

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

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

IN ATTENDANCE: C Martin (clerk), Mr J Rowlands, (public), **APOLOGIES:** PC L Thorpe, A Williams

1) OPEN SESSION

In PC Thorpe's absence JW read out the police incidents report – at the end of the minutes. It was noted that some of the incidents did not detail which location so agreed that Clerk will contact PC Thorpe to request the information.

JW invited Mr Rowlands to speak- he asked on progress with the old school bell. JW said Andy Williams was due to report on this but as he was not present an update could not be provided. Clerk will contact A Williams for progress. Mr Rowlands then asked why the DCC agenda was not on the Devauden notice board. JW reported that there was a copy on the board from Sunday which met the requirement of 3 days notice and there were agendas on the boards at Itton and Kilgwrrwg for a longer period so the council had met its statutory obligations. Finally he asked if DCC had reported the overhanging hedges at school house and Churchfields. CM replied that this had been put on the regular highways from (sent 4/9/11) to MCC. No reply has been received yet to this. Mr Rowlands asked who it had been sent to. CM replied Gillian Hazard. JW asked clerk to follow up this highways form.

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes from meeting of 30 August 2011 were agreed and signed by JW and CM.

3) MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 Highways form – no reply yet for latest one sent at beginning of September – see open session above.
- 3.2 PC Thorpe's request to use DCC meeting time as a regular police 'surgery' for the public. The meeting agreed that this would be acceptable and should be tried for a few meetings. PC Thorpe also asked in her email if she could have councillors email addresses. All councillors present agreed.
- 3.3 Received further information about the phone kiosks adopted. CM will distribute the information via email.

4) FINANCE

Balances at 25/7/11 Current; £1797.78 Notice: £2274.50

- 4.1 Agreed for payment by JW and EH;
C. Martin, clerk's salary and expenses for Sept £249.54, Cheque no.101211
One Voice Wales – training course for A Williams, £25.00, cheque no. 101212
Donation towards the insurance costs for the fireworks display at Devauden. Cheque no.101213
- 4.2 Asset register updated for 2011 and approved by the meeting.
- 4.3 Risk assessment reviewed and remains unchanged. Approved by the meeting.

5) CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 MCC – letter from chair about golf day 14 October. No action
- 5.2 MCC – forms to request electoral roll. Completed by all present. CM will forward to MCC.
- 5.3 Wye Valley AONB Picturesque newsletter. Distributed.

6) PLANNING

- 6.1 Planning committee agenda for 20 September. File 2 months.
- 6.2 Planning lists for registered applications – up to 16 September 2011. Distributed.
- 6.3 The following plans were approved by MCC or acceptable delegated decisions since the last meeting.
 - 6.3.1 DC/2011/00713 – Double garage – Bramble cottage, Devauden.
 - 6.3.2 DC/2011/00592 – Oak framed conservatory/sun room – Foxes Barn, Cobblers Plain, Devauden.
 - 6.3.3 DC/2011/00449 – Change of use from pasture to ménage, for the training of owners horses. Tasmania, Usk Rd, Shirenewton.
- 6.4 DC/2011/00880 – demolition of conservatory and erection of porch and utility room, Well Cottage, Well Lane, Devauden. No objections. Recommend approval.

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Signed _____

CC Greenland apologised for not attending the last few meetings. He made the following points;
MCC is undertaking the budgeting process and is concentrating on the care for the vulnerable, education and economic development. MCC is conscious of what it does with council tax payers' money and has been cutting costs.
MCC is making headway with economic development in particular opportunities for enterprise zone concentrating on new technologies. In particular MCC has set up a company to offer broadband services to areas not currently well served.
Move out of county hall has been going well and offices set up at Magor and plans going ahead to build on college site at Usk.
Most staff will have left county hall by the end of the year.

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW)

Annual conference and AGM – 8 October. File
Appointment of training champions. File

9) WARD REPORTS

MP - Received a letter from Dr Chamberlaine at Itton common about water runoff on the unadopted road in front of his house. Clerk to send letter to MCC highways. Also put comments on the highways form and request a TPO map from MCC. Also the drain on the un adopted road at Itton Common just off the B4293 needs cleaning out. Hedge just off B4293 at the junction with the 57.4 is overgrown and obscuring the view of drivers at that corner.

EH – 57.4 – need a slow sign on the road coming from Shirenewton approaching the B4293 as the speed of motorists is a hazard for pedestrians. Contact MP or EH regarding this and the issues above.

KR– The benches on the green at Devauden are in need of painting before the winter. JW will assess what is required and report back to the next meeting. The electric slow sign on the B4293 entering Devauden from the north is faulty and sometimes stays on but at other times does not appear to work.

AC – directional sign on the junction of B4293 and R82 was damaged and it needs replacing.

Meeting closed: 9.00 pm

Next Meeting: October 25 Devauden Village Hall

Meeting dates 2011 Nov 22, Dec 20

Devauden and Itton incidents between 18th August and 23rd September 2011

18/08 – report of someone prowling in a garden in the afternoon – no-one was found when police arrived and there was no sign of any criminal activity.

21/08 – a suspected scrap van was seen in Churchfields, described as having a white cab with blue sides, registration similar to X84MYC, containing two males.

21/08 – damage caused to a garden and a lawnmower stolen.

22/08 – a disc cutter was stolen from a works container at a house being built.

28/08 – the garage broken into and a strimmer stolen – from the same location as above – possible done at the same time, but not noticed.

30/08 – damage caused to a garden fence over a two week period, possibly a car crashing into it.

06/09 – a car crash occurred, the driver left the car where it crashed but was later arrested.

07/09 – a possible scrap van in the area – described as a red Nissan truck, no registration number.

19/09 – theft of a digger where the offender has used a Devauden address to have it delivered and has then stolen it.

Signed _____