

DRAFT MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held Monday 29th June 2026 19.02 pm, Itton Village Hall,

Councillor's Present:

Cllr H Turner- 19.11
Cllr J Williams
Cllr A Williams - 19.11
Cllr P Kenington - Chair
Cllr A. Kitson Smith 19.02
Cllr M Powell

In Attendance: J McLagan (Clerk), Dr N Chamberlain, C Mogg and H Davies.

1. Apologies: C Cllr R. Buckler, Cllr J Lucas (unable to connect online) PCSO D Cordingly .

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda: None declared

3. Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting - Resolved - Minutes 26th May 2026 & the AGM minutes 26th May 2026 were confirmed and signed.

4. Public Participation:

Mr Chamberlain :

Wanted to discuss the recent Road safety meeting in Itton, and removal of the white lines. He raised the following:

- i. Speed limits – who measured, how etc.
- ii. Didn't feel there was an issue with speed in the village, and only 3 people were involved in the discussions.
- iii. Visibility, on the road with the 2 bends., no similar examples .
- iv. Vulnerable users, pedestrians and cyclists.
- v. Voting at the meeting .
- vi. Didn't feel data from other Counties was relevant.
- vii. The roads in Llansoy and Usk have been used as similarities – unhappy with the examples.
- viii. Feels it shouldn't go ahead.
- ix. What is happening in Devauden regarding white lines?

Cllrs responded :

- i. Speed checks were undertaken by MCC the previous year with a lot of data recorded utilised, and shared during the meeting.
- ii. There were many people from the Village who were concerned about speeding and requested the support of DCC to address safety issues. Speeding is frequently witnessed. Accidents have occurred.
- iii. Noted the Itton road has 2 bends, every road is unique, and so there will never be identical comparisons.
- iv. The variety of works instigated for Itton are to address all of those users listed.
- v. Voting – C Cllr Buckler suggested each person register a vote with the Clerk on their way out, this was actioned and the votes recorded - **23 in favour** of the removal of the white line, and **8 against**.
- vi. At the meeting it was reported that London and Wiltshire had both utilised the removal of white lines and there were only positive outcomes. The removal of white lines encourages slower driving.

- vii. Usk and Llansoy were examples where the white line has been removed and reduction in speed had occurred. Both have been validated with speed measurement. Llansoy is looking at additional measures including the complete blanking of the line as its still visible in places.
- viii. As a vote has taken place the remainder of the works will commence, once completed there will be speed measurements and it will be correctly validated as to whether it is working, and if other measures are needed. It was also emphasised that the line can be put back should the removal be unsuccessful in reducing speeds in the Village.
- ix. Devauden Road safety works are taking longer, as more infrastructure works are required. Necessary applications and purchasing of signs etc is ongoing.
Cllr MP voiced his concerns at the removal of the white line.

Chrystal Mogg

Raised the issue of no signage near Penybryn farm, regarding HGVs turning into the bridleway and blocking the road. It has been 6 months and still no sign has been erected.

DCC confirmed they had contacted MCC, and WV stores. Cllr R Buckler reported "signage regarding Penybryn farm, the offsite WV stores depot. I have requested that this be considered soonest."

5. Police Report: – SPCO Cordingly was unable to attend, the May police report was read and noted. It was also reported by a resident that speed testing in Itton Village took place recently.

6. Matters Arising:

- i. **Community Orchard:** a) Cllr R Buckler confirmed (in her report) she is still awaiting a meeting with Beverly Hopkins Enforcement, b) It was also noted the Wildflower meadow has been cut/mown for the second time this year by MCC. **Action** Cllr R Buckler, and Clerk to report to MCC.
- ii. **Road Safety:**
 - a) **Devauden Public consultation update;** 3 Speed display signs are on order, these will be fitted by MCC. It was agreed that to hold another community meeting to update the Village on progress. Cllr JW noted there is no junction sign as you enter Devauden from Itton. **Action** Clerk to contact MCC re meeting, sign and book hall, Cllr Buckler to chase MCC.
 - b) **Itton Village Road Safety - Meeting held 18th June 7pm in Itton Village Hall to discuss phase 2.**
 - 1. The meeting was well attended with 38 members, a presentation by Cllr AW was made followed by an inclusive debate where MCC assisted with answering questions, and everyone had an opportunity to speak. **A copy of the presentation is available on the www.devaudenc.org.uk**
 - 2. It was highlighted that there is speeding problem, and "doing nothing " is not going to address the problems.
 - 3. The reconsultation was to present more data on the removal of the white line, as requested by the community.
 - 4. It was emphasised that the white line can be put back should it not work. (this will be validated by MCC speed/data checks).
 - 5. All comments and opinions were noted throughout the meeting.
 - 6. A vote regarding the white line removal was held at the end of the meeting and **23 voted for** the removal and **8 voted against** the removal. Attendees registered their vote with the Clerk upon leaving. **Action** MCC
 - c) **Llansoy Signage:** A meeting took place with Cllrs JL and HT and MCC, in her report Cllr Buckler noted "a request that a meeting between G Freeman /MCC and members of the project group and any community councillors be held before road markings and measures are finalised on Star Hill".

- d) **Speeding/Incidents reported:** Several incidents of speeding were noted in the Devauden area, with an increase that could be accorded to the A466 Tintern to Monmouth road closure.
- iii. **Defibrillators:** Howick Defibrillator has been completed. Cobblers Plain remains, uninstalled. **Action** Clerk to check Howick is registered , and will look for an alternative electrician to fit the one at Cobblers Plain.
- iv. **Telephone Boxes** – Discussed the current issues. **Action** Cllrs to consider persons in the community who may help dismantle the Perspex prior to stand blasting as an option. **OVW** will bring up at next meeting to see how other Councils are managing their telephone boxes.
- v. **Meetings Attended** (& forthcoming meetings) Wye Valley Villages meeting has been postponed. Cllr HT & PK attended a road safety meeting with MCC to discuss signage on the St Arvans Road, where there have been several issues. Cllr HT, MP and AW attended the Road Safety reconsultation in Itton. Cllr HT and JL attended a road safety meeting in Llansoy .
- vi. **Coal Lane:** – Ongoing – no update, C Cllr RB reported: "still no response from CT @ MCC, extremely disappointing. I have flagged up, to the Deputy Chief Executive that we still do not have a response".
- vii. **DCC Land/Trees** - Cllr MP reported the land was with a Squire-ship, however there is no current Squire. It was confirmed the tree is growing in the Hedgerow. **Action:** Clerk to try and establish if the land is registered.
Tree on allotment: it was **resolved** to accept the lower quote to remove the tree due to safety concerns. **Action** Clerk to arrange and confirm date so allotment holders are aware.
- viii. **Clerks Laptop** – It was **resolved** to go-ahead and purchase the HP Laptop as discussed. **Action** Clerk to purchase and set up.
- ix. **River Charter**- Cllrs discussed the charter, it was interesting especially as it's the first area to have one. Discussions took place about how it would work, with 2 countries, several counties and 2 water authorities involved. Also noted it would be beneficial to hear any opposing arguments or concerns from farmers and water authorities. It is a good base that would benefit from a broad consultation.
- x. **Box Farm Plans** – Cllrs were interested in this proposed wood area, it was noted the ground identified for woodland is currently sloped grazing, questions were raised over the impact on species rich grasslands and semi wild habitats any changes would require measurement/monitoring. **Action** Clerk to respond

7. Clerks Report – As circulated and taken as read.

8. Finance June 26

PAYEE	REASON FOR EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT £	VAT £	TOTAL £	PAYMENT METHOD
Clerk	Salary June	809.82		809.82	BACS
Clerk Expenses	Expenses	85.92		85.92	BACS
A Williams	Microsoft June	48.30	9.66	57.96	BACS
Clerk	Ink	23.32	6.66	27.00	BACS
Torfaen	Pension	190.30		190.30	BACS
Donation the Bowls group	The Bowls Shop equipment	343.25	68.65	411.90	BACS

Kear Electrics	Defib installation	287.00	57.40	344.40	BACS
HMRC	TAX Paye	103.00		103.00	BACS
Bev & Williams	1 st Qtr Payroll	36.00	7.20	43.20	BACS
				2,070.00	Transfer

Balances: Current Account **£1,251.65** & Savings Account **£66,136.48**

Liabilities as circulated, discussed and approved.

9. Correspondence: Emails: Correspondence lists as circulated.

10. Planning: 1 x Item: Cllrs considered, discussed and where able, voted upon the following: _

- a) **DM/2026/00725- Planning Permission** – Excessive noise was discussed, unfortunately the website was inaccessible, so size/number of kennels was not confirmed.

No objection but concerns to be raised regarding lack of report regarding noise management& mitigation.

Action: Clerk to notify MCC planning

11. County Councillors' Report: –

Cllr R Buckler report:

Coal Lane - Still no response from MCC , despite prompts. Extremely disappointing. I have flagged up to the Deputy Chief Executive that we still do not have a response.

Community Orchard - Meeting booked with Belinda Hopkins - when I will be fully updated and will let everyone know what transpires.

Llansoy - A request that a meeting between GF/MCC , members of the project group and any community councillors, be held before road markings and measures are finalised on Star Hill. They want to be engaged in the process, which is reasonable.

HGV sign - The signage regarding Penybryn farm, the offsite WV stores depot. I have requested that this be considered soonest.

Full Council, I spoke and seconded a motion by Cllr Jayne Mckenna that calls for Openreach to stop the shutdown of the copper landline network due to happen in 2027 until we can be assured that mobile reception is acceptable and that alternatives are operational.

12. My Mon APP Outstanding Reports: Nothing outstanding.

13. One Voice Wales:– No attendance this month

14. Ward Reports:

Cllr J Lucas: – Unable to join meeting

Cllr P Kenington: - No additional items not already reported.

Cllr A Kitson-Smith: – The concerns over the safety of the Kilgwrrwg/NewChurch turning from the B4293 and also pedestrian crossing to Chepstow Park Woods at Windy Gap has been raised at many previous meetings. Kilgwrrwg residents and their visitors are disappointed with the lack of action from MCC. An on-site meeting with MCC and Cllr Buckler is requested to discuss the dangerous speeding on the B4293 at this junction and it's impact on residents turning into and out of the Kilgwrrwg/Newchurch road. **Action** Clerk to arrange.

Cllr J Williams: Allotments – Hedges in need of cutting for current allotment holders. **Action** JW

Cllr A Williams: In addition to above, Cllr AW reported he will be having a meeting with GF/MCC regarding speeding by the hall, nr Itton to address speeding. **Action** AW

Cllr M Powell: Reported - Hedges in need of cutting on the Itton to Shirenewton Rd. Oak tree near the common has branches falling off and requires a visit from MCC. **Action:** Clerk to contact DL MCC

Cllr H Turner: Stated a) residents are frustrated about the Y Fedw Encampment , concerns regarding waste & b) Loud music was also reported in the area, but unsure where it was coming from. **Action** Clerk to chase NRW and establish a date and confirmation on what is happening.

15. Items and date for next meeting: Monday 27th July 7pm monthly meeting at Itton Village Hall.
Meeting closed by Cllr P Kenington @ 9.05pm

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