

**MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY 31 JULY 2012 AT ITTON VILLAGE HALL**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: C Martin (clerk), PC L Thorpe, CC Bob Greenland, Mr D Maddocks, Mr Wood and Mr Kirby

APOLOGIES: K McElroy, A Williams, N Knowland

1) OPEN SESSION

PC Thorpe went through the incidents for the month which are attached at the end of the minutes. Cllr Cook commented on the speed of bikes along the Usk to Chepstow road, reporting that she found it intimidating. PC Thorpe said the police were aware of this and it was often more of a problem in good weather as we have recently had. Cllr Cook enquired if a deer had been killed on Star Hill and PC Thorpe confirmed there was.

Mr Maddocks requested to speak and a discussion took place. The Chair asked CC Greenland's view on how such discussion should be recorded in the minutes. CC replied that all the community council should be doing in his view is to minute the general outcome rather than trying to minute every single word said. This is unnecessary and is not done by Monmouthshire County Council. However it is up to you what you do. Cllr Rowlands read out the section from the standing orders regarding minutes and it was agreed that these reflected what CC Greenland had said. Based on this DCC agreed to minute Mr Maddocks contribution as follows:

Mr Maddocks presented complaints about;

1. The accuracy of the minutes
2. The time it takes to publish minutes
3. The way meetings are run.

DCC agreed that;

1. Changes had been made to the minutes and the timescales for publication
2. As well as at the open session at the start of a community council meeting the public may ask questions and be questioned at the discretion of the chair at other times in the meeting.

Following this discussion Mr Maddocks chose to leave the meeting.

Mr Wood commented that he felt the community council was too formal and unwelcoming in the way it operated.

Mr Kirby was invited to speak but declined.

MR Wood and Mr Kirby left the meeting. The open session ended after 45 minutes.

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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

3) MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 Cllr Hall proposed that DCC is a public body and advertises its meetings well in advance. If a member of the public wishes to organise a meeting and requests the presence of a councillor the date of that meeting must not conflict with the date of a community council meeting. Seconded by Cllr Cook and unanimously agreed.
- 3.2 Highways form received by MCC and forwarded to Graham Kinsella. Notification received that a new electronic 30mph sign has been ordered.
- 3.3 Telephone Boxes – Cllr Rowlands reported that the paint for one kiosk would be £100 and it would cost £200 to sandblast. To do all 3 boxes would be £900. There are 2 volunteers who will paint the Devauden kiosk. DCC agreed in principle to buy the paint for all three in August and do the sandblasting at Itton and Devauden. Clerk confirmed that she had circulated by email the terms of the kiosk purchase to all councillors. It was agreed to await the presence of Cllr Knowland to confirm the financial position regarding this.
- 3.4 JW reported that the free training provided by MCC was excellent and she handed out training handout to the councillors present. She reported that there were other community council members there as well. On this basis the community council agreed to put the training offered by One Voice Wales on hold. Clerk will inform the other community councils approached.
- 3.5 Cllr J Williams explained that Hugh Gorton had sent her an email regarding a bus stop for Devauden Green. It was agreed that the Devauden councillors would monitor the situation with the bus stops as there were currently insufficient funds for new ones.
- 3.6 John Wesley bust – clerk received an email from Phil Thomas at MCC planning explaining the process for obtaining permission to site the bust on the green. This was passed to Cllr Rowlands. Cllr Cook proposed that is recorded and made clear that DCC has no financial responsibility for the John Wesley bust. Seconded by Cllr Williams and unanimously agreed.
- 3.7 Cllr J Williams confirmed that she would paint the benches on the green.

Signed _____

- 3.8 Cllr Williams reported that she had attended the Olympic Torch celebrations in Monmouth and MCC should be congratulated on how this was organised.
- 3.9 Overhanging Trees on Well Lane – Cllr Williams reported that she had spoken to Jim Thomas and she and he had observed large vehicles travelling down the lane without a problem. DCC agreed to monitor this situation.

4) FINANCE

Balances at 29/7/12 Current; £892.67 Notice: £775.13

4.1 Agreed for payment by JW and AC.

Clerk's expenses for July, £18.82, cheque no.101232

4.3 Clerk's Salary –received from MCC payroll for July, £250.23, to be accrued.

4.4 Clerk emailed MCC to find out the estimated cost of elections. MCC have passed on the enquiry to the relevant department however they confirm that the total has not yet been worked out and as soon as it is they will send an invoice. CC Greenland confirmed he would follow this up with MCC.

4.5 Reconciliation for period ended 30 June presented and signed by JW and clerk.

4.6 Allotment rental of £20 has been received from each of the three tenants for the 2012 rent.

4.7 Cllr Rowlands explained that he thought it would be appropriate to issue an analysis of expenditure against budget. Cllrs agreed to discuss this at the next meeting when Cllr Knowland was in attendance. It was agreed that a quarterly analysis would be satisfactory.

5) CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Clerks and Council's direct. No action.

6) PLANNING

6.1 Planning committee agenda for 3 July 2012. File 2 months.

6.2 The following plans were approved or delegated decisions;

6.2.1 Dc/2011/01162 Conversion of existing barn converted in part to form an annexe to create 1 dwelling, Kilgwrrwg House.

6.2.2 DC/2012/00326 2 storey extension and minor alteration to existing dwelling, Church cottage Wolvesnewton

6.3 DC/2012/00602 – Agricultural notification, Timber store barn, Church Farm, Llansoy. No objections. Recommend approval.

6.4 Dc/2012/00332 – Proposed revisions to approved scheme for conversion of redundant agricultural building into dwelling, Dyffryn Farm, Llansoy. No objections. Recommend approval.

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor had to leave the meeting before this section.

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW)

Confirmation of renewal of subscription – JW completed the OVW representative documentation and clerk will fill in the details for Cllr McElroy who was absent but had been elected as a representative.

9) WARD REPORTS

AC- Requested that clerk raises the issue of heavy vehicles getting stuck on Ty Bettws Hill again as the issue has not been resolved.

JR – Requested that there was clearer signage for the house numbering on Wesley Way. Clerk to include on highways form and request they contact Cllr Rowlands. Also the wooden handrail outside Wesley Way numbers 39-41 is very loose and dangerous. Clerk to contact Monmouthshire Housing.

CM – informed the meeting that the Fiveways editor had requested Cllr contact details. It was agreed that clerk would forward the details to AC

JW – Wished it to be recorded that Cllr Cook be thanked for producing the Fiveways articles. Also Mr Ken Reece's contribution to the community should be recognised as he cuts the grass verges in the village on a voluntary basis. There is an overgrown footpath in Devauden – it is off the B4293 on the left hand side just in front of the Devauden sign as the village is approached from the south. Clerk to contact MCC

Meeting closed: 10.00 pm

Signed _____

Next Meeting: 28 Aug (Itton)

Proposed Meeting dates 2012 25 Sep, 23Oct, 27 Nov, 18 Dec

Devauden and Itton incidents between 25th June and 30th July 2012.

29/06 – scrap van seen in Devauden looking for scrap – registration X84MCY – it is known to Police, but on this occasion was no longer in the area when officers arrived.

11/07 – a suspicious van was seen in a dead end road in Itton – registration number similar to BE52NBX, which is no trace on the Police system.

22/07 – attempted theft of oil from a tank outside a house in Devauden overnight – this was the second time in as many days.

Signed _____