

# NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on  
Thursday, 10 January 2013  
At 7.30 pm in the Community Centre, New Radnor

1. **PRESENT:** Cllrs T Brown (Chair), J Hodge, E Blackman, N Dodman, N Window. In attendance: P Everett Clerk and 6 members of the public.
2. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr M Haines, C.Cllr E M Jones

Before the formal business of the Meeting, the Chair explained to members of the public that, if they wished to speak to the Council on a specific matter, then this was the opportunity to do so. Two items were raised (i) Affordable Housing and (ii) The Retrospective Planning Application in respect of the Village Shop. The Chair gave the background and current position of these matters, item (ii) being the subject of discussion under Item 10 on the formal Agenda.

The formal business of the Meeting then commenced (7.50 pm).

3. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** None
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13.12.2012.** The Minutes were approved as circulated.

## 5. **MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 LM 1268: email from John P Lane requesting details of Council's charging scheme for FoI requests. Clerk reminded Council that guidance had been sought from Powys CC (Andrea Hughson) who had advised 10p per A4 copy being published charging of the Information Commissioner. Council formally resolved to adopt the charging policy of the Information Commissioner as their Model and the Clerk confirmed that she had now registered the Council with the Commissioner and there will be an annual Registration Fee of £35.00. Clerk was instructed to reply to Mr Lane to this effect.

In respect of the issues thrown up by these requests, the Clerk asked the Council to consider the position with the Council's computer arrangements. The Council have always made use of the Clerk's personal computer and her email address and this requires review. Agreed. Agenda item for next meeting and, in the meantime, the Clerk will seek IT support to see what is needed. Resolved that any IT fees, in respect of this, will be paid by the Council

5.2 Micro Hydro Project: nothing further to report

5.3 Affordable Homes Nothing further to report at present.

## 6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 Councillors acknowledged, with regret, the resignation of Cllr Blair due to work commitments. His contribution to the Council, particularly in his field of expertise, has been greatly valued and Clerk will write to him formally on behalf of the Council. Clerk confirmed that the required Notice of the vacancy had been posted and nominations invited. Agenda item for next Meeting.

6.2 Request for assistance in local historical research from Stewart Binns of Big Ape Media International. Clerk to respond with details of local contacts.

6.3 Powys County Council: the following items from the Council were tabled and noted: No Further Action

6.3.1 Council Tax Reduction Scheme Consultation

6.3.2 Annual Council Reporting Framework

6.3.3 Dispensation from Standards Committee: Councillor representatives to Charity Trustees

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6.3.4 Dispensation from Standards Committee: Councillor appointments as School Governors

6.4 Welsh Government: confirmation that Section 137 (4) (a) limit for 2013/14 is £6.98

6.5 British Red Cross: letter giving relevant contact details: Noticeboard

7. **Co-option:** see Item 6.1 above

## 8. VILLAGE MATTERS

Clerk had nothing further to report in respect of outstanding maintenance items and reported that it was becoming increasingly difficult to get any response from County Council staff; all the latest follow-up emails had gone unacknowledged or responded to.

9. **Shale Gas Extraction** (commonly referred to as “fracking”). Tabled by Cllr Dodman who outlined the background to his concerns to this procedure which, it had recently been announced, is likely to be the subject of extraction licenses in Wales. Cllr Dodman went on to outline that this had particular environmental dangers in respect of water supplies, when so many properties in Welsh areas utilised spring water. Environmental groups are particularly pressing for a baseline survey, prior to any activity commencing, to ensure that the impact of the procedure can be properly monitored and safe standards applied. Whilst Councillors acknowledged these concerns it was resolved not to pursue matters as a Council although Cllr Dodman is happy to be an information point for enquiries in his personal capacity.

## 10. PLANNING:

**P2012/** Retrospective Planning Application in respect of the Village Shop, 4 Broad Street, New Radnor. Resolved unanimously to request further time to consider this application and Clerk will request an extension until after the next Council Meeting on 14 February 2013.

## 11. FINANCE

11.1 Payments for Approval: None

11.2 Precept 2013/2014: The Clerk referred to the summary provided to Councillors after the previous meeting, as requested.

It was resolved unanimously to agree the Precept as per the summary at **£4400.00** which comprises part annual expenditure of £3400.00 plus funds for the following grants:

Cemetery Grants: St Mary's PCC	£200.00
St Michael's PCC	£100.00
Baptist Chapel	£100.00
Wales Air Ambulance	£100.00
Dragonfire Club	£500.00

Clerk to submit Precept request to Powys CC by deadline of 25 January 2013.

Clerk confirmed that she had written to the Trustees of New Radnor Town Trust asking about storage space in the Old Town Hall. Any decision on hire fee will not be discussed until the Trustees meet at their AGM in May.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, 14 February 2013 at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.10 pm