

RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22 April 2009 at Raglan Junior School at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr R Moorby, Chairman

Cllrs Mrs M Chilcott, Mrs H Williams, S Thomas, Mrs S Price, R Parry, A Crump, R Watkins, N Porter and T Phillips

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

The Chairman invited Miss Shirley Hughes to say a few words about the Cold Calling Initiative. She reported that the requisite number of signatures needed to make an area free of cold callers had been achieved and that the initiative would now proceed.

Miss Hughes also reported that Rural Community Action had been saved at the eleventh hour, and a new scheme with similar objectives but a new title had been funded by the WAG. Members welcomed both of these reports.

2083. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr D Watkins

2084. Declarations of interest would be made where appropriate.

2085. The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25 March 2009 were received and adopted as a correct record.

2086. Matters arising.

The Clerk will chase the County about the gate needed in the fence at Sunnyvale.

The Clerk had sent out a Press Release on Dog Fouling as requested but it had not been printed as far as he knew. It was agreed that he would send it again. He would also e-mail it to Cllr Mrs Williams who was involved with the school initiative on the subject.

Cllr Moorby reported that he had erected the notice board at Llandenny Walks. It was agreed that the other one would replace the notice board in Crown Square.

2087. Planning Matters

a) Agendas and Enforcement Lists were noted.

b) There were no Planning Applications to consider.

2088. Finance Matters.

a) It was agreed to make the following payments:

Clerk's salary £268.92

Photocopy charges £92.27 (£59.53 to come from Abergavenny TC)

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

Kingcoed Baptist £100.00

Raglan Scouts £150.00
MacMillan Cancer Care £50.00
Noah`s Ark Appeal £50.00
St David`s Foundation £50.00
British Red Cross £100.00
St Anne`s Hospice £50.00
Wales Air Ambulance £100.00
Childline £50.00
Raglan Football Club £1000.00
Millennium Chimes £200.00
Zurich Municipal Insurance £473.76

b) The notice of Audit for 2008/9 was received. The Clerk reported that the accounts were awaiting one figure so that he could complete them and pass them to the Internal Auditor for scrutiny.

A new Bank Signature Mandate was circulated for completion. The Council agreed that Cllrs Mrs M Chilcott, Mrs H Williams, S Thomas and Mrs S Price should be added to the signatory list.

Other correspondence was noted.

2089. Highway Matters

a) Road restrictions at Lydart Bends were noted as continuing beyond the original period.

b) Members concerns

There were still major concerns about the state of the roads at Penyclawdd/ Llangovan. It was noted that the mobile speed check device has been installed on Chepstow Rd, and that the police intend to carry out random speed checks as well.

2090. General Correspondence.

A number of items of correspondence were considered and received.

2091. Common Land Update.

The Clerk had asked a surveyor and valuer to provide an estimate of the value of the three commons prior to writing back to Mr Stephens. The report was awaited.

2092. Dog Fouling.

The Clerk would alert the Enforcement Officer to the need to check areas of Raglan early in the day when some dog owners were believed to allow their dogs to foul the streets.

He also reported on the costs of Dog Waste Bins and the emptying of them, for members information.

2093. Members Reports

a) Cllrs Thomas and Mrs Williams reported on the meeting held on the previous evening about the new school. A feasibility exercise will be done in 2010/11 and the school will be built in 2011/13 all being well. The arrangements do not rely on capital receipts for progress. It is proposed to build on the existing site, and the implications of that are that the village may be without a hall for up to ten months and the school may be without kitchens

for a while.. The problem of car parking has not been resolved, and community facilities are still not adequate. There may be some room for compromise but the site needs to be bigger to achieve a reasonable compromise. Members considered that the proposals do not take into account the interest in the school represented by the village hall investment in the present school, and it was agreed that a letter should be written to the County Council, copy to the Charity Commission expressing our concerns.

The Clerk would also seek to establish the position of sewage capacity in Raglan. If the implication is that more houses will be built in Raglan then the proposal for a 210 place school does not seem to make sense. Other issues include that the community room is smaller than at Rogiet because other facilities are included in it, and phase 2 could be built before phase1. It was noted that the land with the infants school is owned by the church.

b) Cllr Phillips reported on the Rural Forum meeting. A report on school transport had been considered in which it was proposed to change the way of calculating eligibility for transport to "as the crow flies". This would tend to move some children out of the free transport area. It was agreed to seek clarification on this, and to point out that walking to school on narrow country roads was inherently unsafe, and that country roads hardly ever took the direct route.

2094. Any Other Business.

Cllr Phillips identified a problem with the paving by the war memorial. It was agreed that he should have authority to proceed to get the repairs done at a price not to exceed £350. It was also agreed that he could order a new seat for the Playing Field and get several seats painted.

The meeting ended at 8:37pm