



RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25 January 2006 at 7.30 pm at Raglan Junior School.

Present: Councillor Mrs. H. Williams (Chairman),

Councillors T. Phillips, R. Moorby, D. Brown, Mrs. M. Chilcott, N. Porter,

R. Parry, A. Crump, D. Watkins, R. Watkins and Mrs. J. Harry.

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs. M. Pike (Press), and 11 members of the Public. Councillor G. Down and Mr. N. Chambers of the County Council attended for the first item.

980. Presentation from Councillor Down

County Councillor Down made a presentation to those present concerning the County Council's financial situation and the options open to the County Council in trying to set a budget for the coming year.

He identified the target of 3% increase as Council Tax for 2006/07 which determined the total sum available to the Council.

He also identified how much the Assembly funding of the County had fallen behind other Councils in recent years.

Currently the County has a £14M gap between its funding target and identified spending need. All departments are seeking ways of reducing their requirements and other options of sharing services between public authorities are also being explored.

He circulated proformas to all present and invited them to complete and return them to assist the County Council in coming to conclusions about how it should proceed. Councillor Down then answered a number of questions from those present. The chairman thanked him for his presentation and the Council resumed its normal business at 8.30 pm.

981. The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 December 2005 were received and adopted as a correct record.

982. The Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on 11 January 2006 were received and adopted as a correct record subject to the donation to the Monmouth CAB being changed to £150.00.

983. Matters Arising

It was noted that the Festival Committee were seeking £1000 not the £300 which the Council agreed to contribute.



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984. Planning Matters

a) Plans Lists and Agendas were received and noted.

b) The following decision of the Planning Authority was noted:

M12203 - Detached garage - Hillcrest, Twyn-y-Sheriff, Raglan - Approved.

c) The following planning applications were considered (Councillor Crump declared an interest as a member of the Planning Authority and took no part in the decisions):

M12390 - Countrywide Store, Grange Hill, Raglan - Agreed.

M12426 - Erection of PVCU Conservatory to front of 29 Barton Bridge Close, Raglan - Agreed.

M12240 - Demolish existing front porch and replace with 2 storey extension - 1 Hillside, Kingcoed - Agreed.

M12433 - Ground floor extension for shower room and extended kitchen - Aspen House, Twyn-y-Sheriff, Raglan - Agreed.

M12480 - Listed Building Consent for alterations to provide 3 workshops, 1 coffee shop and an extension to an existing workshop - Castle Farm, Raglan - Agreed.

985. Finance Matters

a) It was agreed to pay the following:

Hire of Old School £20.00

Clerk's Salary £226.50

Society of Local Council Clerks £120.00

It was noted that payments are due to Mr. B. Jones for erecting/dismantling Christmas lights and to Ms. Warwick and Mr. D. Watkins for power. The Clerk asked for invoices to provide an Audit trail for the payments.

986. Highway Matters

a) Correspondence



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Progress on previous members requests at Llandenny and the Cross Hands junction was noted.

A letter from the County Cabinet member for highways was noted. Members felt that the County Council was not listening and that a further letter should be sent emphasising that a discussion on options is needed to ensure all issues are discussed.

It was further noted that a letter should be sent to the Safety Partnership to ask for a covert speed survey in the Village.

b) Members Concerns

Councillor Phillips had spoken to Mr. G. Edmunds and had agreed a programme of work to tidy up the Village. Members endorsed his initiative.

987. Connecting the Spheres Paper

After some discussion it was agreed to support the proposals in principle.

988. General Correspondence

A list of items of general correspondence were received and noted. It was agreed to invite the Rural Housing Enabler back again.

A letter concerning Christmas light erection was considered. It was agreed to write asking what the problems were.

989. Members Reports

a) Councillor D. Watkins reported on the Police Liaison Committee. A reduction in crime by 6% in the Usk/Monmouth area was reported. Future meetings will be in public. It appears as if we are heading for one police force in Wales.

b) Councillor Moorby reported on the Monmouth CAB meeting. The Deputy Manager had left and the vacancy was advertised.

c) Councillor Mrs. Williams reported that a meeting of the Village Hall Committee had included a discussion on raising funds.

d) Four Members had attend a Training Day in Chepstow which was useful but it had been disappointing that the section on Town and Country Planning had run out of time at the end.

e) Councillor Crump noted that the School Governors had changed their meetings to the 4th Wednesday which was causing problems for attendance. The meeting ended at 9.45 pm.