

**MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2012 AT DEVAUDEN VILLAGE HALL**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: J Williams (chair), E Hall, A Williams, J Rowlands, A Cooke, M Powell, K McElroy, CC Bob Greenland

IN ATTENDANCE: C Martin (clerk), PCSO A Jones

APOLOGIES: PC L Thorpe, N Knowland

1) OPEN SESSION

PCSO Jones presented the incidents for the last two months (see end of the minutes). He informed the meeting of the dates the mobile police station will be in Devauden – 19/10, 16/11 and 14/12. There was a discussion about speed monitoring through the village and PCSO said he would obtain the result of recent monitoring for a future meeting.

The open session ended after 20 minutes.

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

A change was made to the last 2 sentences of the open session of the last minutes. Minutes from the meeting of 28 August 2012 were agreed and signed by JW and CM.

3) MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 Chair asked Cllr Rowlands to apologise for a remark made to Cllr Hall on 28 August – ‘Lighten up, woman’. Cllr Rowlands refused to apologise stating that the remark was not without due cause. Clerk commented that she had found this remark to be offensive.
- 3.2 Foxes Barn – enforcement case. Email received from MCC stating that owner has been notified that the lights are not acceptable. Awaiting a planning application. Cllrs in Itton will continue to monitor.
- 3.3 Telephone Boxes – Cllr Hall reported she had been in contact with the AONB and there may be funding available for renovating the kiosk in Itton. It was agreed that Cllr Rowlands would forward estimates for costs of renovation to clerk to be forwarded to Cllr Hall who will liaise with the AONB. Cllr J Williams agreed to contact the Clerk at The Narth for information as they have renovated and are now using their kiosk. Cllr Rowlands will instruct contractor to delay the sandblasting of the Itton kiosk agreed at the last meeting. Cllr Powell will also check the electricity and light at the Devauden kiosk.
- 3.4 Cllr Hall and Cllr Powell informed the meeting that Itton has some funds available and would like to use it for a finger post sign in the village. Clerk to contact highways to ask them for advice and permission. Request they contact Cllr Powell.
- 3.5 The hedge of the allotments has been cut and Cllr Rowlands confirmed that Mr D Maddocks has cut them.
- 3.6 Cllr Cook reported she has been retained as a governor at Shirenewton School and that the new car park is now complete.
- 3.7 Footpaths – reply from MCC re: footpath opposite the Firs to state has been passed to field officer for clearance (ID 9919 – footpath no. 357/61).
- 3.8 Highways - reply re. Letter sent about lack of storm drainage on Wesley Way.

4) FINANCE

Balances at 24/9/12 Current; £2637.52 Notice: £775.28

- 4.1 Agreed for payment by JW and AC
J Rowlands expenses for purchase of paint for the benches on village green £17.98, cheque no 101236
Clerk's expenses for September, £16.93, cheque no.101237
Mazars LLP Audit 2011/12 fee -£144.00, cheque no. 101238
Itton Village Hall Hire - £60cheque no 101239
- 4.3 Clerk's Salary –received from MCC payroll for September, £250.23, to be accrued.
- 4.4 Annual return received from auditors certified. JW to put a copy and notification of the conclusion of audit on the notice board.

5) CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 MCC – Letter from planning regarding site visit at Duffryn Fam Llansoy. Postmarked 26 October. Arrived with clerk on the morning of 18 October after she had left for the day and the visit was at 1.30pm on 28 October.
- 5.2 Wye Valley AONB Picturesque newsletter
- 5.3 Clerks and Councils direct – distributed
- 5.4 Dyslexia Wales – request for funding. No action

Signed _____

5.5 Best kept Village presentation – no one available to attend.

6) PLANNING

- 6.1 Planning committee agenda for 4 September 2012. File 2 months.
- 6.2 The following plans were approved or delegated decisions;
- 6.2.1 Dc/2011/00332 – proposed revisions to approved scheme for conversion of redundant agricultural building into a dwelling, Dyffryn Farm, Llansoy.
- 6.3 Dc/2012/00674 – Conversion of redundant office to residential, Percus Barn, Ty Fedw, Devauden. Recommend refusal as object on the grounds that this has been a long run circumvention of the planning rule. It was originally an agricultural building but never used as such, it was converted to office space and never used as such and from being newly built met the specification of a domestic dwelling. DCC also queries whether this is in the AONB and therefore subject to further regulations.
- 6.4 DC/2012/00683 – to erect cattle shed for their management and feeding, Duffryn Farm, Llansoy. Recommend approval.

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor had nothing further to report and had to leave the meeting.

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW)

Training courses booklet

The voice newsletter

OVW Complaints Procedure – DCC councillors agreed to adopt the complaints procedure of OVW.

9) WARD REPORTS

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

- JR –**
- 1. Requested that Clerk to enquire again with highways whether a house numbers sign can be installed at Wesley Way as nothing has happened since the previous request.
 - 2. Reported that the hall insurance will not cover the Wesley bust on the green. Will forward details for clerk to try to get a quote from DCC insurers.
 - 3. Cobblers Plain – about 50m from the phone box along the road heading to Corn Farm there has been excavation work and services installed. It is not clear what is being done so the clerk will forward to planning enforcement citing Cllr Rowlands as the contact.
 - 4. Request to be made to MCC to extend the 30mph limit along the B4293 both north and south.
 - 5. Request made to Mons housing for repairs has not happened – Clerk to make the request again. In addition outside no 37 Wesley Way opposite no. 1 Wesley Gardens is a soak away and steps that need repairing as well as the handrail. Clerk to report to Mons Housing/One Stop shop.
 - 6. The 30mph electric sign has been removed but the replacement yet to be installed.

- KM –**
- Wished it to be recorded that MCC grounds maintenance responded very efficiently to the request regarding the degraded swings at Wesley Way. Replacement seats are now in place and much appreciated by the children and their parents. Reports that he is continuing to look at solutions for water at the allotments and is now looking at a manual pump. There are issues with storm drainage along Wesley Way. A draft letter passed to the clerk and she will write to MCC accordingly.

The following issues have been raised with Monmouthshire Housing (MHA) by KM:

1. Drainage issue to footpath, MHA are looking to install sleeping policemen (ramp) to entrance of carpark as it is believed the water is coming from higher up Wesley Way and this will hopefully reduce the water reaching the path. Works to be carried out in next two months.

2. Hedge to the rear of 24-26 Wesley gardens, MHA do not have responsibility to trim the hedge as part of the tenancy agreements. But will look to trim the hedge back for the last time this year and explain to the residents why it is not MHA's responsibility.

3. Residents only signs will be fitted to the carpark areas as requested by the residents. Sign have been produced and will be installed in the next two weeks.

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4. Issue with tree causing risk of damage to garages adjacent to 16-18 Wesley way. The tree is in the garden of the priory property. A letter has been sent to the owner of the property by MHA detailing the concerns of damage to the garages from the unstable tree.

JW – Village Hall has to pay for grass cutting, so Jeremy Horton is going to get quotes and will look at quotes including DCC green cutting. Cllr J Williams will provide details to Mr Horton
Requested that at the next meeting when NK is present the donation towards the fireworks at Devauden should be discussed.

AW- Sent via email

The issue of continuous surface water on the road through Wolvesnewton. A 30m stretch of road, beginning 25 meters east (downhill) of the Wolvesnewton telephone exchange, has had a shallow stream running down it even through the comparatively dry weeks in late August and early Sept - a period when all other surface water runoff had dried out. Right now it's just an inconvenience. Come some colder weather, it will be a real hazard.

Meeting closed: 9.20 pm

Next Meeting: 23 October (Devauden)

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

Police Report

1/8/12 – 2 horses loose on the road near Star hill – they had been returned to their field by the time officers arrived. Please make sure all gates and fences are secure if you have livestock in them as the consequences could be awful for the animals and road users.

2/8/12 – excessive mud on the road in llangwm – mcc informed.

6/8/12 – 1 vehicle RTC between Itton and St Arvans – vehicle left the road and went into wooded area. minor injuries .

13/8/12 – Attempted break into a shed .another nearby entered, search made but nothing taken at a property in llansoy.

15/8/12 -1 vehicle RTC between Itton and Devauden – minor injuries only.

16/8/12 – Another report of a horse in the road between itton and shirenewton. Advice again as previous report.

22/8/12 – drug parafanalia found in a gateway near a farm in Devauden.

22/8/12- report of slight damage by a tractor and trailer in Devauden – words of advice given to driver .

25/8/12 – report of a dog attacking another dog at a property near Devauden – relevant parties spoken to.

25/8/12 – House Burglary at a property near gaerllwyd cross roads .

3/9/12 – suspicious male attended a property in llansoy and asked if residents wanted to buy tools from out of the back of a white transit van. The male had a irish accent . His offer was declined and he left the area. Please inform us via the 101 system if you encounter anything similar.

3/9/12 – a scrambler bike with a flat tyre was found in a field near llansoy . The owner was informed and removed.

10/9/12 – Tree down in well lane – mcc dealt.

13/9/12 – fly tipping [car parts/carpet etc] reported in Fedw wood – forestry commission dealt.

21/9/12 – Male cyclist came off his bike after being overtaken by a vehicle . he was taken to hospital with minor injuries. This happened approx. 1.5 miles out of Devauden on the Monmouth road.

24/9/12 – Report of flooding in the lane between itton and shirenewton.

Signed _____