

RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25 April 2012 at 7:30pm in Raglan School.

Present: Cllr Mrs H Williams (Chairman)

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

In attendance: The Clerk, The Clerk- elect Mr A Edwards, and Mrs M Watkins

3153. There were no apologies.

3154. Declarations of interest would be made as necessary during the meeting.

3155. The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28 March 2012 were received and adopted as a correct record, subject to inclusion of £82.68 in minute 3145a) against MrFlag.com.

3156. Matters arising.

It was noted that the holes in Brooks Farm yard had been filled.

The Barton Bridge sign had been done.

The Community Meeting had gone well and a lot of material had been produced which now needed to be analysed.

3157. Planning Matters

a) The County Planning agenda was received.

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 this item

DC/2012/00267 Conversion of existing garage to provide a lounge at Grenadenes, Usk Rd, Raglan Recommend approval.

DC/2012/00128 Alterations and extensions to Merrystream Bungalow, Rhiwlas, Raglan Recommend approval (Cllr Vaughan declared an interest in this application) Recommend approval.

DC/2012/00239 Agricultural Grain store at Pen y Parc Farm, Raglan Recommend Approval (Cllr Williams declared an interest in this item)

DC/2012/00228 Conservatory at Cherry Tree Cottage, Castle Rd, Raglan This was recommended for approval although it was noted that the development is very close to the boundary and there was some concern about overlooking.

3158. Finance matters

a) It was agreed to pay the following accounts:

Clerk's salary and expenses	£287.02
Inland Revenue	£108.40
Merlin Waste	£35.64
Monmouth CAB	£200.00
Raglan in Bloom	£1000.00
Llandenny PCC	£100.00
Penyclawdd PCC	£100.00
Llangovan PCC	£100.00
Raglan PCC	£100.00

Kingcoec Baptist	£100.00
Raglan Guides	£150.00
Raglan Music Festival	£1000.00 + £1000.00 underwriting any loss
Noah`s Ark Appeal	£100.00
St David`s Foundation	£100.00
St Anne`s Hospice	£100.00
Bobath Cymru	£50.00
I-Deal Design	£15.00
British Heart Foundation	£100.00
Raglan Twinning Assn	£250.00
Homemakers Community Recycling	£100.00
Insurance renewal (Tax overlooked)	£28.57

It was also agreed to retrospectively authorise cheques paid in September 2011 which were missed at the time as follows:

One Voice Wales	£50.00
Merlin Waste	£35.64
Scorpio Signs	£402.00

And to correct a Minute from October 2011 when £784.81 should have been £794.81.

b) Accounts matters

It was noted that the Clerk had completed the Accounts for 2011/12 and the letter from External Audit had been received. It was agreed that the Clerk seek another Internal Auditor for this year as the previous Auditor as no longer able to do the work. It was agreed to appoint Mr C James.

3159. Highway Matters

a) Correspondence.

Two responses from County Highways were noted.

b) Members concerns.

The lane below Merrystream Bungalow at Rhiwlas floods

Water collects by the Bus Stop at West Lea

These would be reported.

3160. General Correspondence.

Several items of correspondence were received and noted.

Co-option of new Councillors to fill the four vacancies was discussed. It was agreed to advertise the vacancies in time to get candidates for the next meeting, to minimise the time when the Council is without some members. The key thing is that the process used is fair. Advertising and then Council voting on the list of candidates is a fair and transparent method. This would be progressed.

3161. Jubilee Celebrations.

Cllr Mrs Price outlined progress on the proposed party at Prince Charles Rd area for the Jubilee. Things were coming together well. Posters are being prepared and many people are interested in the development.

Cllr Moorby noted that Llandenny`s plans for a hog roast are also progressing well. It was agreed that the bunting that had been purchased needed to be available for both events as well as the street if possible.

It was also agreed to purchase medals for the school to be given out for the Jubilee.

3162. Website progress. It was noted that no progress had been made and it would now be deferred until after the Elections.

3163. Members` reports.

Cllr Moorby noted that the CAB are back in their newly painted offices.

Cllr Phillips reported on the Rural Forum which had mainly focussed on the Olympic Torch arrangements. There was some concern about the length of time that the street would be closed for this event as it would affect businesses. The Clerk would ask to see the road closure notices. Evidently the toilets in the Police Station would be available for public use during the event.

Cllr Mrs Williams will speak to Debbie McCarty about this event.

Cllr Phillips reported on the One Voice Wales meeting; there had only been about 5 or 6 people there. The information requested by the Remuneration Committee was discussed (The Clerk had answered the factual questionnaire on behalf of the Council) It seems as if there are divided opinions about whether Councillors should be paid. A sum of £200 per annum had been discussed, but some Councils would be unable to find that sum and were not in favour.

3164. Any other business.

a) Cllr Mrs Vaughan noted an up-coming Quiz in aid of Breast Cancer. She also noted that Raglan Local Ways Group was diminishing because of delays in getting the County Council to formalise the footpaths. It was uncertain why this was being delayed but Cllr Crump undertook to look into it.

b) It was agreed to invite Ch Inspector Joanne Bull to attend the June meeting if possible to explain how the closure of Police Stations was being organised.

c) The Chairman thanked Cllrs Steve Thomas and Amanda Vaughan for their service as Councillors as they were now standing down from the Council due to other pressures. She then presented Cllrs Dilwyn Watkins and Bob Watkins with Certificates to mark their long service on the Council. Cllr Dilwyn Watkins had served for 33 years and Cllr Bob Watkins for more than 14 years. Both Councillors were appreciative of the gift.

The meeting ended at 8:45pm