

## **RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22 September 2010 at 7:30pm in Raglan Junior School.**

Present: Cllr S Thomas (Chairman)

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

In attendance: The Clerk, Miss S Hughes, Mr D Brown, Mr C Fountain and Ms Cheryl Morgan (for the first item) and two others.

The Chairman invited Mr Fountain and Ms Morgan to talk to the Council about the Raglan Past and Present booklet.

5000 copies had been printed at about £1 each and 4000 had been distributed already. The remaining copies had been withdrawn for the moment because with the Ryder Cup coming up there may be a need there. The public have also been forthcoming with additional information, which has been put on the Raglan Village Domesday website.

The popularity of the booklet has been evident and as it has been available free, it has probably gone more quickly. Many people have offered to pay but some of the distribution outlets do not have ready facilities to collect the money.

For the future, it will be necessary to have a further print run, probably of about 2500 copies. There are minor errors in the text and this may either be corrected or an erratum sheet included. It is unlikely that there will be grants available for a further run, and it would have to be self-financing in future so a charge would be necessary. There was some debate about whether the level of charge should be just to recoup costs or whether it should be set to make a profit to pay for future print runs and amendments/additions.

It was suggested that the Council might be asked to make a loan to cover the costs of the print run, to be repaid when the booklets are sold. This would be discussed at the January Finance Meeting.

Mr Fountain and Ms Morgan did not think a new print run would be needed until after Christmas in any case.

The Chairman thanked them for attending the meeting.

After they had left it was agreed that before a decision is made there will be a need for additional information about the assets of the Twinning Association. The Clerk would circulate to members a possible format for a grant/ loan request form. The matter would be agendaed for the next meeting.

2251. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N Porter.

2252. Declarations of interest would be made as necessary during the meeting.

2253. The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28 July were received and adopted as a correct record.

2254. Matters arising.

It was noted that the Dog Walk had been cut but arrangements needed to be made to ensure that the new twice yearly cuts were done at the right time. Also, in the spring it would be necessary to spray nettles and brambles to stop their growth. Probation service would be asked to do some further work at the top end of the dog walk.

It was noted that potholes in Somerset Drive had been filled.

#### 2255. Planning Matters

a) Enforcement lists and Planning Agendas were received and noted.

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 the discussion or decision-making on these applications)

DC/2010/00682 Planning Permission for a plant room extension at Cefn Maen Farm, Usk Rd, Raglan. Agreed

DC/2010/00689 Listed Building consent for the above. Agreed.

DC/2010/00750 Agricultural Notification for steel portal frame storage building at The Homestead, Llangovan, Monmouth. Agreed.

DC/2010/00383 Outline Planning Permission for a three-bedroom dwelling house and garage at Moatenwell, Kingcoed, Usk. Amended Plan. Recommend Refusal on grounds that this is not a designated area for infill development and there are local precedents for refusal of such development.

DC/2010/00819 Conversion of existing stable block to annex. Agreed subject to it remaining apart of the existing Moatenwell property.

DC/2010/00811 Conversion of West Range Barn to provide additional living accommodation at Ty Carreg, Twyn y Sherriff Rd, Twyn y Sherriff, Raglan. Agreed.

c) To note that Mr Swindles has appealed against the refusal to allow a pole mounted display unit at Central Garage, Raglan.

#### 2256. Finance Matters.

a) The following payments were agreed:

Clerk's salary for two months £543.34

S Heath website management for 18 months to end August 2010 £180.00

b) Christmas lights.

The tender price from City Illuminations as preferred supplier following the tendering process carried out by Abergavenny Town Council was considered. The total cost would be some £4500 for this year, but in future years this would be less as there were year one set up costs. Members acknowledged the increase in costs but views were expressed that in recent years the lights had been below standard and the choices are either not to put up lights at all or to go for a good display. It was agreed to accept the quotation, to ask for white icicle lights, and to seek agreement from the relevant property owners to allow it to proceed.

c) It was agreed that Mr S Heath could access the Raglan website for his hire car business. Other correspondence would be referred to the January Finance Meeting.

#### 2257. Highway Matters.

a) Correspondence.

A response to last month's concerns was noted.

b) It was noted that Road Closures would be needed for the Remembrance Parades. The Clerk would follow this up.

Cllr Phillips had recently had cause to go around the village on a mobility scooter and this had proved to be an eye-opener with regard to hazards for scooters and wheelchairs in particular. He listed a number of sites in the village where there were potholes or up-

standing manholes as well as a number of blocked drains. It was agreed to ask for an Engineer to meet with some members to look at these issues.

Other members identified additional potholes and highway hazards. The Clerk would report them.

An enquiry concerning the hedge at Willsbrook would be followed up to see why action had not been taken.

A tree behind Prince Charles Rd needed pollarding and there are two trees in Caestory Crescent which need removal (one is dead).

It was reported that the trees by the police station would be cut back shortly.

Traffic calming was requested at Penyclawdd near the nursery school, or permission to erect signs warning of small children. It was suggested that if a meeting with an engineer can be arranged it should start at 9am at the Nursery School.

#### 2258. Correspondence.

A number of items of correspondence were considered as follows:

A letter inviting the Council to take over the Raglan Public toilets was received, together with information on the WAG grant and the apparent willingness of two public houses to join the scheme to make their toilets available to the public. The Clerk will get more information on how many can have the grant and for how long, and the item will be considered again at the next meeting.

The Local Government Wales Measure was noted. It was agreed to ask Mr N Ramsay to attend to explain it.

A letter and enclosures concerning the Police Reform was discussed. It was agreed that despite the fact that it was two days beyond the consultation deadline, the Clerk would write to express concern about the proposal for Police Commissioners.

Members noted with pleasure the excellent School Inspection Report for Raglan, and commended all involved for their efforts.

It was agreed to ask Jenny Lewis to attend a meeting to explain her role.

Members were not enthusiastic about supporting the Care and Repair Handyperson Scheme.

The Clerk would try to stimulate some action with the Llangovan W Jones Charity.

It was agreed that a set of Council minutes should be available for public inspection in the Post Office.

#### 2259. Members Reports

The work to get signatories for the Raglan Charity has now been done and it is intended to award the remaining funds and then to close down the Charity.

It was noted that there had been a lot of anti-social behaviour in the village during the summer and that the police were currently dealing with it. A report was expected in due course.

The Chairman announced that the Dog Waste Bins had arrived and the contractor would be asked to erect them at the agreed sites as soon as possible.

It was also noted that Raglan Local Ways had a meeting arranged for about 50 people on 13 October to explain what Local Ways was about.

**The meeting ended at 9:40pm**