

Raglan Community Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 26 February 2025.
This meeting was convened at the Fellowship Centre on Usk Road.
at 7:00 pm

Present

5673	Cllr Richard Moorby Cllr Penny Jones Cllr Susan Harrington	Cllr Nick Ramsay (Chair) Cllr Lynne Eilertsen Cllr Hazel Leacock Cllr Martine Dorey
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5674 In attendance:

Adrian Edwards, Clerk to the Council.

5675 Agenda item 1:- Apologies for absence

Cllr Martine Dorey

5676 Agenda item 2:- Declarations of interest.

No declarations of interest were submitted, but members will make a declaration when and identified under the relevant minute.

5677 Agenda item 3:- 15 minutes set aside for Community interaction and members of the community to ask the Chairman or the Council questions of local interest. Any questions should be relevant to the agenda and submitted to the clerk 3 working days before the meeting.

No members of the public in attendance

5678 Agenda item 4:- To receive and adopt the minutes from the Ordinary meeting, held on 22 January 2025

Proposed: by Cllr N Ramsay seconded by Cllr S Harrington that the minutes are accepted.

All those present agreed

5679 Agenda item 5:- Matters to report.

There were no matters to report from the last meeting.

5680 Agenda item 6:- To receive the notes from the meeting, with Welsh Govt; held on 6th February 2025

Proposed: by Cllr N Ramsay seconded by Cllr P Jones that the notes are noted.

All those present agreed

Please note: these minutes are a summary of the above meeting, and a record of the decisions or resolutions moved. These minutes are not to be taken as a verbatim record of the meeting.

5681 Agenda item 7:- Matters to report, and actions.

The Chair and Cllr Eilertsen gave some feedback following the meeting. A discussion took place with a range of views being expressed by those members in attendance.

After some discussion it was proposed that the Community Council convenes a meeting with the MP Catherine Fookes.

All those present agreed

5682 Agenda item 8:- To receive and adopt the notes public meeting, held on 21 February 2025

The Chair gave some feedback following the meeting. Those elected members that attended explained due to the number of residents that attended the meeting showed the feeling relating to this Planning Application.

Proposed: by Cllr N Ramsay seconded by Cllr P Jones that the notes are accepted.

All those present agreed

5683 Agenda item 9:- Matters to report, and actions

Several elected members made comment relating to the meeting and the feeling during the meeting. One elected member thanked the Clerk for the presentation he presented and his knowledge of the planning system, and the way he explained the process. Following some discussion along with a range of views expressed by those members that attended, the Community Council should submit objections in due course.

All those present agreed

5684 Agenda item 10:- Clerks reports verbal or written.

Report to: - Raglan Community Council

Subject: - Street Cleansing

Report: - by the Clerk

Date: - February 2025

This report is to provide elected members with an update to the report that was presented in January, relating to street cleansing in the village and surrounding communities.

Since the January meeting, a meeting has been convened just to put in place a draft Service Level Agreements (SLA) with Monmouthshire County Council's Grounds and Cleansing Dept. The SLA will be for street cleansing in Raglan and surrounding communities. This would be undertaken by a team of two operatives with transport provided. The SLA will be for street cleansing, for example, cleaning road

side silt, removing weeds and moss that grows on the footways. It will also include cutting grass on land the Community Council is responsible for. The process doesn't include servicing road gullies; this service will remain with Monmouthshire County Council Highways.

The Community Council would need to provide a schedule of works. This could be issued on a weekly or monthly basis. During the meeting it was explained that there would be one point of contact, that point of contact would be the Clerk. Elected members will recall from the budget meeting in January, the Community Council set a budget heading of £24k.

During the meeting it was explained that the SLA could be agreed in partnership with Usk Town Council, as Usk Town Council is looking for an SLA for a three day a week service.

If elected members consider entering into an SLA for one day a week, the Grounds and Cleansing Dept will need to try to see if another local Community Council would like to consider the fifth day, if elected member wish to start with one day a week.

Report to: - Raglan Community Council
Subject: - Correspondence relating to Play Park at Prince Charles Road
Report: - by the Clerk
Date: - February 2025

This is in response to the concerns made by two residents at the January meeting. As Clerk, I made enquiries with the Senior Operations Officer for Grounds and Cleansing at Monmouthshire County Council,. He explained the area is inspected on a monthly basis. He appreciated the play area is very aged now but all the equipment is safe. He explained he will get an operative to call around and re-adjust the gates. He explained budgets in Operations have been slashed and in essence, and he now has to rely on S106 monies from developments for refurbishment of play areas. As you will be aware there is a new development in Raglan and the dept are pushing Planning for offsite contributions for the improvement of the current play area.

In conclusion:

- Is there any further action elected members would like the Clerk to take?
- Would elected members consider setting aside some funding from the Community Council budget?
- Any other action relating to funding.

Report to: - Raglan Community Council
Subject: - Cross street Christmas Lighting Report: -
by the Clerk Date: - February 2025

his report is following the issues relating to the Christmas Decorations. Following the discussion in the last meeting, the Clerk met with Officers from Monmouthshire County Council Streetlighting on the 31 January, where the installation of a supply of power to install the cross streetlighting was discussed. It was explained that there could be some issues relating to the power supply from a new lighting column that will need to be installed, to power the connection on the former Post Office building. The officers had concerns due to the height the cable would need to be above the access to Orchard Close. It was noted after inspecting the other lighting columns, a supply may be available from the wooden post adjacent to the bus shelter. Making a connection from this location, may need a further building bracket on the pharmacy building. The following is to provide elected members with information going forward. Monmouthshire County Council will be looking to withdraw the provision of festoons that are connected to the existing lighting columns during the festive season. It would appear Monmouthshire County Council will be undertaking a safety audit of all base columns and the safety of hanging festoons. In conclusion:

- The installation cost could be prohibitive to install a signal column to provide the power.
- An agreement to install a bracket on a building to hang the cross-street lights will be required.
- Consider alternative means of supplying Christmas Decorations.

Report to: - Raglan Community Council
Subject: - Defibrillators in the Community
Report: - by the Clerk
Date: - 26 February 2025

Following the last meeting in January 2025, Cllr Leacock was contacted by a resident of [Rhiwlas](#), informing her that the defibrillator at [Rhiwlas](#), NP15 2JL, had been used. (No date was provided when the unit was used).

I have contacted the NHS since the last meeting (22 Jan) about the use of the unit. There have been a number of email exchanges and it was explained that there is a likelihood of devices being left in a state where they cannot be used. The NHS are actively promoting that all units are registered on the National Database that the Welsh Ambulance Trust manages. I can confirm this unit is recorded with the NHS. I was informed, it is usual if a unit is used, the NHS is automatically notified.

I was also informed that each unit has a 'Guardian' of the defibrillator. The NHS are unable to confirm who the Guardian is due to GDPR.

As Clerk to the Community Council, I was told the NHS are supporting the Guardian to get this device back on the circuit, when Raglan Community Council purchased the unit and paid for it to be installed.

There is an agreement in place Raglan Community Council and the property owner where the unit is situated.

At the time of writing this report, the device is not back on the circuit

Report to: - Raglan Community Council
Subject: - Raglan Village Hall Association (RVHA)
Report: - by the Clerk
Date: - February 2025

This report is following the report at the January meeting.

Since the last meeting I have been able to open a Business Reserve Account, to enable the Raglan Village Hall Association (RVHA) to transfer the funding that's in the RVHA account, back to the Community Council as Custodian Trustees.

To enable the funds to be transferred a meeting should be convened with all of the trustees of the Management Committee. This meeting will be a formal meeting to agree transfer of the funds unlike what happened when the previous funds were transferred to RVHA in 2014. This meeting will then be formally recorded.

In conclusion:

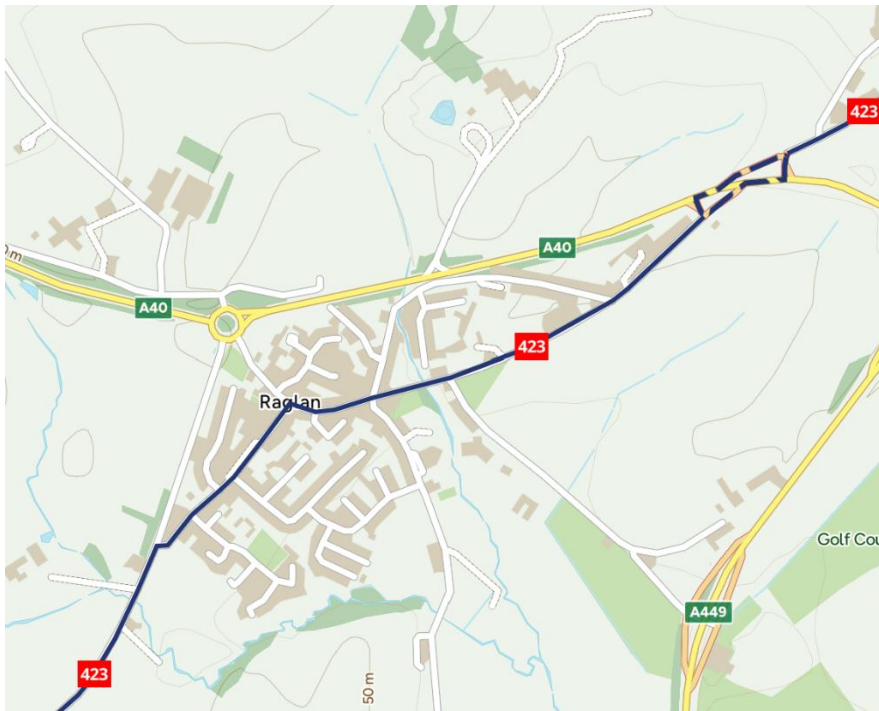
- I. The meeting is convened with all the current Management Committee trustees.
- II. Agree to transfer the total amount into the Councils Bank account.
- III. Agree a formal agreement to be signed by all Management Committee trustees and the Chair of the Council.

As the RFO and section 151 Officer, its for the elected members to provide any further direction as to what they would like the RFO / Sec 151 Officer to do to manage the process.

Report to: - Raglan Community Council
Subject: - Sustrans Quiet-lanes pilot study
Report: - by the Clerk
Date: - February 2025

This a report following receipt of an email relating to a consultation by Sustrans 'Quiet-lanes pilot study'. Elected members are aware that Raglan and the surrounding areas have a number of cycle routes in and around the community. It's a little concerning to find that cycle route 423 is one of the routes that Sustrans would like to use as a pilot study for their Quiet-lanes pilot.

After receiving and considering the safety study that Welsh Government undertook in June 2024, it was reported that there was;



One cycling movement travelling northbound along NCN423 from Monmouth Road to Groesenon Road.

One cycling movement travelling along the A40 eastbound carriageway turning into Groesenon Road.

One cycling movement travelling southbound between Groesenon Road and Monmouth Road.

One pedestrian movement between travelling northbound between Monmouth Road and Groesenon Road.

Two pedestrian movements travelling southbound egressing Groesenon Road, with, one movement continuing onto Monmouth Road.

The above data was collected over a four-day period from the 30th to 31st March 2023 and 1st to 2nd June 2023.

It has been reported in the safety study that the existing pedestrian crossing points are not inclusive and could not be used by those with mobility difficulties.

It has been reported again that it's **not suitable for use by cyclists**. Furthermore, the speed of the road results raises potential highway safety concerns for pedestrians crossing the carriageway.

Again, it's been recorded in the safety study, that pedestrians and cyclists use Raglan Interchange as a crossing facility, despite the lack of available infrastructure. This is considered to have **safety implications**.

In conclusion:

Elected members have a number of points that can be considered;

1. Object to cycle route 423 being part of the Quiet-lanes pilot study on road safety grounds.
2. Lobby Welsh Government to install safe crossing points on the A40.

Please note: these minutes are a summary of the above meeting, and a record of the decisions or resolutions moved. These minutes are not to be taken as a verbatim record of the meeting.

3. Install safe crossing points at the interchange.
4. Do nothing and leave people to cross at their own devices.

It's for the elected members to provide any further direction as to what they would like the Clerk to do to manage any consultation.

5685 Agenda item 11:- Consider any Planning Applications received before the meeting.

The Ferns Llanvecha Road Llandenny Monmouthshire:

The Clerk gave a verbal report and explained that this application as received several comments on the Planning Platform. Following this a discussion took place with a range of views being expressed by members.

After some debate it was, proposed to object to this application.

Fair View Cottage Usk Road Raglan:

The Clerk gave a verbal report and explained that this application. A discussion took place with a range of views being expressed by members.

After some debate it was, proposed to not to object to this application subject to conditions

Plots 5-13 And 27-30 Chepstow Road Raglan:

The Clerk gave a verbal report and explained that this application. A robust discussion took place with a range of views being expressed, and it was discussed that any affordable dwellings should remain if this application is proposing to amend. A further discussion took place that the Clerk should contact the Planning Dept to confirm why the application was submitted.

After some debate it was, proposed that a holding objection should be submitted until further information is provided.

The Stable Yard Off Wainfield Road Gwehelog Usk:

The Clerk gave a verbal report and explained that this application. The Clerk explained that those that attended the Public Meeting, there is a lot of concern and objection to this application. A discussion took place with a range of views being expressed. During the discussion that the Clerk should contact the Planning Dept to confirm a number of issues that need further information.

After some debate it was, proposed that a holding objection should be submitted until further information is provided.

Former Raglan Arms Llandenny Road Llandenny:

The Clerk gave a verbal report and explained that this application. The Clerk explained that there is a number of concerns within the application several being information presented in reports related to other Planning Applications in different Planning Authorities. A discussion took place with a range of views being expressed. One elected member believed if there is incorrect information within the application, can all the information be expected to be correct. During the discussion that the Clerk should contact the Planning Dept to confirm a number of issues that need further information.

After some debate it was, proposed that a holding objection should be submitted until further information is provided.

5686 Agenda item 12:- Consider the receipt of invoices and payments made.

The Clerk provided a list of payments he had received on behalf of the Council.

Date	Payment to	Amount	Cheque
26/2/25	Merlin Waste	241.92	2545
26/2/25	Karl Davies	402.00	2546
26/2/25	Clerks Salary		2547
26/2/25	HMRC		2548
	Replacement cheque for cheque No 2535 Clerks' payment for hours worked Q&A contract relating to the council's response to the RLDP		Payment included in 2548
	Replacement cheque for cheque No 2536 Payment to Clerk for hours worked relating a submission relating to a Planning Application.		Payment included in 2548
26/2/25	Replacement for travelling by the Clerk to meeting and duties on behalf of the CC 5 Feb meeting with WG 10 th Posting Notices for public meeting 12 th Meeting with Monmouthshire County Council, 21 st Feb Public Meeting 25 meeting with the Chair	68.46	2549

It was proposed: by Cllr Ramsay, seconded by Cllr Dorey to note and make payment.

All those present agreed.

The Clerk explained that he had received a number of grant application on behalf of the Community council. He explained that these applications will be considered in the next financial year.

The Clerk also explained that he had received an invoice for works undertaken on the allotment site. He explained that he hadn't issued a works order. The works had been undertaken by the contractor that undertaken the works previously. The Clerk explained he would recommend that no further payment should be made without a works order being issued, without a works order they is no scrutiny and it could put the council in an issue with its governance.

All those present noted and agreed.

5687 Agenda item 13:- Consider any correspondence received and forwarded prior to the meeting.

The correspondence that was presented to all members prior to the meeting was noted and no further action required

5688 Agenda item 14:- To consider date to convene a meeting with Trustees of RVHA Management Committee.

The Clerk gave a verbal report relating to mothballed RVHA Management Committee. The Clerk recommended that a meeting should be convened with the current Trustees of RVHA Management Committee relating to the scrutiny and Governance of the funds as the Raglan Community Council are the Custodian Trustee.

After some discussion it was agreed the Clerk convene a meeting.

All those present noted and agreed

5689 Agenda item 15:- Reports from the County Councillor

Cllr Jones, gave a verbal report on a number of issues in the community.

Cllr Jones gave a report on Raglan in Bloom, and Cllr Jones will address any concerns at the next meeting.

Cllr Jones explained that she had been in contact with officers from Monmouthshire County Council Highways regarding the plough being sited in Raglan. A discussion took place with a range of views being expressed by members. After some debate it was:

Resolved: Cllr Jones will contact the relevant officers and report back to the next meeting.

5690 Agenda item 16:- Reports from members on outside bodies

Cllr Harrington gave a verbal relating to awards pupils received. A verbal report relating to the ongoing matter about the Old School.

All those present noted and agreed

5691 Agenda item 17:- Items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting.

No items were requested for inclusion

5692 Agenda item 18:- To confirm the date of the next meeting 26 March 2025

The meeting closed at 20:45