

**MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY 24 APRIL 2012 AT DEVAUDEN VILLAGE HALL**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: M Powell, J Williams (chair), N Knowland, A Duffield, E Hall, A Cooke.

IN ATTENDANCE: C Martin (clerk), Kevin McElroy, Garry Wood **APOLOGIES:** K Reece, A Williams, PC L Thorpe, CC Bob Greenland

1) OPEN SESSION

PC Thorpe sent through the incidents for the period and these were read out by the Chair. See the end of the minutes for the detailed reports

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes from the meeting of 27 March 2012 were agreed and signed by JW and CM.

3) MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 Highways form received 14/4/12. Read out by JW. File.
- 3.2 Telephone Boxes – JW reported that she had met with the conservation officer Simon Robertshaw and CC Greenland. Mr Robertshaw confirmed that it was unlikely that there would be any funding available from MCC to renovate the boxes. JW will explore possibly engaging with the scouts to do some work on the boxes when the money is available. Clerk to check insurance for implications of having the phone boxes.
- 3.3 AC reported that the WI had been concerned that the tree and the plaque planted in the Hood Memorial Hall grounds in memory of Mrs Holland has disappeared. JW said she would speak to the hall committee.
- 3.4 JW confirmed that the DCC member who sits on the Hood Memorial Hall committee is a trustee in an individual capacity and has one voting right as an individual.

4) FINANCE

Balances at 23/4/12 Current; £ 1498.41 Notice: ££774.87

- 4.1 Agreed for payment by JW and EH
- Clerk's expenses for April, £18.07, cheque no.101225
- 4.2 Clerk's Salary - At the time of the meeting the Clerk had yet to receive notification of salary from MCC for period ending 30 April 2012.
The projected costs of clerk's salary for 2012/13 is £3002.76 in addition there could be up to £312.79 in holiday pay depending on how much time the clerk takes off.
- 4.3 The year end accounts were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chair (JW).
- 4.4 The year end accounts were passed to JW to give to Christine Alway to carry out the internal audit. Following the election CM and JW will make arrangements to collect the accounts for sign off of the annual return at the next meeting.
- 4.3 Insurance renewal from Aon - £547.83. Renewal date 1 June 2012. Meeting agreed to defer to next month.

5) CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 MCC – Notice of uncontested election and statement of persons nominated. Notices put on notice boards.
- 5.2 WAG – research into delivery of planning services in statutory designated landscapes, consultation questionnaire to be returned by 4 May. Completed at the meeting and clerk to post.
- 5.3 MCC Chair – invitation to Olympic Torch reception at Monmouth Shire Hall 25 May 2012. Await invitation at the next meeting.
- 5.4 Wye Valley AONB – picturesque. Distributed.

6) PLANNING

- 6.1 Planning committee agenda for 17 April. File 2 months.
- 6.2 The following plans were approved or delegated decisions;
- 6.2.1 DC/2011/00170 – Use of property as a single dwelling – The Great Hall, Itton Court, Itton.
- 6.3 DC/2012/00120 – Single storey extension to the rear of the existing house providing a new bedroom for the applicant who suffers walking difficulties, Benson Bush House, Itton Common. Meeting agreed to recommend approval.

Signed _____

6.4 DC/2012/00271 – Second storey extension over kitchen and single storey rear utility room, Little Crumbland Farm, Devauden. Meeting agreed to recommend approval.

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor was not in attendance.

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW)

Membership renewal - defer to next meeting when precept received.

The Voice newsletter distributed.

Area Meeting 12 April 2012 Agenda – JW attended and gave following report:

David James – rural housing enabler was speaking and explained the self build scheme.

OVW do a lot of training but have had to cancel because of lack of attendance so are planning to come out to community councils in future including induction training for new councillors in June

Monmouthshire is running out of burial grounds

There is a vacancy for the representative on the council standards committee at the AGM

Independent remuneration panel is looking at payment of expenses to councillors.

9) WARD REPORTS

MP - MCC have categorically stated that the road land drain and tree at Itton Common is unadopted and therefore not the responsibility of MCC. CC Greenland has taken this on and is sending someone out to look at it.

AC – Reported on the jubilee beacons being erected in Devauden and Kilgwrrwg. Councillors concluded that they were happy for them to be put in the community but at the current time have no involvement.

EH – Itton Village are having a jubilee party and would like a contribution of £100 towards commemorative gifts for the children. JW commented that the rest of the community would be doing similar activities and there may be insufficient funds. It was agreed that clerk would send budget and accounts to NK who would do acash projection for the year to establish what will be affordable.

AD – Devauden pavement opposite the church is overgrown by the verge causing a pedestrian hazard from the shop to the bus stop.

NK – The electric 30mph warning sign into the village is intermittent – request MCC renew it with something more effective and reliable.

JW – Reported from the hall committee meeting that the entries to the 10k race are going well. They have also applied for grants and the hall has been tidied up well which was noted by the meeting. Low energy bulbs have been installed and if the finances are available there may be opportunities to improve the kitchen and toilets.

The John Wesley memorial is still a work in progress and the hall committee would welcome Ann Cooke's help and support. AC agreed. Also MCC are very interested in this and hope to include it in the Monmouthshire heritage trail in the longer term. The idea of changing the village name was not well supported and has been dropped.

The chair wanted it formally recorded that a vote of thanks to Cllr Duffield for her years of service and diligent work, was made. It was also noted that Cllr Reece has been on the community council since 1969 and has played a tremendous part in council and village life and will be missed.

Meeting closed: 9.30 pm

Next Meeting: 21 May at Devauden Village Hall

Please note change of date for the May AGM to Monday 21 May to meet the obligations associated with the election on 3 May.

Proposed Meeting dates 2012 AGM 21 May, 26 Jun (Itton), 31 Jul (Itton), 28 Aug (Itton), 25 Sep, 30 Oct, 27 Nov, + 18 Dec

Police Report - March - April

I am waiting for some official information to pass on to you about the "101" number, so it can be put in all the local parish or similar magazines.

Devauden, Itton and Howick incidents between 27th March and 19th April 2012

27/03 - a road traffic collision occurred, just on the outskirts of Devauden (B4293) - two cars were involved, but with injury - the council were informed of the debris and oil on the road.

Signed _____

29/03 - theft of a front number plate from a car in Devauden overnight. There was a similar offence in Pwllmeyric the same week - the number plates would be used by offenders in cases of "drive offs" from garages.

30/03 - a perimeter alarm was set off on the driveway of a house in Itton in the early hours of the morning. The occupant called us at the time (GREAT) as they had seen a white van drive off, go up the dead end road, then head off towards Devauden. The response officers caught up with the van - and discovered it was the milkman making his rounds! However, well worth a call to the Police at the time, as the result could have been different.

30/03 - a call was received about a deer that had been hit on the Devauden Road between Devauden and St Arvans. A vet was called and they dealt with the injured deer.

10/04 - an eBay crime was reported. A resident of Wolvesnewton paid a large amount of money for an item which never materialised. A reminder to everyone to try and pay for items on these type of websites by the most secure means, usually Paypal, as it often means that the provider will deal with any issues involving the sale of items.

PC 1158 Louise Thorpe

Signed _____