



RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 23 February 2005 at Raglan Junior School.

Present: Councillor T. Phillips (Chairman),

Councillors N. Porter, R. Parry, D. Watkins, Mrs. M. Chilcott,

A. Crump, Mrs. J. Harry, R. Watkins (arrived late).

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs. M. Pike (Press) and Mr. A. Watkins.

871. Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Mrs. H. Williams and D. Brown.

872. The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 January 2005 were received and adopted as a correct record subject to the words "in the school" being deleted from Minute 866.

873. The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 9th February 2005 were received and adopted as a correct record.

874. Matters Arising

In Minute 866 it was clarified that money held by the Council for a Village Hall cannot be used until the hall is started.

Re: Minute 868 In relation to the Special Meeting, Councillor D. Watkins questioned why the Chairman had agreed to call the meeting.

The Chairman responded that there were a number of rumours circulating about cattle market developments and he had judged it reasonable to enable the Council to be informed of the position of the farming community.

Councillor D. Watkins questioned whether the Chairman had a direct interest in the matter as one of the possible sites for the market in the Raglan area had been proposed at The Cayo. The Chairman pointed out that no site had been identified to him prior to the meeting and that there was no justification for him to declare an interest until or unless it became clear that a firm proposal was being made. He had not been aware that a comment about possible sites would be made at the meeting.

Members were made aware of a letter to the Council from Councillor Crump as Leader of the County Council. Councillor Crump further explained the content of the letter. The

County cannot release the present cattle market site although there are 2 or 3 developers interested in developing the site.



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Llanfoist is currently the County Council's favoured choice for a site and he believed that Abergavenny people were not keen to see the Market leave the Abergavenny area. It was presently with the Abergavenny Auctioneers to decide where they wish to see the market and they must make a planning application. They have not yet decided where they want to go.

Councillor D. Watkins could not see why the NFU and FUW were involved and it was pointed out to him that as users of a market they have a direct interest.

875. Planning Matters

a) Plans Lists and Agendas were received.

b) The following decisions of the Planning Authority were noted:

M9836 - Conversion of North East Barn to dwelling and inclusion of biodisc - Newhouse Farm, Llandenny, Near Raglan - Permitted.

M9844 - Barn Conversion to dwelling and inclusion of biodisc - Newhouse Farm, Llandenny, Near Raglan - Permitted.

c) The following Planning Applications were considered (Councillor Crump declared an interest as a Member of the County Planning Committee and took no part in this)

M11213 - Two storey extension and sun room - Rhiwlas Farm, Rhiwlas, Raglan - Agreed.

M11209 - Demolish Existing front porch and replace with two storey extension and side extension - 1 Hillside, Kingcoed, Raglan - Agreed.

The Clerk informed Members that Application M11133 had been considered at a site meeting on Saturday 12 February 2005 and had been recommended for refusal on three grounds. The minutes of the site meeting had not yet been prepared. This decision was noted.

Councillor D. Watkins raised questions about the site meeting. Before he asked his questions the Chairman reminded Councillor Watkins of the Code of Conduct of Members.

Councillor Watkins asked how many Members had been present and he was given the names of the six Members who had attended. Councillor Watkins then proceeded to challenge Councillor Mrs. Harry as to why she had not declared an interest as her property was close to the development site. Councillor Mrs. Harry responded that she had not personally objected to the proposed development and that she would only see it from one upstairs window. She offered to resign but was prevailed upon not to do so. The Clerk reminded Members that the decision to declare an interest is up to the Member in every case.



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Councillor D. Watkins questioned why the Clerk had not been at the site meeting and offered the opinion that he should earn his salary. The Chairman intervened and reminded Councillor D. Watkins once again that he should be mindful of the Code of Conduct.

876. Finance Matters

a) It was Agreed to pay the following accounts:

Clerk's Salary £220.00

Zurich Municipal Insurance £393.75

D. and M. Watkins (Power for Christmas Lights) £80.00

D. Warwick (Power for Christmas Lights) £40.00

b) The receipt of the Charity Commissioners return for the Village Hall and Recreation Committee was noted.

877. Highway Matters

a) Correspondence

A letter from Gwent Police about traffic speed in Monmouth Road and Chepstow Road, Raglan was noted. The Police had not found a speeding problem.

b) Members Concerns

Councillor Crump was chasing the Chepstow Road issue.

Councillor Parry noted the sign at the end of Llangovan Road had been knocked over.

878. General Correspondence

Several items of general correspondence were received and noted.

879. There were no Members reports or other urgent business.

The Meeting ended at 8.25 pm.