

**MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY 26 APRIL 2011 AT DEVAUDEN VILLAGE HALL**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: M Powell, K Reece, A Duffield, A Williams, A Cooke, J Williams (chair), E Hall CC Bob Greenland N Knowland, PC Cowburn,

IN ATTENDANCE: C Martin (clerk), PC, PC Cowburn, PC Louise Thorpe, Mr wood (public) **APOLOGIES:** none

1) OPEN SESSION

PC Cowburn presented the incidents for the month, listed at the end of the minutes. He also introduced PC Thorpe who is likely to be his replacement when he retires later in the year. PC Cowburn and PC Thorpe left the meeting.

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes from meeting of 29 March 2011 were agreed and signed by JW and CM.

3) MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1** 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. Mr Evans now has the bell and it is coming up with some ideas for potential mountings. No progress to date but AW will report back at next meeting.
- 3.2** CM reported that Hood Memorial Hall has now agreed to let the mobile One stop shop stop in the village hall grounds and that Hugh Gorton was going to enquire about the use of toilet facilities at the next meeting. Reply received by email to say that it is not possible to open up the hall for toilet facilities. Councillors discussed this and felt it should be possible for the mobile OSS staff, who are MCC employees, to have a hall key to access the toilets if required. CM to email Hugh Gorton to request this.
- 3.3** Grass cutting –Last meeting agreed that clerk should send a chart with all the greens on and ask them when they will be cut. Reply received as follows; - ‘The grass cutting of Devauden green, Itton green and Rhyd y Fedw green will be carried out week commencing 22nd March, 7th April, 25th April, 11th May, 27th May, 14th June, 30th June, 18th July, 3rd August, 19th August, 6th Sept, 22nd Sept, 10th October and the 22nd October. The above dates are weather dependent but will provide you with a good idea of the mowing regime.’ CM will email MCC to confirm that are happy with this arrangement.
- 3.4** Letter from Mrs Jadwiga Howell about the hedges on Star Hill. At the last meeting it was agreed that the clerk should write to Mrs Howell and thank her for the letter and bringing this issue to our attention and that DCC appreciates the situation is resolved. Also commend her for her efforts in maintaining the appearance of Star Hill. Reply received stating that the issues have not been fully resolved and that she will continue to monitor. File letter.
- 3.5** Communication issues raised in open session at last meeting - AW should investigate an email address for DCC and set up in liaison with CM. The likely cost of this will be around £25 per year. The meeting concluded that there was no benefit to DCC of the clerk having a separate laptop.
- 3.6** After enquiring with OVW the clerk confirmed that Cllr A Williams had agreed to the code of conduct as part of signing the acceptance of office documentation.
- 3.7** Thomas a Becket Church – reply received to say that the Diocesan office is not aware of any plans to close the church. Letter taken by AW.
- 3.8** There was a discussion about the best way to issue agendas and what they should contain to ensure that the public was aware of any important issues. No firm decision was taken and JW has taken the standing orders book to review.

4) FINANCE

Balances at 28/3/11 Current; £768.28 Notice: £2273.70

- 4.1** Agreed for payment by JW and AC;
Invoice - C. Martin, clerk’s salary and expenses for April, including accrued holiday pay for the previous year £ 359.28
Cheque no.101197
- 4.2** Aon Insurance renewal for year 1 June 2011 to 1 June 2012. £540.90 (496.54 last year). Defer to next meeting as not due until 1 June.
- 4.3** Cllr A Williams and clerk completed documentation for OVW, that will enable the community council to claim a bursary for the councillor training he is attending.
- 4.4** MCC – notification that precept is approved and will be paid in 3 instalments

5) CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1** Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council committee meeting agenda for 5 April. Taken by JW
- 5.2** MCC – Final charter agreed between MCC and Community/town Councils. File in information file.
- 5.3** MCC – Lower Wye Area Committee Wed 6 April. File 2 months.

Signed _____

- 5.4 GAVO – membership application and newsletter. File.
5.5 Request from Shirenewton regarding a joint meeting about planning with other small CCs and MCC's David Swanson. CM to reply to say would like to attend and would like to be notified of the meeting date.

6) PLANNING

- 6.1 Planning committee agenda for 12 April and 3 May. File 2 months.
6.2 Planning lists for registered applications – April 2011. File
6.3 There were no plans approved by MCC or acceptable delegated decisions since the last meeting.
6.4 DC/2011/00255/ST – Small ground floor extension to provide larger kitchen with improved natural light. KR proposed recommend approval seconded by AW and unanimously agreed.
6.5 DC/2011/00317 – 2 storey side extension replacing existing single storey extension. AD declared an interest and did not participate as is a property near her own. KR proposed recommend approval, seconded by JW and unanimously agreed. AD did not participate in vote.
6.6 DC/2011/00068 – conversion of existing building into holiday accommodation, Fox and hounds, Itton. MP declared an interest as near his property and did not participate. EH proposed recommend approval subject to parking within the curtilage of the site, seconded by JW. Unanimously agreed, MP did not vote.

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

CC Greenland had nothing specific to report but mentioned the election on 5 May.

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW)

Agenda for meeting 14 April 2011 at Usk. File.

9) WARD REPORTS

AD – Wesley Way Play area needs a no dogs sign urgently and the surfaces need cleaning as covered in moss.
EH – post box at Itton Green – door has collapsed – clerk to contact Chepstow sorting office.
Adoption of telephone boxes – requested that clerk contacts MCC to find out what is happening.
AW – requested that CM checks that highways have received the last form referring to problems at Cobblers plain with traffic cutting the corner on the road to Trellech Grange.
AC – On 28 March at approx. 6pm a lady fell off her horse and it took 1 hour for the ambulance to get to Kilgwrrwg as they did not take the callers advice to not take the sat nav route but suggested an alternative and as a result the ambulance got stuck. CM to write to ambulance service requesting that they take note of this anomaly with Sat Nav's in this area.

Meeting closed: 10.15pm

Next Meeting: May 24 (AGM), Devauden Village Hall

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

PC Cowburn's report

Devauden & Itton incidents March 28 to April 26

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31/3 Scrap metal collectors in Devauden. No actual offences.
01/4 Deliberate damage to a hedge at Itton.
05/4 Garage broken into at a farm near Devauden. Tools stolen.
06/4 Neighbour dispute near Devauden.

Signed _____