

RAGLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24 June 2009 at 7:30pm in Raglan Junior School.

Present: Cllr T Phillips (Chairman)

Cllrs R Moorby, N Porter, R Parry, A Crump, Mrs H Williams, D Watkins and S Thomas

In attendance: The Clerk and three members of the public.

2107. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs S Price and R Watkins

2108. Declarations of interest.

Cllr Crump said that he had been appointed to the County Planning Committee, and as such he would henceforth take no part in discussions or decisions on planning matters put before this Council, although he would listen to members views and only withdraw from the meeting if a personal interest arose.

2109. The minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 May 2009 were received and adopted as a correct record subject to an amendment to minute 2105 in the last sentence where the words "future developments" should replace "work".

2110. Matters Arising

Re minute 2099, the Clerk had obtained some prices for a gate and fittings for Sunny Vale. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Chairman would get a price for fixing the gate, that a self-closing mechanism should be attached, and alternative prices for the gate should also be checked before proceeding.

Re minute 2104, a report on the progress of the Model Charter would be given later.

Re minute 2105, the Clerk had just written to County Smallholdings but had not yet had a reply.

Re minute 2105, the Clerk had sought information on the responsible authority to deal with dog fouling, and it was the County Council. There is no obligation on this council to take action, although it can make representations to the County Council to do so.

The Chairman noted that Raglan Local Ways had been runner up for the award at GAVO.

2111. Planning Matters.

a) Enforcement lists were noted and received, with no Raglan entries this month.

b) The following Planning Applications were considered:

DC/2009/00368 Conversion of redundant agricultural building to two holiday lets at High-Clawdd Farm, Penyclawdd, Monmouth. This was recommended for refusal as the building was not a traditional agricultural building and was not considered suitable for conversion. (It was a fifteen year old chicken house)

DC/2009/00475 Triple garage/machine store and work unit at Old Trecastle Barn, Penyclawdd, Monmouth. No objections provided that it does not affect the ancient monument.

c) An appeal notice on West Barn, Fedw Farm was noted.

2112 Finance Matters

a) The following accounts were agreed for payment:

Second Life Products (bench) £355.35

Monmouthshire Beacon Advert	£47.84
Clerk`s salary and expenses	£333.68
G H P Jones (Internal Audit)	£100.00
Chairman`s allowance	£250.00
K Clarkson (painting benches)	£50.00

b) Final accounts for 2008/9

The Chairman and the Clerk duly signed the accounts following the completion of the Internal Audit examination as being an accurate statement of the Council`s finances for that year. The Clerk would advertise the accounts for public inspection.

c) A consultation document on the changes proposed to the Accounts and Audit Regulations (Wales) was considered. It was noted that the deadline for completing the accounts was proposed to be brought forward to June instead of September, and members resolved to ask why this was considered necessary as they were content with the September deadline. Several letters of thanks for donations were noted, and the Clerk recorded the receipt of money claimed for return of VAT for the last two years of £1202.23.

The relevant members signed the bank mandate for the new arrangement. These were Cllrs Crump, D Watkins, T Phillips and R Moorby, in addition to the Clerk.

2113. Highway Matters

a) Correspondence

A letter concerning Berllanderi road safety was received. As the Council had responded last month, this letter would be acknowledged with that comment.

A temporary road closure notice at Kingcoed was received and noted. It was agreed to emphasise the importance of good reinstatement after the completion of the work.

b) Members concerns.

It was noted that a number of issues had been raised at the recent Rural Forum Meeting and some assurance had been given that work would be programmed as a result.

2114. General correspondence.

A number of items of correspondence were considered.

It was noted that the opportunity to speak at Planning Committees had been modified and notice of the wish to speak was now needed.

A further Police Report for the past month was received, and some discussion ensued.

The Local Development Plan pre-deposit consultation period was noted.

Correspondence on the availability of minutes of Council Meetings to the public was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would try to ensure that minutes, once approved, would be on the website promptly, and he would produce a Press Release after each meeting and send it to the local papers.

2115. Members Reports.

The recent meeting of One Voice Wales in Raglan Old School to discuss the Model Charter had been very disappointing, as the venue had poor acoustics and the meeting did not stick to the point, and rambled on for three hours without a huge impact on the subject. A revised Model Charter is due to be produced as a result.

The recent public consultation session in Raglan on the LDP was noted. All candidate sites remain in the reckoning at present but it would be some time before the County get to consider Raglan, as it is some way down the list of priorities.

Cllr D Watkins voiced concern about the new school development and the continuing problem with communicating with the County Council, who seemed set on selling the adjacent land to fund other schemes. This Council will continue to voice its concerns at every opportunity, as will the local County member.

The Chairman noted that the Wales in Bloom judging would take place on 7 July, and he had asked for the cleaning team to sweep the village before then.

Cllr Moorby also noted the Llandenny Open Gardens weekend on 11/12 July in aid of charity.

The meeting ended at 8:45pm