

RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27 October 2010 at 7:30pm in Raglan School.

Present: Cllr S Thomas (Chairman)

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

In attendance: The Clerk, Miss S Hughes and Pc Oliver (for the first item)

The Chairman welcomed Pc Oliver who briefed members on the last month's crime figures and types of crime. He laid particular emphasis on the need to not leave valuable items on display, whether in a car or in a house, as there had been several thefts of lap-top computers from houses and cars where they could be seen by a casual observer. He also emphasised how important it is to secure cars and premises as there were a number of instances where thefts had occurred when doors or windows were left unlocked.

The OWL system is now being rolled out. This enables the public to log issues of concern, but it is not a substitute for reporting crimes. That should be done in the usual way.

Pc Oliver left at this point.

2260. There were no apologies for absence.

2261. Declarations of interest would be made as and when appropriate during the meeting.

2262. The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 September 2010 were received and adopted as a correct record subject to the word "apart" being amended to "a part" in 2255, application DC/2010/00819 and under 2259, the sentence being amended to read "and then to consider closing down the charity".

2263. Matters arising.

The Clerk had not brought copies of the grant form with him. He would circulate it to all concerned before the next meeting so that all members could comment on it and where it should be used.

Cllr Mrs Price had not yet been able to speak to the Probation Service about the Dog Walk.

It was noted that the hedge at Willsbrook had now been cut back.

The Clerk noted that the Highways Engineer had agreed the siting of the Dog Waste Bins.

2264. Planning Matters.

a) Enforcement Action sheets were received, together with Planning Committee agendas.

b) The following Planning Applications were considered: (Cllr Crump declared an interest as a member of the County Planning Committee and took no part in discussions on these applications)

DC/2010/00870 Erection of wooden shed to house tools and machinery to be used in connection with the development of a native woodland and traditional orchard at land to the rear of Cae Knovil, Llandenny, Agreed. (Cllr Moorby declared an interest in this application and took no part in its consideration)

DC/2010/00892 Erection of Conservatory at 37, Sunny Vale, Raglan. Cllr Phillips declared an interest in this application, but as there were no plans with this application it was not considered.

DC/2010/00960 Revised first floor mezzanine and external steel fire escape at 5 Grange Mill, Raglan, Agreed.

DC/2010/00906 Proposed fodder and machinery storage building at Llanolway Land, New House Farm, Llandenny Agreed.

2265. Finance Matters

a) The following accounts were agreed for payment.

Clerk's salary £271.67

Ricoh Photocopying £95.83

Grounds Maintenance £762.99

A G Bradley (dog walk) £135.00 (this includes £17.50 for last year's vat which had been paid but the cheque was not presented in time)

b) A letter from the Auditors stating that the accounts for 2009/2010 were satisfactory was received. The Chairman asked for members approval of the accounts, which was given, and he then signed the accounts document.

c) Various requests for grants were received and referred to the January Finance Meeting.

2266. Highways Matters.

a) Correspondence.

A questionnaire from County about maintenance of rights of way was considered. It was agreed to leave it to each member to send it in if they wished to do so.

b) Members concerns.

Cllr D Watkins noted that the pavement at the upper part of Monmouth Rd had still not been done. This would be followed up.

Cllr Parry noted that the road sign at Penyclawdd still did not show the cross roads, but was shown as a T Junction.

The overgrowth behind Idlebrook was due to be resolved by a contractor for the County Council.

2267. General Correspondence.

The Clerk would follow up the cost of speed signs for the January meeting.

The Clerk would do a short report highlighting all the issues about the closure of the Raglan Public Toilets for the next meeting when a decision was required.

Various other items of correspondence were received.

2268. Members Reports.

Cllrs Mrs Vaughan and Mrs Williams had attended the One Voice Wales Conference. There was an interesting talk on Cittaslow, a sustainable towns initiative, and a sterile debate about composite motions.

Cllr Moorby had attended the CAB AGM. The Bureau was getting more clients every year and had dealt with debt issues amounting to more than £1M during the year. A new Chairman had been appointed, Tessa Murray.

Cllr Crump reported that the school accounts were in good shape with a modest reserve. Work to fence the school is progressing.

Following on from that, a new Chief Officer at County was looking into the issues about the Community Centre and the School. It was agreed to invite her to a future meeting of the Council to review progress.

Cllr Mrs Williams reported on the local meeting of One Voice Wales and the discussions that had opened with the County about the draft charter. A further meeting would take place shortly, but good progress was being made.

2269. Any Other Business.

a) Cllr Moorby had asked that the closure of Usk Sorting Office be discussed. There was concern that people now have to go to Pontypool to get items of mail that could not be delivered. There were also concerns as to whether this would mean a change of address from Usk to Pontypool on letters, leading to more confusion, and indeed whether a new postcode would be introduced. It was agreed to write to the MP and AM about this.

b) Cllr Mrs Vaughan asked whether the Clerk had an up to date training schedule for members. He agreed to look for one and to let her have it.

The meeting ended at 8:55pm