

RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25 July 2007 at Raglan Junior School at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllr R Moorby, Chair,
Cllrs Mrs M Chilcott, D Brown, T Phillips, D Watkins, Mrs J Harry, R Parry, Mrs H Williams, and A Crump.

In Attendance: The Clerk, Mr K Fairbank(Press), Pc W Bolwell and 2 PCSOs, 4 Members of the public

1167. Police Report.

Pc Bolwell circulated a short report on incidents in the Community recently. Theft of number plates was becoming a problem.

The report is now anonymised to protect personal identity.

The officers are trying to be available in the area as often as possible, rather than simply attending the Police Station. They are looking out for parking and speeding offences.

The Police have a supply of “pots in the fridge” which are available at the Station. They are intended to be useful to older people to put their medical details in and to be left in the fridge in case of emergency. It was noted that the Police Station hedge needs cutting back.

The Chairman thanked the officers for attending and they left the meeting.

1168 Apologies for Absence were received from Cllrs N Porter and R Watkins.

1169 The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 June were received and adopted as a correct record.

1170 Matters Arising

Re Minute 1163a) The footway lighting between Willow Close and Ethley Drive is dangerous to small children as it gets hot when lit. Recently a young child burned his hand on it. Agreed to write to Mr Joy to seek a solution to this problem.

It was noted that the boundary hedge here had been cut back, but it would still be a problem in future years.

Re Minute 1164 The One Stop Shop Officers were not available for this meeting due to other commitments. Agreed to invite them to the next meeting.

Re Minute 1165d) A quotation was awaited for the Allotment fence.

1171 Planning Matters

a) Planning Agendas were received

b) The following applications were considered:

DC/2007/00785 The amended description for this application was noted. No further comment to be made.

DC/2007/00827 Retention of roller shutters at Raglan Post Office, High St Raglan, Agreed, but not to be treated as a precedent for other premises (Cllrs Mrs Chilcott and D Watkins declared an interest in this application. Cllr Mrs Chilcott left the room during the discussion. Neither took any part in the discussion)

DC/2007/00866 Convert redundant barn to residential use at The Homestead, Llangovan, Nr Monmouth, Agreed.

DC/2007/00916 Conservatory extension to 10 Wilcae Terrace, Raglan, Agreed.

DC/2007/00931 To erect conservatory to side of property at Rosewood House, Twyn y Sherriff, Raglan, Agreed

DC/2007/00975 Single storey extension to dwelling at 11, The Hawthorns, Raglan, Agreed.

1172 Finance Matters

a) It was agreed to pay the following:

Clerk's Salary and expenses	£334.88
Second Life (table/bench)	£560.40
Internal Audit Fee (Mr GHP Jones)	£100.00

b) Correspondence

A storage fee from Natwest for Allotment Deeds was noted.

Letters of thanks from the Scouts and Kingcoed Chapel were noted.

c) Annual Accounts

The Clerk presented the Annual Accounts as confirmed by the Internal Auditor and the Council agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk could sign them off.

1173. Highways Matters

a) Correspondence

Revised staff structures in Highways and Waste Division were noted. The Clerk would copy the staffing arrangements to members.

b) Members Concerns

The hedge at the Police Station needs cutting.

The hedge at Willsbrook, Usk Road badly needs cutting back.

Potholes in roads at Llangovan, Graig Road and Trelleck Road need attention urgently.

A discussion took place about the litter bin by 3 High Street. Members would inspect it and the matter would be discussed at the next meeting.

A letter from Mrs. Griffiths concerning a water butt at the new cemetery was discussed. It was agreed to ask Mrs. Griffiths to seek Parochial Church Council approval and then the Council would consider a contribution.

1174. General Correspondence

A number of items of general correspondence were received.

A request for an allotment would be acknowledged. It was the only one waiting at present.

1175. Members Reports

a) Councillor Phillips reported on the One Voice Wales presentation by Planning Aid Wales. There was considerable dissent from local Councils in Monmouthshire.

A new code of conduct would be presented next year.

b) Councillor D. Watkins had attended a Governors' meeting. The school now had a surplus of £18,000 having cut the capitation last year. Councillor Watkins would ask for it to be restored with the support of the Council.

c) Councillor Brown had attended the Citizen Centred Leadership conference at County Hall. Its aim was to give local people more say. It was agreed to ask Mr. Phil Cooke to attend a future meeting to discuss this.

d) Councillor Phillips noted that a Team from Prescoed had been tidying up the area under the supervision of Mr. G. Edmonds' staff. Agreed to write to thank him for the good work.

e) Councillor Phillips reported that a local business had won the Business Award for the Calor Gas Village of the Year. He proposed a vote of thanks to all businesses in the Community.

Raglan was also the best-kept village and would be judged for Britain in Bloom the following week.

Councillor Crump asked that it be noted in the minutes the Councils thanks to all of the Raglan in Bloom volunteers who regularly did such a good job in the Village.

The Meeting ended at 8.48 pm.

23 Priory Gardens
ABERGAVENNY
Monmouthshire

13 August 2007

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Application for Replacement Windows at Priory Gardens

I was disappointed to learn that the Planning Authority have rejected an application for replacement windows in UPVC and that the matter is now with the Planning Inspectorate at the Welsh Assembly.

I would now like to add some more support of the replacement windows being made of UPVC:

1. The Planning Officer refused the replacement windows being made of UPVC on the grounds that they would be within the walls of a conservation area; just across the road from the said wall there is an industrial unit who's roof is of a grey/green metal material.
2. Section CH1 (d) of the Unitary Development Plan reads 'use materials appropriate to their setting and context and which protect or enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation area', as some of the walk ways of Priory Gardens have plastic inserts surrounded by wood, the rain water goods are plastic and a large portion of the patio windows are metal surely it would be more sympathetic if one material was used and not three.
3. Part of Ysbytty Fields is included in the Conservation area, as it is not too far away from the Castle and yet residents have been allowed to use white UPVC doors and conservatories on predominantly brown windowed houses.

There does not seem to have been much consideration given to replacement windows and doors in other areas of other parts of the conservation area so why is Priory Gardens being discriminated against?