

# MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 7.15pm, Hood Memorial Hall, Devauden

## Councillor's Present:

Cllr H Turner  
Cllr A Williams,  
Cllr J Lucas  
Cllr P Kenington

**In Attendance:** Cllr R Butler, Mr Jeremy Horton, Mr Tim and Mrs Debbie Walker, Mr David Maddocks, Mr Chris Jackson, Mr Connor Mee, Ms Crystal Mogg.

- 1. Apologies:** Cllrs A Kitson, J Williams, and M Powell & Clerk J Mclagan,
- 2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.** : Planning matter - Item **DM/2024/01339** - Cllr P Kenington.
- 3. Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting - Resolved** - Minutes for October 2024 Monthly meeting confirmed.
- 4. Public Participation:** Mr Jeremy Horton, Mr Tim and Mrs Debbie Walker, Mr David Maddocks, Mr Chris Jackson, Mr Connor Mee, Ms Crystal Mogg. - **Brief synopsis of items mentioned:** -

**Chris Jackson** – New trustee of Hood Hall Committee wanted to come to highlight the Senior Citizen Lunch on 15th December so that as many of the local community know about it. Currently posted on local social media.

**Tim Walker** – Speaking on behalf of the Devauden Festival Management Committee regarding safety points wished to raise the following

- a) Robust risk management had been in place,
- b) No one had contacted the Management Committee directly about concerns (around 35 members).
- c) The Management Committee of the Festival met on 21st September.
- d) Two face to face meetings were held after Hood Hall AGM.
- e) Felt comments made previously to DCC lack full context.
- f) Regarding the car park arrangement, Mr T Walker wanted to state that after Mr D Maddocks became unwell on Saturday night the festival organisers took over the management of the car park. There was a huge effort from the Devauden festival management team and volunteers.
- g) Asked DCC if they reported what had been passed to them, on to MCC.

## Chris Jackson

- a) Asked for it to be minuted that there were no concerns raised by residents that were put to the Devauden music festival committee.
- b) Queried was the DCC representing the views of the residents.

**Cllr H Turner** confirmed that the DCC received views/concerns from residents and were not representing views.

**Cllr A Williams** said DCC did not solicit any input from any residents – and that the DCC Committee did not want to be a football in the middle of the debate.

In response to the above **Cllr P Kenington** asked if volunteers were invited to give feedback as happened in previous years.

**Jeremy Horton and Tim Walker** said that the Festival organising committee members were asked, but decided it wasn't practical to ask volunteers due to quantity of people.

### **Chrystal Mogg**

- a) Felt the Hood Hall AGM had been difficult and felt disenfranchised.
- b) Had attended the AGM as other residents had flagged concerns regarding the running of the festival.
- c) Queried why comments and feedback had not been arranged before the AGM.

### **Debbie Walker**

- a) Was aware of the time and commitment that Mr T Walker put into the festival planning.
- b) Her children were upset after the Hood Hall AGM
- c) Everybody has the right to free speech
- d) Felt festival organisers need time to regroup after the festival.

### **Connor Mee**

- a) Re-emphasised his safety concerns raised at previous DCC meetings. **Item 4, June & September minutes 2024**
- b) Respected the comments made by Mr J Horton and Mr T walker but couldn't agree.
- c) Questioned incident log for the festival.
- d) Felt residents feel inhibited by the Hood Hall Management Committee and unable to give proper feedback.

### **David Maddocks**

- a) Mr D Maddocks confirmed he was in charge of the car parking, re-emphasising his concerns regarding insufficient marshals and stewards, especially crossing the road. **Item 4, June & September Minutes 2024**
- b) There were 680 campers, more than the 400 originally stated before the event, creating additional safety concerns.
- c) Attendees were climbing over fences and not paying to access the Music Festival and therefore not counted.

**Cllr P Kenington** queried whether local to the village volunteers should be included in the future.

**Cllr P Kenington** said Hood Hall AGM was unfortunate, it was agreed it had not been how the organisers would have liked the meeting to conclude. Members who attended agreed it had been difficult.

**Cllr H Turner** said it was unfortunate that tensions had been so palpable, and it made for a very uncomfortable AGM meeting. Lack of opportunity to communicate seemed to be a trigger.

**Cllr H Turner** noted how this had obviously affected everyone involved and that the DCC were listening and taking note. Also that it was a highly stressful situation for everyone involved.

**Mr J Horton** said he had asked attendees to contain their comments.

**Mr J Horton** and **Mr T Walker** said they will take lessons learned and incorporate them into next year's festival.

**Cllr R Butler** said she has listened to everyone involved very carefully and could see that there had been miscommunication between participants. **Cllr R Butler**, to contact those involved afterwards.

Members of the public left the meeting.

**5. Police Report** – The Police report was sparse, and it was agreed that it was difficult to get much engagement from the Police Community Officer team since a recent retirement. No attendance and no meaningful update.

### **6. Matters Arising**

- i. **Play Equipment** – progress noted and to be discussed at next meeting.
- ii. **Community Orchard** noted and to be discussed at next meeting.
- iii. **Land at Allotments** update – Awaiting information from other party.
- iv. **Meetings attended & (forthcoming meetings)** **Cllr A Williams** reported on the Wye valleys delivery group meeting in Tintern:-

**Broadband.** Written report in April regarding broadband intervention, voucher scheme has been used but has produced a spread of users but not in great numbers. A way forward is shared rural network sharing mast sites and lengthening mast heights. Should be no not spots in Wales. Other solutions discussed such as individual booster broadband systems in localised areas.

**Bus service,** £8.50 each journey deemed expensive for people to use.

**Tracks and trails** – with the aim to have a network collection of routes fully maintained and way marked. Kellin new way marker officer. Blake was taking the local access forum for site visit.

**Signage and road safety** – average speeds are not dropping in speed reduced zones. Measures discussed such as signage, and visual narrowing as in white lines, but noted that no vertical measures should be employed per se. SIDS mains connected £5,000 to install. Cornwall uses average speed camera systems in villages. Discussed group action to raise money.

**Cllr H Turner** has joined the **Nature Network** – aimed at community councils.

- v. **Confirmation Clerk is RFO** - Deferred to next meeting
- vi. **Adoption of Standing Orders Revised document.** Deferred to next meeting
- vii. **NALC Pay agreement** - Deferred to next meeting
- viii. **Clerks Pension** – Deferred to next meeting
- ix. **Noticeboard at Llanfihangel Tory & Mynydd** – quotes deferred to next meeting
- x. **Bank Mandate signatory** – Deferred to next meeting
- xi. **Contact sheet** - Deferred to next meeting RB requested to be added to the list.
- xii. **Tree works** update – have rough quotes – awaiting news from Donor, so that DCC can formulate a budget.
- xiii. **Bonfire Night** – Member of public correspondence Bonfire Night – too loud bangs, disturbing horses, louder than previous years. Well attended. Clerk to pass on to the organisers.
- xiv. **AGM Date** – proposed date for May AGM 27<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 2025 Deferred to next meeting .
- xv. **Code of Conduct Training** - 8th November and 12th December for Code of Conduct. – 6.30 to 8pm.

**7. Clerks Report** – as circulated. Report taken as read

## 8. Finance

PAYEE	REASON FOR EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT £	VAT £	TOTAL £	PAYMENT METHOD
Clerk Salary	Salary Nov	771.36	0	771.36	BACS
Clerk	Expenses Nov	53.35	0	53.35	BACS
A Williams	Microsoft Nov	49.00	9.80	58.80	BACS
Transfer	Transfer from SA/Ac – Cu/Ac	900.00			BACS
HSBC	Bank charges 26/10/24-25/11/24	5.00	0	5.00	TRF
				<b>888.51</b>	

**Balances - Bank Balances as 20/11/24** - £ 689.34 & £25,960.77

**Liabilities** as circulated, read discussed and approved.

## 9. Correspondence:

**Emails:** Correspondence list for November as circulated. Report was taken as read.

**10. Planning: : DM/2024/01339** - Resolved planning application has been submitted was discussed. Model Train has been present for 3 years. Last month it was reported to planning department. In discussions with planning department agreed that planning permission will need to be applied for because it has become a terrace. Councillors agreed that there were no objections.

**11. County Councilor's Report** – Cllr Buckler reported

- (a) Star Hill – things put in place to address speeding are in the pipeline.
- (b) The Star – Likely this will require marketing as a going concern - regarding planning application **DM/2024/01036** change of use of public house to residential dwelling.

**12. My Mon APP Outstanding Reports:** No new reports.

**13. One Voice Wales** – nothing to report

**14. Ward Reports**

**Cllr H Turner** – Fiveways Magazine would be good to use the new community council logo.

Cllr Turner to check already to be used widely. (Fonts etc).

**Cllr P Kenington** - Reported: Feddw sight lines are dangerous – there is a mirror but owners struggling - RB to contact Gareth Freeman regarding proposals put forward to improve site lines. -

**Cllr M Powell** – Not present

**Cllr A Kitson Smith** – Not present

**Cllr A Williams** – St Arvans road safety – open discussions between the two communities. Councillors to ask clerk to write to Council about road safety road proposal RB to also write

**Cllr J Lucas** – No issues reported

**Cllr J Williams** – Not present

**15. Items and date for next meeting** 16th December 2024 at 7.15pm at Hood Hall

Meeting closed by Cllr Turner

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