

RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23 November 2011 at 7:30pm in Raglan School.

Present: Cllr Mrs H Williams (Chairman)

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

In attendance: The Clerk, Miss S Hughes and Mr D Brown

Ms Sue Pritchard was present for the first item.

The Chairman welcomed Ms Pritchard who had come to tell the Council about a proposed venture at her farm, Llanynant Farm, Kingcoed. She was looking at possible initiatives to make it more productive, including the installation of renewable energy in the form of solar panels in a field near the farmhouse, and the general heading of sustainability. She was hoping to run courses on food growing, woodland management and orchard restoration and to show how renewable energy could be employed. The solar panels would be developed as a Community Energy Scheme and she would welcome councillors to come to see what was happening. She circulated a business plan to members, and noted that a Planning Application would be submitted very soon. Her presentation was to enable members to understand what is proposed and to consider the planning application in the light of that knowledge.

Members were invited to make comments and to ask questions, and questions about some of the technical aspects were discussed.

The Chairman thanked Ms Pritchard for her presentation and she left the meeting at this point.

3093. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr D Watkins.

3094. Declarations of interest would be made as necessary during the meeting.

3095. The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26 October 2011 were received and adopted as a correct record.

3096. Matters arising.

Inconsistencies in the production of the Local Development Plan were noted as some already agreed developments like the cattle market were not included on the plans.

It was noted that the Community Plan Meeting had taken place last week to start the development process

The Clerk had not contacted Rev Guest, but would do so very soon. He would also invite Mr Paul Keeble to a meeting in January about Traffic Calming measures in the village.

The Allotments Committee would check on allotments condition and the Clerk would write to any that were not being kept in a satisfactory condition.

P & P Pest Control would be asked to contact Cllr Phillips about rats at the allotments.

3097. Planning Matters.

a) The Clerk would clarify the enforcement case at The Grange.

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 decisions or discussions)

DC/2011/00452 Conversion of barn to dwelling and existing outbuilding to garage and garden store at Old House, Llangovan, Monmouth. Agreed
Cllr Thomas declared an interest in this application and took no part in the decision.

DC/2011/00939 Install solar panels on A-frame in the field near the owners` property at Treworgan Manor Farm, Treworgan Common, Usk. Agreed

3098. Finance Matters.

a) The following payments were agreed:

Clerk`s salary	£163.27
Inland Revenue	£108.40
Merlin waste	£35.64
Royal British Legion	£25.00

b) Several requests for donations were referred to the January meeting.

c) The Annual Audit return had been received back from the auditors with no comments. It was agreed that the Chairman should sign it to signify the Council`s agreement and it will be returned to the external auditors again.

d) In relation to the Summer Play Scheme, it was not agreed to contribute the £500 requested by Mr Moran, but to make a contribution of £100, with no guarantees for next year as the transport of children to Monmouth was not included.

3099. Highway matters

a) There was no highway correspondence.

b) Members` concerns.

Cllr Moorby noted that the road to Llandenny Village Hall is in a poor state (41.5) opposite the Raglan Arms.

Cllr Phillips noted that Sunny Vale is in a poor state.

It was noted that the weeds in the field behind the school are still bad and the broken wood fence still needs repair.

The six foot deep hole in the Dairy Farm yard is still there and potentially dangerous.

The bollards at the lower end of Warrage Rd are missing so that there is no way in the dark of identifying the turn-off. They need reinstating or an alternative sign to reflect the turning to traffic.

3100. General Correspondence.

It was noted that the letter outlining the changes to street lighting said that a detailed plan of the proposals for the Raglan Community would be received before any changes are made.

A letter from One Voice Wales about Strong Roots and Training Venues was noted. The Strong Roots issue was one for the Community Plan.

It was agreed that Cllrs Mrs Williams and Phillips would be nominated as Training Champions to One Voice Wales.

Cllr Crump would look at the garages issue in relation to Environmental Estate Improvements.

3101. Issues concerning the Web-site would be deferred until the next meeting.

3102. Members Reports

Cllrs Phillips and Mrs Williams had attended the One Voice Wales meeting where a presentation on Sustain Wales had been received.

Cllr Crump noted that significant sums of money from Access 3 and 4 via Miss S Hughes could be obtained, but forms needed to be sent in soon.

Cllr Phillips noted that we would probably get a grant from Monmouthshire CC for chairs and tables for the Community Room.

Cllr Mrs Williams noted that the kitchen needed tidying up

Cllr Moorby noted that Llandenny Village Hall had money for new curtains.

Also, that the redundant phone box in Llandenny now had a defibrillator in it.

3103. Any Other Business.

It was agreed that the Christmas meeting would be on 21 December and the Finance Meeting would be on 10 January 2012. The Clerk would attempt to get Paul Keeble to that meeting to talk about traffic calming in the village.

The meeting ended at 8:50pm