

**MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY 28 AUGUST 2012 AT ITTON VILLAGE HALL**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: C Martin (clerk), Mr D Maddocks, Mr R Thompson, Mrs V Thompson

APOLOGIES: PC L Thorpe, A Cooke, M Powell, K McElroy, CC Bob Greenland, N Knowland

1) OPEN SESSION

PC Thorpe was not available and no incidents for the month have been forwarded to the clerk for inclusion in the minutes.

Mr Thompson expressed his concerns about the traffic and its speed on the B4293 between Itton and Devauden. Mrs V Thompson explained the road had been closed several times this year due to accidents. Mr and Mrs Thompson requested that the community council took on this matter to help improve the situation. Cllr J Williams asked if the police had ever put speed cameras along the road and Mr Thompson said not. It was proposed by Cllr J Williams and agreed by the meeting that the clerk will write to the police requesting a speed check and write to MCC highways requesting an extension of the new 30mph limit both northwards and to also consider installing further warning signs.

Mr Thompson enquired about the telephone kiosk at Itton. Cllr J Williams explained that a grant was not available but the community council was looking into having the kiosks stripped and painted. Mr Thompson indicated that he could find Itton volunteers to assist with the painting.

Mr. Maddocks responded to the question : " How do we deal with responses to the members of the public?". He stated that he considered that DCC should respond with openness, transparency, local democracy, without public complaints and void of personal gain. He alerted the councillors to the Good Councillors Guide. JW commented that the council's behaviour would be monitored by members of the public.
The open session ended after 35 minutes.

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes from the meeting of 31 July 2012 were agreed and signed by JW and CM with one small amendment to the open section – see minutes of 31 July.

3) MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 Highways form – response received regarding 30mph electronic sign at Devauden from MCC.
- 3.2 Governing body of Shirenewton School – request for nominations for minor authority governor. JW to consult with AC and respond to the clerk with who will be nominated so she can inform the governing body.
- 3.3 A gift has been received from Mr Wood to assist with the kiosk renovation. It was agreed that the gift would be accepted in line with the One Voice Wales model guidance. The meeting agreed to adopt the model guidance. Clerk to bank the cash and await an email from Mr Woods confirming the purpose of the donation. JR to contact MR Wood for this.
- 3.4 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. JW proposed that the Devauden and Itton kiosks be treated at a total cost of £600. Proposal unanimously agreed by the meeting.

4) FINANCE

Balances at 27/8/12 Current; £ 892.67 Notice: £775.13

- 4.1 Agreed for payment by JW and AW.
Clerk's expenses for July, £18.19, cheque no.101234
MCC – fee for election, £318.14, cheque no. 101235
- 4.3 Clerk's Salary –received from MCC payroll for July, £250.23, to be accrued.
- 4.4 Mazars LLP – letter of confirmation of audit and request for final sign off of the audit.
- 4.5 The annual return was certified by the clerk and then the meeting approved the annual return which was signed by the chair in accordance with Regulation 9 of the accounts and audit (Wales) regulations 2005.
- 4.6 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.
- 4.7 Clerk to email expense claim forms to all councillors.

Signed _____

5) CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 MCC – Review of Communities and Electoral Arrangements – consultation ends 5 October. Community Councillors will respond individually. File.
- 5.2 MCC – School Admission Forum vacancy. JW took the documentation to find out more.
- 5.3 Temporary public path closure at Chepstow Park Woods - proposed extension to closure by 2 months. File.
- 5.4 WAG – Good Councillors Guide 2012. Four copies distributed to be returned at next meeting for the others.

6) PLANNING

- 6.1 Planning committee agenda for 7 August 2012. File 2 months.
- 6.2 The following plans were approved or delegated decisions;
 - 6.2.1 Dc/2011/00464 Conversion of a redundant stable to residential accommodation for tourist use, Yoevil House, The Veddw, Devauden.
 - 6.2.2 DC/2012/00602 – Pole/timber store barn, Church Farm, Llansoy.
- 6.3 MCC – supplementary planning guidance – car parking standards, domestic garages. File.

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor not in attendance

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW)

Motions for debate at AGM in October 2012. File.

9) WARD REPORTS

All issues raised by the councillors are forwarded to MCC or other appropriate bodies for action if required.

AW- Informed meeting that he has consented to be involved in a local community welfare scheme – a network for welfare and support to the more vulnerable in the area. Will let DCC know how this works out.

BiGDig update – are expecting 5 broadband proposals shortly. There are a variety of technologies on offer and are now doing some research into what people would be prepared to pay.

JR – The hedge outside Glebe house has been cut by Mr Maddocks and he was thanked by the meeting. Also the footpath referred to in the last meeting has also been cleared by Mr Maddocks. There is a footpath opposite The Firs (junction of B4293 and R82) that needs clearing to enable access and a finger post erected to identify it. Suggested that DCC adopts a clear procedure for complaints and suggest councillors and clerk look at the CPALC website.

EH –The gate lights at Foxes Barn Itton are still causing a hazard on the highways. Clerk has reported it to planning enforcement and will follow this up.

JW – Fred Richards has painted the benches on the green and requested the clerk writes a letter of thanks. The hedge of the allotments has been cut although no one knows by whom. JR will investigate.

Meeting closed: 9.30 pm

Next Meeting: 25 Sep (Devauden)

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

Signed _____