

**MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MONDAY 19 MAY 2008 AT DEVAUDEN VILLAGE HALL**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT N Knowland, C Knight, J Williams (Chair), K Reece, M Powell, E Hall, A Duffield, A Cooke, CC Bob Greenland

APOLOGIES; PC Cowburn

IN ATTENDANCE: C Martin (Clerk) Members of the public (list attached to the file copy minutes)

1) OPEN SESSION

Cllr Williams opened the meeting to ask what the members of the public wanted to discuss. They confirmed they were here to discuss the stud farm Plan DC2006/01437. Cllr Knight explained that the amendment to the plan was a well put together bat survey for which MCC should be commended. In addition there were amendments to the access on the plan although it was not clear what these were from the accompanying plan. Cllr Williams reviewed the MCC documentation and concluded that DCC has to make observations on the amendments. To summarise the situation so far Cllr Williams read from the DCC minutes of 29 October 2007, item 6.6. CC Greenland explained that this is an amended plan received by MCC in April and shows amended access site. Cllr Knight said that it does not address the wider aspects of access on the approach lane and Llansoy Road.

Ms Thomas said she was aware of the applicant's traffic report by Ron Kelly but it does not seem to give a fair view of the traffic issues. There is a blind bend and Church Lane could not cope with the traffic. Those of us objecting are prepared to have our own traffic survey. Cllr Williams asked if the access has been changed. Mr Johnsey said they had used the suggestions of the traffic report to make the access safer. He also said that there has been a further highways report.

Ms Lucas made the point that the land marked as highways on the plans was not as wide as the 4m stated in the traffic report. She also said that the bat report recommends no lighting and there are other environmental issues. Cllr Knowland said that any approval of the plans by MCC would have to therefore include appropriate conditions to ensure that the bat survey requirements are met.

Cllr Williams summarised that there seems to have been some movement forward but we still don't have additional highways report. Mr Johnsey said the site is already a farm so a stud will not increase the traffic.

Cllr Williams confirmed the meeting was prepared to take this plan out of order. All DCC councillors present agreed. Councillors agreed that Clerk should write to MCC with the following observations;

1. Despite the amended plan we still do not have clarification on the access issues relating to the access roads, in particular Church Lane and Llansoy Road.
2. The Community Council is please to have received the bat survey but would like to see further environmental impact reports to consider other issues.
3. We are awaiting further traffic survey information commissioned by local residents.
4. The full extent of the development is not clear as there have been several changes and amendments to the plans.

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes from meeting of 28 April 2008 were agreed and signed by JW and CM.

3) MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 At the September meeting CM presented a revised draft of her contract. NK and JW's view is that this needs to be looked at by a legal representative. JW to contact MCC monitoring officer. Defer to next meeting.
- 3.2 Info board for Devauden. AC is awaiting information from MCC and Adventa. JW to approach hall committee for their involvement before the next meeting.
- 3.3 Highways form response for form sent 30 April. File.
- 3.4 Declaration of Acceptance of office. Forms signed by councillors and witnessed by Clerk File in ethical framework file.
- 3.5 Code of Conduct – JW read the new guidelines and highlighted the following actions
- 3.5.1 From September Councillors have to put in writing their declared interest before or straight after the meeting. CM to contact monitoring officer at MCC or OVW to request an appropriate form

Signed _____

- 3.5.2** If a councillor is in discussion with a County Council officer on the phone then they must declare any relevant interest.
- 3.5.3** Gifts/hospitality has to be declared above a certain level. Councillors agreed to set the level at £15.
- 3.5.4** All councillors agreed that would adopt the new code of conduct at the meeting on 18 August.

4) FINANCE

Balances 19/5/08 Current; £ 528.06 No Notice: £5207.70

4.1 Agreed for payment by JW and AC.

Clerks salary and expenses £232.46 cheque no 101112

4.2 Notification of receipt of £1667.00 precept on 30/4/08. File.

4.3 Receipt of £5 cheque from Mrs Massie, and £5 cash from Mr Richards for allotment rental 2008/9.

4.4 Annual accounts and reconciliations prepared and signed off by CM and JW

4.5 Internal auditor – agreed to appoint Mrs Christine Alway. JW to forward details to CM

4.6 Review of risk assessment. Signed off by JW and AC

4.7 Review of asset register – relevant councillors and clerk signed to state that assets are in place and condition is unchanged.

5) CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Clerks and Councils Direct. No action.

5.2 Monmouthshire Local Health board - consultation on proposed changes to the structure of the NHS in Wales. File

5.3 MCC – Emergency contacts directory. CM to action and file.

5.4 WAG – Litter, dog control, graffiti fly posting and noise fixed penalty notice returns – request for data. CM to contact WAG to say have no power to issue notices. File

5.5 MCC – changes to governing body representation – MP contacting Shirenewton School to see if it is DCC's turn to have a representative.

5.6 MCC – LDP – issues and visioning workshop for external stakeholders 6 June, Cwmbran. File.

5.7 Letter from Mr Miles of Wesley Way suggesting that additional car parking is made available in the area. Councillors agreed to look into the matter. CM to write thanking Mr Miles for his concerns.

6) PLANNING

6.1 Planning committee agenda 20 May. File 2 months.

6.2 Planning list for Devauden for wks 16 -19 (2008). File 2 months.

6.3 DC/2006/01437 – Amendments to Erection of stable buildings and associated works to form new stud farm, Site at Llanvihangel Court, Devauden. See open session above.

6.4 The Following Plans have been refused by MCC:

6.4.1 DC2007/01515 – Oriel House, Itton court

6.4.2 DC/2007/ 01167 – High View, Llansoy

6.5 Following plans approved by MCC;

6.5.1 DC/2008/00243 – Cobblers Hill Devauden.

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

C.C Greenland enquired whether DCC have heard anything from the Post Office. Clerk and councillors confirmed that had received no information. JW suggested Clerk writes to P.O to enquire about;

1. Whether they would consider keeping P.O open if DCC could provide some contribution to running costs.
2. Where is the P.O intending to park the mobile van?
3. It was agreed at the meeting that P.O representatives would 'walk the village' with councillors to select an appropriate location.

All councillors agreed that CM should email the P.O with these points

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW)

Notice of OVW conference and AGM -11 October, Ceredigion. File

9) WARD REPORTS

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AC A girl was thrown off a horse in Kilgwrrwg and an ambulance called. There was some confusion about what information is needed to enable the ambulance to find a rural location. CM to write to ambulance service to find out.

EH - Itton Hall thanks DCC for previous donations and has now replaced the ceiling and panels, as well as tiling and further work.

Neighbourhood watch – Several of the co-ordinators think it is only appropriate to receive emails directly from the Police rather than via the neighbourhood watch co-ordinator at Bulwark. As a result several of them are now only receiving phone calls. The AGM will be at St Arvans on Wednesday 11 June.

NK – Kilgwrrwg Green; the edge has not been cut. CM to contact MCC grass cutters.

AD – The pavements at Wesley Way need cleaning – suggest the road sweeper attends.

JW – commented that she had attended the opening of new storage facilities and that it would be a good idea to send a letter of congratulations to the hall committee chair Mr J Rowlands for the work done recently. Email to JW.

Meeting closed 9.45pm

Next Meeting 30 June

Meeting dates 2008 28 July (Itton), 18 Aug (Itton), 29 Sept, 27 Oct, 24 Nov, 22 Dec.

Signed _____