

**RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16 December 2009 at 7:30pm in Raglan Junior School.**

Present: Cllr T Phillips (Chairman)

Cllrs R Moorby, R Watkins, N Porter, D Watkins, R Parry, Mrs A Vaughan, Mrs H Williams, Mrs S Price, S Thomas and A Crump.

In attendance: The Clerk and Miss S Hughes

2164. There were no apologies for absence.

2165. Declarations of interest would be made as and when necessary except that Cllr Crump declared an interest as a member of the County Planning Committee and took no part in the discussions or decisions on planning applications.

2166. The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 25 November 2009 were received and adopted as a correct record.

2167. Matters arising.

Re 2161, it was noted that the Village Hall Committee had also contributed an equal amount.

Re 2162, Cllr Phillips had made his comments originally about the failure to consult but had not made any further comments. The future of the station is not yet certain. Cllr Crump also said that he had not been consulted.

Re 2163, Cllr Mrs Price noted that the three houses with gravel drives were 15, 22 and 30 Caestory Crescent. The Clerk would write to them.

Cllr Mrs Vaughan was suggesting a Friday morning for Councillors` surgeries, and it was suggested that it might be possible to hold them in a room at the Chapel. She would investigate further.

2168. Planning Matters.

a) County Planning Agendas were noted.

b) The following Planning Applications were considered:

DC/2009/01111 Erection of Conservatory at 2 Castle Street, Raglan – Agreed.

DC/2009/01125 Orangery and garden room extensions at Llanerthill, Llandenny, Usk – Agreed.

2169. Finance Matters.

a) The following payments were approved:

Clerk`s salary and expenses      £332.96

Grounds Maintenance              £746.75

Vat to Mr Bradley (omitted in last payment) £17.50

b) Several letters concerning donations were deferred to the Finance Committee in January 2010.

2170. Highway Matters.

a) There was no highway correspondence.

b) Members concerns.

Cllr Parry asked if there could be a request for SLOW signs near the Sticky Fingers nursery in the Village Hall at Penyclawdd.

Somerset Drive and Beaufort Gardens roads were in a poor state and needed to be on a surfacing programme.

The pavement on Monmouth Rd above Model Cottages, needed a dropped kerb.

There was concern about the untidy state of the village generally, and the moss still on pavements causing them to be slippery.

All of these items would be reported.

#### 2171. Correspondence.

A number of items of general correspondence were noted. The Clerk reported that he was progressing the adoption of the two telephone boxes. He had received the MPAN number from Western Power and was now addressing the issue with BT.

An e-mail from Mr Moran asking for a contribution to next year's play-scheme in Monmouth was deferred to the Finance Committee.

#### 2172. Footpath at Station Rd (Cllr R Watkins)

Cllr Watkins told members that there was no footpath on Station Rd and pedestrian access to Puddleducks Nursery was hazardous due to the vehicles bringing in some of the children. The junior footballers used this road. There was also traffic from MCC's Depot. Presently there is no safe way to walk back to the village as a possible path across a field to the Doctor's Surgery area was also very muddy, and users would still find themselves having to cross Chepstow Rd. It was agreed to ask Highways for a site meeting, preferable at about 8am or 5pm to assess the problem.

#### 2173. Members Reports.

Cllrs Mrs Williams and Mrs Vaughan had attended a training course on "The Council", which had been a little unsatisfactory as it was not well structured and there were no handouts to take away. They had given appropriate feedback to One Voice Wales.

#### 2174. The Model Charter.

The Chairman explained that a working group had looked carefully at the original model and had made a few amendments to it, notably that it should be reviewed in two years not four. Members were now asked to consider if it was an acceptable document with which to discuss the issues with Monmouthshire CC. After some discussion it was agreed to accept it as a fair basis for that discussion.

#### 2175. Any Other Business.

a) Members discussed the issue of Christmas Lights. The displays bought two years ago had deteriorated badly and this year once erected it was clear they were not acceptable for future use. It was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk would look at suitable alternatives and report to the Finance meeting in January with a suggested budget figure for next year.

b) It was agreed that the Finance Meeting would be held on Tuesday 12 January 2010 at 7:30pm

**The meeting ended at 8:25pm**

