

RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27 May after the Annual Meeting in Raglan Junior School.

Present: Cllr T Phillips (Chairman)

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

In Attendance: The Clerk, PC Mike Thomas, and four members of the public.

2095. Apologies for absence. There were none.

2096. Declarations of interest were left to be made as and when necessary during the meeting.

2097. Police Report.

PC Mike Thomas presented his report for the last two months. There had been 182 incidents in the Raglan area in that time, and he outlined some of the more serious ones. Overall there had been a slight fall in the number of incidents, by 6.3%. He noted that the Cold Calling Zone will become operational on 1 June, when there will be a launch at 11am.

Cllr Crump noted that theft seems to be increasing in the present economic climate but there was less damage around the village.

PC Thomas also noted that there had been another change in Police organisation in the area with a new Sergeant in Usk, and the possibility of a PCSO being based at Raglan Police Station. This was welcomed by members.

The position with the gypsies who had purchased a field at Llangeview was being monitored, and the problem with the horse fair at Usk Show Ground may mean that there will not be any more there.

There being no more questions, the Chairman thanked PC Thomas who then left the meeting.

2098. The minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22 April 2009 were received and adopted as a correct record.

2099. Matters arising.

Re minute 2086, it was agreed to get a price for fitting a gate at Sunny Vale in the broken fence. The Clerk would follow this up.

Re minute 2094, the work in the square had been completed. It was expected that if the weather is dry, the seats will be painted tomorrow.

2100. Planning Matters.

a) Planning agenda and enforcement reports were noted.

b) The following Planning Applications were considered:

DC/2009/00084 Amendment to size of shed at Old Trecastle Farm was noted with no further comments.

DC/2007/00540 Amendments to access and landscaping at the proposed Cattle Market site at Bryngwyn were noted with no further comment.

DC/2009/00483 Listed Building Consent for alterations to a grade 2 listed building at Coldbrook Farm, Raglan were recommended for approval.

DC/2009/00477 Erection of detached garage with workshop over and attached car port at Grange Lodge, Old Abergavenny Rd, Raglan. Recommended for approval.

DC/2009/00493 Planning permission for conservatory at 1 Barton Bridge Close, Raglan, Recommended for approval.

2101. Finance Matters.

a) Agreed to pay the following accounts:

Clerk's salary £268.92

M Harmer (Stonework) £300.00

b) A number of letters of thanks were received and noted

A request for financial support from a group seeking to prepare a booklet about Raglan was received and discussed. It was agreed to support it in principle up to 50% of the cost, depending on receipt of further information about total cost and numbers to be produced. Members were enthusiastic about the project and several offered possible information that might be useful in its preparation.

The Clerk told members that he had brought the accounts for 2008/9 to the meeting and he intended to pass them to the Internal Auditor in the next day or two. He offered members the opportunity to examine the accounts. This was noted.

c) Report concerning cheque signatures.

Members considered the report produced by the Clerk concerning the difficulties he had experienced with getting the Bank Mandate completed when there are so many signatories to be included. He had checked with the Bank and they only required two signatories on a cheque and there is no need to have all councillors as signatories. It was agreed that four Councillors and the Clerk would be signatories (The Clerk would not normally sign cheques, but needed access to information from the bank which they would only release to a signatory). Only two signatures would be needed on each cheque.

2102. Highways Matters.

a) A letter concerning a road closure at Berllwyd was noted.

A letter asking for support for improvements at Berllanderi corner was received. The Clerk will write to the Highways Department to offer support to get work done.

b) Members concerns.

Cllr R Watkins noted that the road still floods after rain at the bottom of Warrage Rd.

Cllr Phillips told members that he had lodged several highways issues to be discussed at the Central Area Rural Forum tomorrow.

2103. General Correspondence.

A number of items of correspondence were considered and noted.

The Clerk would respond to a reply from Jacqui Morris, Access Manager concerning the new school, because members were disappointed at the unhelpful reply.

2104. Model Charter Document.

Members considered this document to give an opportunity for feedback to the One Voice Wales meeting in June. The Chairman suggested that if any members had comments to make, they should let him know in the next few days.

2105. Members Reports

Cllr Mrs Williams had been in touch with the Youth Outreach Service and was expecting to meet them in July about bringing services to Raglan. They hoped to do so in September.

Cllr Mrs Price had complained to the County Council about the state of the recycling area. It had not been improved since her call, so she would call again very soon.

Cllr Phillips asked the Clerk to write to the County Smallholdings Group to complain about the state of the land by the MUGA. Tall weeds were growing vigorously and needed treatment.

There was a discussion about difficulties experienced when the County did not empty waste bins which had a larger than normal number of dog waste bags in them. The bins had been emptied after he had complained, and since then there had been no further incidents. He would monitor the situation. Members were concerned about this Council's obligations in this area, and the Clerk would get some information.

Cllr Phillips also noted that Raglan Local Ways were nominated for a GAVO award for their work on Raglan footpaths.

Cllr D Watkins asked if anything had been heard about future developments at the roundabout yet, but no-one had any information.

2106. Any Other Business

It was agreed that following the death of Cllr Mrs Chilcott, the vacancy on the Council should be advertised. The Clerk would notify the County Council.

The meeting ended at 9:25pm