

RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27 June 2007 at Raglan Junior School at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr R Moorby, Chair,

Cllrs N Porter, Mrs M Chilcott, T Phillips, D Brown, R Watkins, D Watkins, A Crump and R Parry.

In attendance: The Clerk, Pc Arnold and his Inspector, Mr K Fairbank,(Press), Ms S Hughes,(Rural Community Action) and 3 members of the public.

1155. Apologies for Absence were received from Cllrs Mrs H Williams and Mrs J Harry.

1156 Community Safety Action Teams

Pc Arnold explained what Community Safety Action Teams are about – they join up the actions of existing agencies and enable them to pool their resources to deal with anti-social behaviour and criminal behaviour. The focus is on dealing with localised problems. The Team takes a problem as a referral, analyses it, and agrees the resources needed to tackle it. Anyone with a problem for the team can report it to their neighbourhood police, the council's One Stop Shop, or a Police Station or the Rural Community Action Team. The emphasis is to ensure that communities as well as Towns are able to benefit from these teams. Two local problems had already been identified and were being dealt with.

Pc Arnold also referred to the Cleaner, Safer Monmouthshire initiative which was cleaning up graffiti etc in the County. Since November over 100 sites have been cleaned up.

After some discussion the Chair thanked the Police Officers who left the meeting.

1157. The notes of the Public Meeting were received.

1158. The minutes of the Annual Meeting held after the Public Meeting on 23 MAY 2007 were confirmed as accurate.

1159. The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 May 2007 after the Annual Meeting were received and adopted as an accurate record other than to add to Minute 1151 "Members noted that money had been set aside for contributions to Llandenny Village Hall and to Penyclawdd Car Park".

1160 Matters Arising

It was noted that only 3 members of the public had come to the Annual Public Meeting.

1161. Planning Matters

a) Agendas for the County Planning Meetings were received.

b) The following applications were considered:

DC/2007/00699 Extension to Brook Cottage, Chepstow Rd, Raglan – Agreed

DC/2007/00616 Alterations to house and converting barn into a dwelling, The Warrage, Warrage Rd, Raglan – Agreed

DC/2007/00686 Listed Building Consent for alterations to The Warrage, Warrage Rd, Raglan – No Objections

DC/2007/00619 Extensions and alterations to Wern Ddu Farm, Penyclawdd - Agreed .

DC/2007/00785 Removal of condition 7 of permission M10595 that requires a passing bay- Rock Farm, Llandenny – No objections to the removal.

Three letters were received concerning Application M12266. (Cllr D Watkins and Cllr Mrs Chilcott declared an interest and took no part in the discussion).

Members were concerned that the revised road alignment will not improve road safety and will inconvenience a number of people. There is no objection to the proposed new car park, but there is strong objection to the pedantic application of highway planning rules. It was agreed to invite Messrs D Swanson and D Harris to a meeting to discuss inconsistencies in the application of highways and planning rules. Reference was made to 3 Fairfax View and Meadow Cottage in Usk Road as well as the rear exit at Raglan Services as examples of issues to be discussed.

1162. Finance Matters

a) Agreed to pay Clerk's salary £258-00

K Clarkson (bus shelters and allotment hedge) £314-68

b) Various items of finance correspondence were received, including notice of the 2006/7 Audit of Accounts and a number of letters of thanks for donations.

A letter from the Raglan Music Festival Organiser was also considered. Members thanked Mr Fountain and the Organising Committee. There had been minimal damage to flower displays by persons not attending the Festival and one or two complaints about noise, but overall the Festival had been a great success. The contribution of Raglan in Bloom by planting up flower beds in the village was also acknowledged with thanks.

c) Cllr Mrs Chilcott noted that Cllr Phillips had managed to get a grant of £900 for picnic tables at the play area and complimented him on the initiative. The price had been higher than first thought so she asked the Council to make up the difference, possibly up to £700. This was agreed in principle. The exact amount would be determined from the invoice.

1163. Highway Matters

a) Correspondence

A letter from Mr Arnold was considered. The Clerk will write back to acknowledge his letter.

The South East Wales Transport Area Strategy report was received. Agreed to write to comment that although the schemes contained in it are very worthwhile, the impact on this area is quite minor, and some acknowledgement of need for rural roads in the area would be welcomed.

Cllr Mrs Chilcott will ring Mr Joy about the footway lighting not yet working on the footway between Willow Close and Ethley Drive. The boundary hedge needs to be added to the County Council's schedules for Raglan. Cllr Phillips will ring Mr Edmonds to ask if his team will do it.

It was also agreed to ask Mark Watkins to attend with Mr Harris and Mr Swanson.

b) Members Concerns

A hedge overhanging the pavement in Caestory Avenue was noted for attention.

1164 General Correspondence

It was agreed to invite Debbie McCarty and Jenny Lewis to the July Meeting.

Concern was expressed about the consultation on removing trees at Rumpus House. Agreed to write to Mr Weston about members' concerns

A letter concerning a possible contribution from the Raglan Conservation Group to the deficit for the proposed Multi-Use Games Area was noted. Agreed to write to acknowledge their offer.

1165 Members Reports

a) Cllr Brown noted that there had been some progress concerning footpaths. A route to the south and east of the village had been agreed for refurbishment with gates replacing stiles. Agreed to support the proposal. (Cllr D Watkins' proposed route had not been progressed at present because it is not currently a registered footpath. The Council may have to contribute to grass cutting along the proposed route.

b) Cllr Mrs Chilcott had attended a Volunteer Achievement Awards evening at Llanarth Village Hall. Cllr Phillips has received an award as driver of the Grass Routes Bus. Members congratulated Cllr Phillips and thanked him for his work.

c) Cllr Moorby reported on the talks between CABs in Monmouthshire about greater cooperation between them.

d) The Allotments Committee had looked at the fence along Usk Road and it needed refurbishment and painting. Agreed to ask Mr Clarkson for a quotation.

1166. Any Other Business

a) Cllr Mrs Chilcott raised an issue about an additional name to go on the War Memorial. It was agreed in principle, but also that a written request should be sought and considered at the next meeting.

b) A request was made to write to the Editor of the Monmouthshire Beacon about a reporter to attend Council Meetings.

c) Cllr Moorby noted that Llandenny Village Hall Committee have achieved the grant for Llandenny Village Hall. There will shortly be a call on this Council to make its committed contribution.

The meeting ended at 9:40pm