



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 25th September 2024

Members present: Cllr J Watts, Cllr J Harris, Cllr J Roe, Cllr D Williams, Cllr N Tarr.

Members of the Public: 3

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

Meeting started at 19.12

1. Chairman's Welcome and Public Participation

2. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence – Apologies were received from Cllrs Cleeve, Fry, Sayer and Appleton.

3. Declarations of Interest

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

4. Minutes

To agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 28th August 2024 – **Resolved** - Proposed Cllr Watts, seconded Cllr Harris, 4 voted for, 1 abstention.

5. Matters Arising from Minutes, Updates and Clerk's Update

- a) To consider any updates or matters arising from the minutes - **None**
- b) To receive Clerk's update – **received and noted**. Cllrs agreed to carry out review of assets for the register.

6. Play Area Inspections/Repairs

To consider setting up a working group to regularly review play area inspection reports and propose remedial work if required. **Resolved** to set up a working group with Cllrs Williams, Cleeve, Roe and Tarr as members – Proposed Cllr Watts, seconded Cllr Williams.

7. Broadband supply at Graig Community Centre

To consider changing broadband supplier. Current supplier is Talktalk but the broadband isn't working and Talktalk will charge £166.00 to investigate. 3 quotes provided – Sky – £19.97 + VAT monthly for 6 months then £39.99 + VAT. Plusnet - £29.99 + VAT monthly & £20.00 set up. BT Business - £59.95 + VAT monthly & £9.95 set up. Cllrs **resolved** to change to Sky Broadband Pro at £19.97 + VAT for first 6 months and £39.99 + VAT thereafter – Proposed Cllr Watts, seconded Cllr Tarr.

8. Traffic Orders

To consider a response to Newport City Council regarding traffic orders for Forge Lane and Court Crescent. The traffic orders relate to extending double yellow lines on Forge Lane and Court Crescent – after discussion Cllrs **resolved** to send a response from Community Council – Proposed Cllr Watts, seconded Cllr Williams – Action: Cllr Watts to draft the response.

9. Graig Community Centre Working Group

To receive an update.

An update was received, noted and included:

- Schedule and quotations to be obtained for Pump House and disposal of current contents.
- Sundial project to be investigated and quotations obtained.
- Grounds maintenance schedule for the Graig Hall area.



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Cllr Cleeve was thanked for his efforts with the working group.

10. Finance

- a) To receive financial documents to 31 August 2024 – **Received and noted.**
- b) To consider setting up a Paypal account for card payments, when required – **Resolved** to set up a Paypal business account linked to Community Council bank account with a spending limit of £1,000.00 – Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Tarr.
- c) To consider CPRW subscription renewal – **Resolved** to renew the council subscription to CPRW – Proposed Cllr Watts, seconded Cllr Williams. **Resolved** to pay a £50 subscription for 24-25 – Proposed Cllr Watts, seconded Cllr Roe.
- d) To consider an update to Chairmans board at cost of £40.00 + VAT – **Resolved** to accept the quotation for updating Chairman's board with an amendment to add full initials – Proposed Cllr Williams, seconded Cllr Roe.
- e) To approve the following schedule of payments – **Resolved** – Proposed Cllr Tarr, seconded Cllr Harris, voted 4 for, 1 abstention.

| <u>Payee</u> | | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------------|---|---------------|
| Fort View | Grass Cutting July and August | £424.08 |
| R Thorn | Bassaleg Allotments purchase of rat bait | £38.69 |
| SLCC Enterprises Ltd | Locum Services (August – SD1591-1) | £2,040.00 |
| Griffiths Signs | Various signs | £870.00 |
| One Voice Wales | Cllr training – M Cleeve – Community Place Plan | £40.00 |
| R Williams | Raised planters Bassaleg Shops | £630.00 |
| CPRW | Annual Subscription | £50.00 |

Bank balance as at 31 August 2024 - £87,952.52

11. Newport City Councillors

To receive reports from City Councillors:

Cllr Tarr expressed his disappointment that no report or communication has been received from City Cllr John Jones.

City Cllr Harris reported:

- The police report indicated a reduction in crime
- The motion about the Winter Fuel Allowance was amended as follows:
 - To identify those pensioners most in need
 - To work with the third sector organisations to identify those pensioners not claiming pension credit, despite their eligibility.
 - To maximise the use of the Welsh Governments Discretionary Assistance Fund (DAF) to support Newport Pensioners during the winter.
 - To investigate bespoke plans to offer further support.
- Residents can call the Department for work and pensions credit help line on 0800 991234
- Several Public spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) were passed for the city centre, Maesglas and Pillgwenlly.
- The Scrutiny and Standards Committees annual reports were past



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- Newport City Council has allocated extra funds to Newport Secondary Schools, Bassaleg School is to receive £95,134 extra funding
- Electric Vehicle charging points are to be located at Laurel Road by the shops, Layby at the Griffin, Fort View car park, and by St Basils Church.

Cllrs agreed to publish the information about winter fuel payments.

Cllrs expressed their disappointment with the letter to residents from Newport City Council about Bassaleg Bridge, which contained no detail or timeframe for works.

There was no update on Rhiwderin flooding.

12. Planning – deferred from last meeting.

a) To consider a procedure or delegation for reviewing/responding to planning applications - **deferred** until more members present.

b) To consider responses to planning applications received:

- i) 24/0404 | S73 APPLICATION TO VARY CONDITION 1 (APPROVED PLANS) AND DISCHARGE CONDITION 3 (MATERIALS), CONDITION 4 (MEANS OF ENCLOSURE), CONDITION 5 (LANDSCAPING) AND CONDITION 11 (DRAINAGE) OF 19/1231 CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DWELLING AND ASSOCIATED PARKING. AMENDMENTS INCLUDE REMOVAL OF INTEGRAL RETAINING WALL AND CHANGES TO DRAINAGE | 27 Penylan Close Bassaleg Newport NP10 8NW

Comment: Graig Community Council has no objections to this application.

- ii) 24/0645 | PROPOSED TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND DORMER REAR LOFT CONVERSION | 15 Oaklands Park Drive Rhiwderin Newport NP10 8RB

Comment: Graig Community Council strongly objects to this application on the following grounds:

- **The council believes that the number of bedrooms proposed in this application is too many for a property of its size, even after the extension is included, and also questions if it is acceptable under planning legislation and NCC's supplementary planning guidance.**
- **The council is concerned that there is insufficient on-site parking for a development of that type. The council is also concerned about on-street parking on Oaklands Park Drive and the council feels that this application will make the parking issues worse.**

13. Co-option of Members

To consider co-option of new members – one application received from Mr David Whittaker. Mr Whittaker was invited to speak. Cllrs **resolved** to co-opt Mr Whittaker as a Community Councillor, upon confirmation from One Voice Wales that no legislation prevents a member of the armed forces serving as a Community Councillor – Proposed Cllr Williams, seconded Cllr Tarr. (Subsequent to the meeting positive confirmation was received from One Voice Wales).

14. Next Meeting

Wednesday 30th October 2024 at 19.00 – Full Council Meeting - Graig Community Centre and via Zoom.

Meeting closed at 20.58

These minutes were approved at the meeting held on 30th October 2024