

**MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2010 AT DEVAUDEN VILLAGE HALL**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: M Powell, K Reece, N Knowland, A Cooke, A Duffield, A Williams, J Williams (chair), E Hall
IN ATTENDANCE: C Martin (clerk), CC Bob Greenland, PC Cowburn, Mr C Jacks (public)

1) OPEN SESSION

PC Cowburn presented his report which is detailed below.

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes from meeting of 23 November 2010 were agreed and signed by JW and CM.

3) MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Highways form reply – form sent 25/11/10. File.

3.2 Meeting point relocation in Devauden Village Hall Grounds – JW reported that the hall committee did not think it was feasible to relocate the shelter as it is concreted in. Instead they want to remove it and replace it with the picnic area/memorial tree. The meeting discussed this and councillors expressed their concern, given the cost of the meeting point. It was agreed that JW will contact John Rowlands and invite him to attend a DCC meeting to discuss the matter.

4) FINANCE

Balances at 13/12/10 Current; £ 588.77 Notice: £2273.37

4.1 Agreed for payment by JW and NK;

Invoice C. Martin, clerk's salary and expenses for December £235.77 Cheque no.101185

Mazars LLP – External audit fee, £141.00 Cheque no. 101186

4.2 MCC – Council tax precept request for 2011/12. Clerk presented the proposed budget for 2010/11 which was approved by JW and NK. A precept request of £5000 was agreed. Clerk to return documents to MCC.

4.3 NK/AC informed the meeting that Kilgwrrwg charity had purchased bulbs for planting and are requesting reimbursement from the money being kept by DCC from when Kilgwrrwg won the best kept village. CM to forward an expenses claim form to NK to pass on and also post one with an explanatory letter to Martin Chainey.

4.4 CM presented the completed annual report returned by Mazars showing no action required by DCC. Chair thanked the Clerk for completing the audit effectively. Notice of completion of audit was completed by CM and will be posted on Devauden notice board on 16 December.

4.5 JW presented an invoice from Hood memorial hall for the last 3 years. CM to check what is owed and organise payment at next meeting.

5) CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 MCC – Lower Wye Area Committee – invitation for DCC to send a representative to future meetings. CM to forward details of KR.

5.2 MCC Careline – Telecare system – notification that will be requesting a visit to community council meetings in the near future.

5.3 MCC summer holiday activities 2011 – request for a donation. Meeting agreed to an S137 donation of £200. CM to contact MCC to see who to pay the cheque to and bring to next meeting.

5.4 MCC – The Community Safety Plan - consultation ends 7 February 2011. Passed to NK to respond.

5.5 Gwent police – request for contribution to 'Wings to Fly' production – educational programme on drugs, social behaviour, community and safety. Bring to next meeting.

5.6 Christmas cards from Leader MCC and Chair MCC. No action.

6) PLANNING

6.1 Planning committee agenda for 30 November and 14 December 2010. File 2 months.

6.2 Planning lists for 3 weeks 22/11, 29/11 and 6/12. File

6.3 The following plans were approved by MCC or acceptable delegated decisions;

6.3.1 DC/2010/00784 New access into field from existing access to garage. New gates set back from highway. New horse field shelter, Lilac Cottage.

6.4 The following plan was described as unacceptable by MCC

Signed _____

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

1. Reported that there would be a reduction in real and cash terms so MCC will need to make further savings. MCC hopes that most won't affect public service. Education and social services are priorities as well as economic development as need to continue to find ways to respond to the rise in unemployment. Nevertheless there will still be some education cuts of about 0.5%.
2. It is likely that there will be a council tax increase, but MCC will try and keep it as low as possible.
3. Electoral boundary commission – no councils or WAG were happy with the proposals so for the 2012 elections there will be no changes in Wales. Work will continue for 2016.
4. LDP – preferred option was for houses behind Churchfields in Devauden. However another piece of land at Well Lane has been put forward and despite it having been subject to refused planning applications it now seems to be the preferred site for house building by MCC planners. As a result head of planning will be organising a public meeting in Devauden in the New Year.
5. CC Greenland reported that he had been contacted by a resident of Churchfields to put a salt bin at the top of the close. DCC had no objections and had not been approached previously.
6. There is a review of economic development and tourism team and they are looking at the TICs in the county. It is completely untrue that the plan is to close them; however MCC will be looking at the effectiveness of TIC and is going through a consultation period.
7. MCC is very aware of the poor state of senior schools in Monmouthshire and will be putting plans forward to rebuild Caldicot school with WAG support. Monmouth Comprehensive School has been identified as the next priority.

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW) No correspondence.

9) WARD REPORTS

NK – Carole Waite has been re-elected onto the Kilgwrrwg Charity Committee Trust as treasurer.

Bettws Hill, Crossroads at Kilgwrrwg – road is in very poor state and damaged (58.7)

Raised the issue of the definitive footpath map. CM informed the meeting that MCC had indicated it could be some years away and should contact MCC if have any information.

B4293 – Cats eyes are missing between Devauden and Chepstow.

JW – The Bell from the church still needs re-siting and the Devauden Village hall committee have raised the issue again. Will discuss in the New Year.

Well Lane, Devauden – road is eroded and it may have been repaired. Request that highways confirm whether it has been completed.

Meeting closed: 9.00 pm

Next Meeting: 25 January 2011 Devauden Village Hall

Meeting dates 2011 Jan 25, Feb 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, August 30, Sept 27, Oct 25, Nov 22, Dec 20

PC Cowburn's Report - Devauden & Itton incidents October 29 to December 13

31/10 Stray dog at Newchurch

1/11 Tree down B4293 near Devauden.

3/11 One vehicle accident Star Pitch – non injury.

3/11 Scrap metal stolen from Devauden.

5/11 Scrap metal collectors at The Vedw. No details of the vehicle.

5/11 Suspicious white van seen at Devauden. No actual offences.

6/11 Dwelling burglary at Wolvesnewton.

8/11 Minor domestic incident at Newchurch.

14/11 Road accident at Devauden. Drink driver arrested.

20/11 Sounds of gun shots Chepstow Park woods. Area search negative.

22/11 Possible drink driver at Devauden.

30/11 Concern for an elderly resident at Devauden. Water leak.

3/12 Suspicious males at Devauden Green, flagging down cars.

3/12 2 road accidents near Devauden. Snow and freezing rain.

8/12 Male from Caerphilly committed suicide in Chepstow Park woods.

9/12 Concern for an elderly couple walking a large dog at Chepstow Park woods.

13/12 Theft from a building site at Itton. Metals and cable stolen.

Signed _____