

# MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025 7.00pm, Itton & Howick Hall, Itton,

## Councilor's Present:

Cllr H Turner Chair  
Cllr J Williams  
Cllr J Lucas  
Cllr P Kenington  
Cllr A Williams  
Cllr A Kitson Smith  
Cllr M Powell

**In Attendance:** J McLagan (Clerk) Cllr R Buckler, R Edwards, D Maddocks,

**1. Apologies:** None

**2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** Cllr H Turner declared an interest in Planning Matter DM2025/00611 and abstained from voting.

**3. Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting - Resolved -** Minutes April 30<sup>th</sup> 2025 Monthly meeting confirmed and signed.

**4. Public Participation:** Mr D Maddocks

- i. Shared and discussed a written response made by Music Festival to TUCC, regarding last years festival. Questioning if the festival will return to the village. **Cllr Buckler offered to arrange a meeting to discuss issues with Mr Maddocks. Cllrs who attended the festival at Humble by Nature, said it appeared well attended and successful.**
- ii. Mr Maddocks suggested a meeting regarding the festival could be had with the Devauden Community.
- iii. Speeding, Mr Maddocks is concerned about the speeding on all roads entering and exiting Devauden and within the village and surrounding areas. Asked about the meeting that had taken place in Devauden with Cllrs from MCC, and DCC and local residents. MP C Fookes had arranged the meeting with a local resident at short notice. **Cllr Buckler responded to Mr Maddocks confirming that a package of measures are currently being looked at with MCC .** Cllrs A Williams and J Williams also confirmed that road safety was a priority to DCC and very much an active project.

## Mrs R Edwards

- i. Speaking on behalf of a group of Itton residents, a request for the group to present a project regarding the Itton Common area with the Phone box, Well, Medieval Plaques and bench. **Action – Group** to contact clerk by email to arrange putting forward their proposal at a future meeting.
- ii. Raised the issue of the junction at Itton common and the 57.4 road, being dangerous as line of sight is poor. **Action** Mrs Edwards and Clerk to report on Mon App.
- iii. Raised concerns over speeding in the locality and lack of white lines. **Action Cllr Buckler** to discuss with Mr G Freeman MCC ongoing as part of road safety measures.
- iv. Itton Defibrillator not working asked about progress. **DCC confirmed this was an Agenda Item**
- v. Grant application for the kitchen. Mr Ashton Smith was unable to meet earlier but would still like to meet up to discuss. DCC confirmed that they are not able to fund projects, but can make smaller donations. DCC offered to help to point Itton and Howick hall in the direction of grants that may be available. **Mr Asthton Smith to Email clerk to -rearrange meeting.**

**5. Police Report –** Police reports received and taken as read. **Action Clerk to re-chase PCO for attendance at meeting.**

*DEVAUDEN April Report.*

*There was 0 log around DEVAUDEN from 01/04/25 – 30/04/25, this involves different types of incidents. These were dealt with by NPT and Response officers from the Monmouthshire south area. There are two incidents, we cannot disclose with the community council as they are too personal to discuss.*

*Nothing to report*

*What we plan to do in May:*

- Active patrols the area.*
- Still conduct speed monitoring in the village.*
- Attend the next council meeting (If possible).*

- i. **Playground –** Cllr J Williams reported from the Playgroup Action Group, an additional grant had been received for the fencing around the new play area, with plans for it to be opened at the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025. **No Action**
- ii. **Community Orchard:** Fencing is still erected, Cllr Buckler agreed that the situation was frustrating, and would chase it with MCC. **Action Cllr RB**
- iii. **Whitemill Common - meeting with Itton Landowner.** No further updates, Cllr Kitson and Powell agreed it was unlikely that that a work around would be managed since individuals had cut the padlock & chain to one of the gates. **Action Monitor**
- iv. **Audit –** Clerk reported that documents had been dropped to the internal Auditor, however DCC may need to seek a delay from Audit Wales due to Clerks recent absence. **Action Clerk Ongoing**
- v. **Land at Allotments:** Keys to gates to be sought upon notification from Solicitor's that the transfer has been completed. Actions to utilise the land can then be progressed. **Action Monitor**
- vi. **Meetings attended & (forthcoming meetings):** Cllr H Turner and Cllr A Williams attended wye valley villages group. The group have been resetting the parameters and model of the group, so they can focus on achievable projects. New Itton Road sign mentioned and currently being chased by WVV group. **MCC have confirmed fitting this financial year.** Welsh spelling of the sign was also raised, and MCC have confirmed that they use the **Wales Gazetteer**. They noted that almost all Welsh names invariable have 3 different spellings, making it hard for spelling consistency. No further meetings were attended.
- vii. **Website –** Nearly ready to launch. **Clerk to action policies and Documents. Cllr H Turner and A Williams to finalise live launch.**

- viii. **Road safety** – Recent speed measuring has taken place, Cllr **Buckler will share information once received**. Issues already brought up regarding speeding in Devauden, and Itton. Cllr Kenington is awaiting works at the Y Fedw junction. Cllr J Williams highlighted the need for safer crossing for children using the new play area. DCC awaits an update on proposals for Devauden Village. Cllr J Lucas raised Star Hill issues and plus Cllrs added in the Itton Common issues Cllr **Buckler confirmed MCC are looking at the whole package, of works . Action MCC**
- ix. **Archives** – Costings and type – **Action Clerk to clarify shelf size for 1 year.**
- x. **Approve Clerks incremental wage increase.** It was resolved to approve the increase and back date pay to April 25.
- xi. **Telephone Box – Works and update on Itton phone box** It was agreed to continue to seek quotes and create a policy with regards to all 3 phone box maintenance, use and electricity supply etc. **Action Clerk to inspect** Devauden and Cobblers Plain box. **Cllrs to decide future plan .**
- xii. **Itton Defibrillator – Standing orders were stopped to enable R Edwards to comment**, R Edwards requested an update on the nonfunctioning Defibrillator on Itton Common. **Standing orders were reinstated to continue the meeting** It was **resolved** to purchase 2 x defibrillators one for Howick and one for Itton siting to be confirmed. **Clerk to seek** advice from MCC regarding power options for siting of machines. It was **resolved** to purchase 2 Defibrillators and Boxes. A request for Defibrillator training was also made, **Clerk to Action purchase and contact MCC regarding electricity supply. Clerk to action sourcing of free training.**

**7. Clerks Report** – as circulated. **NB Clerk confirmed Itton Defibrillator reported not working online and placed 2 signs in the telephone box, also the clerk's mobile phone not working.** Reported other relevant updates and taken as read.

#### 8. Finance May 25

PAYEE	REASON FOR EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT £	VAT £	TOTAL £	PAYMENT METHOD
Clerk Salary	Salary May	760.15	0	760.15	BACS
Clerk	Expenses April	26.00	0	26.00	BACS
Torfaen	Pension (employee/er) May	230.24	0	230.24	BACS
A Williams	Microsoft March	48.30	9.66	57.96	BACS
A Williams	Microsoft March	48.30	9.66	57.96	BACS
Zurich	Annual Insurance	306.21		306.21	BACS
Clerk	Expenses May	58.94		58.94	BACS
SLCC	Annual membership 50%	120.00		120.00	BACS
Transfer	Transfer from SA/Ac – Cu/Ac	1675.00			TRF
HSBC	Bank charges 26/04/25 - 25/05/25	5.00	0	5.00	HSBC

	<b>Total Expenditure</b>			<b>1633.21</b>	
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**Bank Balance £1,596.77 & £40,764.10 Noticeboard outstanding, precept received**

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

**9. Correspondence: Emails:** Correspondence list not circulated due to Clerks absence.

**10. Planning:** To consider **2** matters

**DM/2025/00465** - Construction of new detached outbuilding to provide gym and home office. Pyotts Cottage, Coed Llifos Road, Newchurch, NP16 6DH. Cllrs voted unanimously and with **no objection** to this matter

**DM/2025/00611**, 1.5 Storey outbuilding in steel frame timber clad for storage. Great Panta Barn, Panta Farm, Coal Rd, Devauden NP16 6SS, Cllrs voted and with **no objection** to this matter, with 1 abstention.

**11. County Councilor's Report** – Cllr Buckler, in addition to items already discussed, reported

- Ongoing concerns regarding MCC using a single care agency for care instead of more local agencies requesting anyone affected by this to notify her. Changes to Micro carers were also discussed.
- Discussed the need for an easier process regarding purchases of community Pubs, Star Inn especially, more updates to follow.

**12. My Mon APP Outstanding Reports:** No further updates.

**13. One Voice Wales** – No new meetings attended.

**14. Ward Reports**

**Cllr H Turner** – Raised the Coal Lane issue from previous meeting, and **Cllr Buckler** confirmed she would chase this.

**Jane Lucas** – Raised issue with road markings at Star Hill area. **Cllr Buckler to chase**

**Cllr P Kenington - No Issues to report** - confirmed he had attended the *"Planning application and enforcement Training for Community and Town Councils"* and had found it interesting and useful. **Action Clerk to chase follow up information** to be sent in relation to course.

**Cllr A Kitson Smith – No Issues to report**

**Cllr J Williams: –**

- Itton hall had received the Portrait of HM King Charles
- Residents had complained about a car that has been parked on the main road in Devauden, possibly broken down, it was confirmed that as long as the vehicle is taxed and insured, and not parked in a restricted zone, then it was not reportable. **Action Monitor**
- A local resident had raised an issue with Doggie bags being put in the litter bin, and that MCC would have to separate them back at the refuse site. Cllr Buckler confirmed this is not the case and all rubbish gets incinerated. **No Action**
- John Wesley Statue.** Hood Hall have not responded to DCC asking for a dowry towards upkeep, in response to Hood Hall asking if DCC would take over ownership. Cllr J Williams concerned the statue will deteriorate. **Cllr J Williams to ask again.**
- Llanvihangle have requested Clerk to ask Defibrillator supplier for longer dated defib pads – **Clerk to action**

**Cllr A Williams: -** No new issues to report.

**Cllr M Powell:** Raised the issue of the planter and benches needing repair, on the Itton common, and confirmed that he had put the out of order sign back up in the phone box that the Clerk had prepared.

**15. Items and date for next meeting** 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7.00pm at Itton and Howick Hall.

Meeting closed by Cllr H Turner @ 9.07pm.

**Clerk, J McLagan    Mobile: 07410 272079    Email: [clerk@devaudencc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@devaudencc.org.uk)**