

Raglan Community Council
Minutes from a meeting with
Mr Nick Ramsey Welsh Assembly Member for Monmouthshire on the
12 April 2018
At 11.30 Hrs at Beaufort Hotel, Raglan

Present

Cllr Dave Bevan
Cllr Chris Butler-Donnelly
Cllr Charlotte Exton
Cllr Penny Jones

Cllr Richard Moorby
Cllr Helen Tilley
Cllr Brian Willott (Chairman)
Cllr Andrew Watkins

4432 In attendance: Adrian Edwards Clerk
Mr Nick Ramsey member of the Welsh Assembly
1 members of the public

The chairman welcomed all the members and Mr Ramsey to the meeting.

4433 **Agenda 1:-** Apologies for absence.

Cllr Marty Dorey family commitment.

4434 **Agenda 2:-** Declarations of interest.

No Declarations were made.

4435 **Agenda 3:-** Meeting with Assembly Member, to consider the continuing road safety matters on the A40 and the crossing at Monmouth Junction Road.

The chairman invited Mr Ramsey to highlight or inform the members of any new developments relating to the A40 in Raglan. It was explained that the traffic speed on this section of road is very deceiving, and the speed of the traffic travelling west from the A449/A40 Monmouth to Newport has been a concern for a number of years. Mr Ramsey explained that the best option would be to construct a roundabout on the Monmouth Road junction. It was explained every application to improve this junction has been turned down by WG and or their agents.

It was explained that one of the application has been to construct a roundabout on the Old Monmouth Road junction. It has been turned down due to the close proximity to the A449 junction.

It was explained that some individuals have expressed observations to close the central reservation so all traffic would need to travel west to the roundabout at the village access, and travel back towards the A449 if traffic needed to use the Old Monmouth Road or use the A40/A449 east bound. It was explained that would cause more traffic management issues in the centre of Raglan Village. It was explained by one member that there is sufficient room to construct a roundabout at the junction.

It was explained that the agents for one of the proposed developments in Raglan were asked about the cost of construction a roundabout in this location. It was thought the cost would be around £1m. There was some discussion about the cost etc.

One member asked what has changed since the meeting which took place when some Raglan Community Council members and some members of the public met with the AM and MP.

One member explained that he has correspondence about the construction of a roundabout and due to the records showing no evidence about a blackspot, WG wouldn't consider it. It was explained that the community council have offered to obtain the certain/warning signs to be erected with no cost to WG nor Monmouthshire Highways Authority. Concern was expressed that no action has taken place since the meeting with the AM and MP so why is there a sudden interest in the junction now.

It was explained that everyone should be concentrating on the pedestrian crossing from the village to Raglan Castle. It was felt that there is more chance of someone getting injured at this location than anywhere else due to the speed of traffic and the lack of Armco barriers on the centre reservation.

It was explained that better traffic control at this point would be more effective and a lot less expensive, by installing appropriate size traffic signs and road markings on the road. It was explained that it is only time before a fatal accident is going to take place. It was explained that Raglan Community Council has agreed in principle to obtain the relevant signs and Monmouthshire County Council could install them as agents to WG and South Wales Trunk Road Agency (SWTRA). It was explained that officers from SWTRA have been invited to meet with members from Raglan Community Council. SWTRA have turned down every invitation by saying that SWTRA will be undertaking road traffic assessments on this section of the road network, but it appears that no assessments have taken place.

It was explained that the community council have written to SWTRA about the concerns and the reply has always come back saying "all administration of this agreement all correspondence received from elected officials will be forwarded to be addressed directly by WG".

Mr Ramsey will contact SWTRA to enquire if the community council can obtain the relevant signs and Monmouthshire Highways will install them.

There was some discussion over access to Raglan Castle, regarding the type of overbridge which could be installed. A question was asked about CADW and would they have any objections to an overbridge being erected. Mr Ramsey will contact CADW and ask if they would support any proposal to construct an overbridge.

There was some discussion over the speed limit along the A40. It was proposed that emphasis should be on the pedestrian crossing at the first stage. It was explained that the community council have received a reply from WG stating that

" there is currently no work programmed for the A40 at raglan Junction for this Financial year. However, this scheme is a high priority according to our annual prioritisation process and will be programmed when finances become available".

The clerk explained that Raglan Community Council would purchase the road traffic signs to comply with any regulation and highway standards. It was also explained that Monmouthshire County Council agreed in principle to erect the signs under the relevant traffic orders that will be put in place at that time. It was also explained that other improvements could be made to the highway by reducing the carriageway from two lanes to one; this could be achieved by installing road hatching and markings along with any signage, which

would slow the traffic down towards the existing pedestrian crossing. A question was asked would it be the Highway Authority or WG that would have the traffic orders amended. It was thought it would be a WG amendment as the road is part of the trunk road system.

Mr Ramsey asked if there were any other concerns. It was explained that there are some concerns over the access parts on the highway and the surface in need of improvement on the grounds of safety.

One member explained that the slip roads of the A40 and the A449 have become very dangerous where the road surface has become smooth and cars have no grip.

In conclusion:

- Clerk to write to Mr Ramsey regarding the erection of an overbridge at the pedestrian crossing.
- Clerk to inform Mr Ramsey of the cost and the installation of the signs.
- To look at the improvements at the roundabout and the entrance points into the village, Usk Road, and the Abergavenny Road.
- Mr Ramsey to contact CADW regarding overbridge
- Clerk to copy letters and WG correspondence to Mr Ramsey

4436 Agenda 4:- The way forward and any action to be taken

Included in above item

4437 The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The meeting closed at 12.05 hrs.

The date of the next meeting 25 April 2018

Signed by _____
Chairman
Date 25 April 2018