaleg School, Forge Road, Bassaleg - **The Council will support the comments made by the ecology officer.**
- v) 23/0679 - CONSTRUCTION OF ONE BEDROOM BUNGALOW - Land To Rear Of 25 Fort View, Bassaleg - **The Community Council questions the suitability of the proposed bungalow on the site. The Council are unsure how the proposal complies with current planning legislation and Newport City Council's supplementary planning guidance, particularly GP2, GP6 and H6 of the Local Development plan. There is a concern also that the applicant has not provided any method of disposing foul sewage. The Council also request that residents are consulted on this application and any concerns that may impact future occupants and the wider area are addressed before any planning permissions are granted.**

It was **resolved** to approve submission to the planning department of the above comments – Proposed Cllr Williams, seconded Cllr Harris – Cllr Tarr agreed to submit the comments to the planning department.

13. Next Meeting

Wednesday 30th August 2023 – 19.00 – Graig Community Centre and via Zoom.

Meeting closed at 21.05

These minutes were approved at the meeting held on Wednesday 30th August 2023, Item 4