

**MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY 1 MARCH 2011 AT DEVAUDEN VILLAGE HALL**

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

1) OPEN SESSION

PC Cowburn presented the list of incidents for the last month. See the list at the end of the minutes. Cllr Reece asked that it be minuted that the Neighbourhood Watch group would like to give their thanks for the recent meeting at Chepstow police station. PC Cowburn left the meeting.

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes from meeting of 25 January 2011 were agreed and signed by JW and CM.

3) MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Highways form reply from January. File.

3.2 KR reported that he had met with Richard Gable and an engineer from the forestry commission to review the debris at the side of the village hall. They have located the problem drain and are planning to rectify the situation. No time frame was set so KR and the community council will monitor the situation.

3.3 Old school bell - mounting for the church – Andy Williams will talk with Colin Evans a local carpenter to take a look and provide a quote for the next meeting. JW will take a photo of the bell to show to a potential supplier she is in contact with and will report back at the next meeting.

3.4 LDP preferred site at Well Lane. Cllr Williams declared an interest and left the room to complete a declarations of interest form. NK took over the chair. The meeting discussed the recent public meeting on 8 February attended by the planning department and a letter sent in by Andrew Plant the owner of PV04 (the Churchfields site also included in the LDP). A copy of notes made at the meeting on 8 February are available on the Devauden website.

Cllr. N Knowland proposed that that DCC does not consider PV37 (Well Lane) to be suitable for the following reasons

1. The village of Devauden has limited facilities, one pub and one small shop, survival of both being an ongoing concern.
2. Shirenewton School is already at capacity and it is possible that the new homes would attract families with children requiring schooling.
3. Public transport through the village is limited and at risk of being reduced further.
4. Rural living is becoming more costly and employment limited.
5. Services for the village are currently restricted. The sewage plant is at its limit, there is no gas supply, water and electricity supplies can be unreliable and it is a poor area for internet and mobile phones.
6. The assessment of this site by MCC appears to be inaccurate regarding visual impact. This was pointed out to Mr Ashworth at the meeting and it is critical that this is corrected before further decisions are made.
7. For existing residents in Well Lane the aspect from their properties would be adversely affected significantly due to restriction of views across open country.
8. Access would require extensive modification to the road leading from the B4293. There is also a risk of reducing the size of the existing allotments, a facility sought after by local residents and for which there is a waiting list.
9. The location of PV37 has been submitted for planning permission on several occasions and permission has been refused. This included an appeal to the National Assembly for Wales, ref APP/E6840/A/041164854 dated 19/1/2005, the main issues being the effect on the character and appearance of the area, the effect on the highway safety and the suitability for any private sewage treatment works in this location. The area is lying adjacent to the southern boundary of the village, is clearly visible across open fields and approaching along the B4293, it would be a significant extension of the village Special Landscape Area and would be harmful to the character and appearance of the landscape setting of this side of the village.
10. It is not possible to walk from the PV37 site as there is no footpath and so criteria 4 of the review should be red and not orange as it would require major works to build a footpath to the village.

Proposal was seconded by Cllr E Hall. Six voted in favour of the proposal (KR, NK, AC, AD, EH, MP) and one abstained (AW). Clerk will write to MCC with this proposal. JW returned to the room.

3.5 JW reported that Hood Memorial Hall has now agreed to let the mobile One stop shop stop in the village hall grounds with no charge. Clerk to thank the committee for this and ask if they can work out arrangements to let the staff use the toilet facilities as many people in the village have expressed an interest in the service.

4) FINANCE

Signed _____

4.1 Agreed for payment by JW and MP;

Invoice C. Martin, clerk's salary and expenses for January £ 240.71 Cheque no.101192

Mr M Fleetwood - reimbursement for purchase of bulbs using Kilgwrrwg best kept village prize funds, £34.98, cheque no 101193

4.2 Receipts - £311.29 VAT reclaim from HMRC 16 February for 2009/10 claim.

4.3 Devauden Community Council agreed to include Andy Williams on the bank mandate as the new councillor. Christopher Knight to be removed from the mandate as he has resigned from the post of councillor. All other councillor's details remain unchanged. Form completed by Andy Williams, Carleen Martin and approved by signatures of Jacque Williams and Malcolm Powell.

4.4 Meeting agreed that clerk should calculate the remaining amount being held for the Kilgwrrwg Village Trust from the best kept village winnings, and bring a cheque to that amount to the next meeting so that the money can be given to the trust.

5) CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 MCC – Notification of polling and polling stations. Put on notice board by JW. File letter.

5.2 Community health council – meeting schedule 2011/12 and agenda for meeting 8 February. File.

5.3 GAVO – volunteer achievement awards 2011. Taken by AD

5.4 MCC – grass cutting by MCC. The cost of for 2011 will be £651.78 +vat. Meeting instructed clerk to find out from MCC what exactly this fee will cover.

5.5 MCC – lower Wye Valley Area Committee, 23 February 2011. File 2 months.

5.6 MCC – signing and celebration of 'a shared community' charter, 23 March 2011. File.

5.7 Energy saving trust WAG energy saving programme. Taken by AW.

5.8 Clerks and council's direct. No action.

5.9 MCC – rural development plan for Wales, business plan 2008-10 and Boost newsletter. Taken by JW.

5.10 MCC – Monmouth schools showcase 30 March for Help for Heroes. Taken by JW/AW.

5.11 Local Government Boundary Commission – review of county electoral arrangements for the county of Monmouthshire. File 1 copy, JW has other copy.

5.12 Letter received from Mrs Sandra Mead regarding a formal complaint about CC Greenland. Clerk instructed by the meeting to write to Mrs Mead to say that DCC does not have the authority to deal with complaints of this nature but that she can write to the CEO of MCC. Send copy letter to JW and AC.

6) PLANNING

6.1 Planning committee agenda for 1 and 15 February, 1 March. Taken by KR.

6.2 Enforcement lists for January and February 2010. Taken by KR.

6.3 Planning lists for registered applications – January to February 2011. File

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

6.4.1 DC/2010/01156 – Demolish existing temporary structures to build garage block and stable block, Glendale, Kilgwrrwg, Chepstow, NP16 6PL.

6.5 DC/2010/00987 – Modification or removal of condition 2 of permission M5068 (condition limits the farmhouse accommodation to be only occupied for purpose ancillary to the farmhouse), to enable separate residential use of the dwelling, Ty Ddu Farm, Itton, Chepstow. No objections, recommend approval.

6.6 DC/2011/00053 – KR declared an interest as it is his property. He left the room and completed the declaration of interest form. Two storey extension to cottage, Nightingale Cottage, Devauden. No objections, recommend approval. KR returned to the room.

6.7 DC/2011/00077 – Proposed garage conversion to create family room with master bedroom and ensuite over. Also new garage car port and hobby room, Cobblers Hill, Devauden. No objections, recommend approval.

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

CC not present.

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW)

Notification of councillor training. No action.

9) WARD REPORTS

Signed _____

AW – B4293, southbound carriage 200m before the 40mph sign at Itton – is a large drain cover that is collapsing and causing a dangerous hazard.

There are some rumours that Wolvesnewton Church Thomas a Beckett is due to be closed. Meeting requested that Clerk write to Diocese for clarification.

AC – Junction onto the B4293 at the Firs (R82) is a difficult junction as the visibility of oncoming traffic from Devauden is restricted so could the junction or the speed limit be reviewed.

AD – Devauden village pavement is in poor repair between Glebe House and the phone box, including raised paving stones and drains that are uneven and hazardous.

EH – R122 the road between Itton and Shirenewton has many potholes and poor trench infill.

MP – 57.4 – Itton common, outside The Firs the fire hydrant box in the middle of the road has collapsed into the road.

Meeting closed: 9.45pm

Next Meeting: March 29, Devauden Village Hall

Meeting dates 2011 April 26, May 24, June 28 (Itton), July 26 (Itton), August 30 (Itton), Sept 27, Oct 25, Nov 22, Dec 20

PC Cowburn's report

Rural

22/2 Boxes of magazines stolen from outside the Petrol Station in Pwllmeyric early in the morning.

19/2 Break into a premises at Trellech Grange.

Copper piping stolen.

19/2 Trees and hedges cut at Itton without permission.

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Chepstow

26/2 Drugs warrant executed at Thornwell.

Cannabis plants seized.

23/2 Theft of batteries from temporary traffic lights on Thornwell Road.

23/2 Garage broken into at Thornwell overnight.

Nothing stolen.

23/2 Damage to a bus stop near the Severn Bridge Club.

White paint thrown over it.

Signed _____