

**MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MONDAY 29 JULY 2013 AT DEVAUDEN VILLAGE HALL**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: C Martin (clerk)

APOLOGIES: PC Thorpe, CC Bob Greenland, A Williams, N Knowland

1) OPEN SESSION

PC Thorpe not present but emailed the police report at the end of the minutes.
No members of the public present.

2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of 24 June agreed with amendments and signed by JW and CM.

3) MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1** Telephone Kiosks – JR reported that £645.89 has been spent to date. Further supplies are required at a total cost of £714.30. JR will forward full list to clerk for the order to be placed. He reported that Fred Richards will present an invoice for his labour including £27.50 for the paint for floor, ceiling and gold crown. There was a discussion regarding the use for the Cobblers Plain box as a place for laminated maps and leaflets. Clerk to contact tourist information for maps and leaflets of the area. MP will contact AONB for similar information.
- 3.2** JR had tabled a discussion on holding a meeting to invite the community for suggestions on future projects and expenditure. Agreed to discuss agenda at next meeting and will schedule meeting to coincide with September meeting.
- 3.3** Highways form sent 31/5/13 response received back from MCC 28 June. File
- 3.4** MCC web portal- several emails and correspondence received from MCC. AW agreed to review this and report back with recommendations about what DCC should do – defer to next meeting.

4) FINANCE

Balances at 28/4/13 Current; £3093.31 Notice: £ 275.49

- 4.1** Agreed for payment by JW and AW
Clerk's expenses for July, £12.47 cheque no.101268
MCC Clerks salary April, May and June including £18.75 admin fee £1029.07, cheque no. 101269
BSSB Sandblasting for 2 phone kiosks £460, cheque no. 101270
BSSB Sandblasting for Itton phone kiosks £230, cheque no. 101271
- 4.2** Clerk's Salary –received from MCC payroll for June, £258.53, to be accrued.
- 4.3** Annual Return - Mazars have completed the audit and instructed that the annual return be approved. Unanimous agreement of the community councillors to approve the annual return, Chair signed section 3. Clerk to send off the annual return to Mazars.
- 4.4** OVW notification of increase to clerk's salary scales. Councillors agreed the following:
 - Salary set according to NALC/SLCC guidelines published July 2013, by One Voice Wales. Scale LC1/LC2 for part time clerks - Spinal Column point 27 (12th year of service), set at £12.052p per hour. Five hours per week = £3133.52per annum/£261.13 per month.
 - Mileage at 60.1p per mile up to 8,500 miles per annum
 - The holiday entitlement for the year is 25 days pro rata. This equates to 25 hours on a pro rata basis for contract of 5 hours/week.
 - Back Pay for the months of April May and June at £2.60 per month = £7.80 agreed clerk to contact payroll to advise of the changes

5) CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1** MCC – LDP consultation on amended sites. Optional reply by 21st August. File.
- 5.2** Clerks and council's direct. Distributed.
- 5.3** Shelter cymru financial statement year end September 2012. No action.
- 5.4** Enquiry from Mrs J Watson regarding land sale at Devauden on 70s or 80s. Taken by JW to respond.
- 5.5** MCC – confirmation on car parking workshops. No action

Signed _____

6) PLANNING

6.1 Following plan refused by MCC –

6.1.1 DC/2013/00140 – Replacement building to form double garage domestic workshop and store with office above, The Ewings, Kilgwrrwg

6.2 The following plan approved by MCC

6.2.1 Conversion of outhouse into holiday cottage, The Wenallt, Devauden

6.3 DC/2013/00087 Application for the retention of the residential barn conversion as constructed, Dyffryn Farm Llansoy. No objections. Recommend Approval.

6.4 DC/2013 00429 Revised replacement dwelling Yew Tree Cottage Star Hill. Recommend approval with the condition that the overall footprint is not increased.

6.5 DC/2013/00359 Proposed new sewage treatment plant proposed extension to the bull pen and proposed change of use of the bull pen from holiday let to permanent dwelling. Llanvihangel tor y Myndd. Recommend refusal on the grounds that the extension is too large for the overall development.

6.6 DC/2013/00187 Conversion of dwelling and previous residential home for adults with learning difficulties into 3 attached dwellings, The Dorlands, Kilgwrrwg. AC will review with local residents and report back to clerk by 9 August for clerk to reply to MCC.

6.7 DC/2013/00413 Semi subdivision with extension and garage to serve the units ~Woodback Itton. Recommend approval but taking into account access onto the highway as is already very difficult.

6.8 Completed enforcement cases for June 2013.

7) COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor not present.

8) ONE VOICE WALES (OVW)

Voice Newsletter – distributed.

AGM of area committee agenda and minutes of previous meeting. File.

9) WARD REPORTS

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

JW- Informed the meeting about the Veddw Gardens open day to raise funds for the defibrillator. Anne Wareham has reported concerns regarding the length of time ambulances take to get to the area. Clerk to contact CC Greenland who has been looking into this. Mrs Wareham also suggested that the village greens are cut very short and suggested greens are sown with natural wildflowers. Agreed to discuss at public meeting in September. JW asked if village hall had applied for any grants. JR reported that had not done so.

AW – passed on information to JW regarding a letter to highways about the verge cutting being unsympathetic. Agreed clerk would forward to MCC. Also reported the following: Re: Mrs Angela Royston, of Dregeda, Cobblers Plain, who complained that heavy vehicles turning off the B4293 onto the road to Trellech Grange were cutting the corner and in so doing eroding the edges of a pond that borders her property and the main road. Highways agreed to erect a wooden fence to provide a hard inside edge to the corner, so encouraging vehicles to follow a wider curve. They also advised Mrs Royston that she would have to be responsible for the upkeep of the fence, and recommended she plant a hedge along the fence line as the longer term solution. She duly obliged. She wrote to AW on the 16th July to complain that a contractor - which she assumes is employed by the council - has cut the verge and hedge line alongside the pond, and in so doing reduced four years of new hedge growth to two inches of stubble!

Clerk to write to Glyn Edmunds at highways team to a) confirm that MCC did the cutting b) suggest they replant the hedge, extend the fence, or suggest some other remedy. The hedge, bank and fence are all intended to stabilise the pond, with benefits for road users.

JR – Reported that the hedge at school house had been cut but those at Wesley Way and Churchfields have not. CM to raise with highways again.

MP – Requires information on Fox and Hounds enforcement case E13/006 – clerk to contact carinburrey@monmouthshire.gov.uk (01633 644815)

KMc – Reported that a member of community suggested that DCC invest in planting community fruit trees and grants may be available. Also speed bumps suggested for Wesley Way. There has been an increase in motor X bikes in Chepstow Park woods. Clerk to inform police.

AC – Still no highways progress at Kilgwrrwg crossroads – ask highways to contact her.

Signed _____

EH – Mrs Hall presented her resignation letter. JW and councillors expressed their sorrow at this event and thanked Mrs Hall for many years of devoted service to DCC. Clerk to inform MCC to start the process of filling the vacancy for Itton ward.

Meeting closed: 9.30 pm

Next Meeting: 19 August 7pm at Itton

Meeting dates 2013 – all start at 7pm

30 Sep, 28 Oct, 25 Nov, 30 Dec – All Hood Memorial Hall Devauden

DRAFT

Signed _____