

DRAFT

MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held on Monday 30th March 2015 at Devauden Village Hall

Councillors present:

J. Rowlands (Chairman)
K. McElroy
A. Cooke
A. Williams
M. Powell
I. Cavill

In attendance:

PC L Thorpe

CC R Greenland
N. James (Clerk)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Nigel Knowland and Jacqui Williams.

2. Open Session

a. PC Thorpe provided the police report which is at the end of these minutes, and went through the incidents in more detail. She also explained that there was a new directive for the Force on public engagement in which the police would be issuing surveys within the local communities every four months asking what priorities for action there should be in each community. The aim would be to obtain 100 surveys on each occasion and compile a database of priorities for discussion with bodies like the community councils. In discussion it was felt that speeding through the community might be a priority in many surveys. PC Thorpe accepted that the police van was seen regularly in neighbouring Llanishen and explained that there was no particularly suitable location for the van to set up within Devauden given the visibility requirements. However, if it were to be reported as a priority the police would look at how best to monitor speeding in the village. The neighbourhood policing team had now reduced in number to one PC and 2.5 CSOs for Chepstow.

3. Matters Arising from the Open Session

All matters arising from the Open Session were fully discussed in the Session.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 23rd February were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. **Matters Arising**

- a. Minute 5a – the Clerk confirmed that he had arranged for fortnightly emptying of the dog waste bin at Itton.
- b. Minute 5b – KW had still not received feedback from MHA regarding the drainage problem in Wesley Way.
- c. Minute 5c – maps for the phone boxes had now been obtained.
- d. Minute 5d – AW advised that he had not had chance to discuss the clearance job at I Wesley Way although he felt it unlikely given the scale of the task. BG confirmed that he was unable to source help for the job. MCC had confirmed that the pothole in Well lane had been repaired and had added the mud/ice problems in Kilgwrrwg and Wolvesnewton to their sweeping list. MCC had checked along the B4293 but had been unable to locate any litter bags by the side of the road. JR advised however that there was still significant litter along the road. **Action: NJ.**
- e. Minute 5e – the organisers of the Vintage Rally had advised that they had no alternative route to Well Lane but, in view of the local concern, would reroute the Rally away from Devauden.
- f. Minute 5g – Harlequin had advised that there had been a delay in the mast planning application and the project had now been extended until March 2016. When a planning application was due for consideration it would be important to ensure that the local residents attended so that their views were heard and included.
- g. Minute 6c – the Clerk had discussed the grounds maintenance quote with MCC and the Council had confirmed the contract for 2015/16.
- h. Minute 11b– MP and JR had discussed the phone box at Itton with Fred Richards who would install a channel around the box to divert rainwater.
- i. Minute 11c- JR still awaited a quote for wooden bollards along the bank of the green opposite The Dorretts.

6. **Finance**

- a. Balances at 30 March 2015 were: Current Account £6177.85, Notice £275.84.
- b. Cheques were signed as follows: hire of Hood Hall for £87.50 cheque number 101426; Clerk's expenses for March for £15 – cheque number 101427.

7. **Correspondence**

- a. Women in public life invitation.
- b. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report – February 2015.

- c. Welsh Government consultation document on tax devolution in Wales.
- d. National Resource Management Bulletin – February 2015.
- e. Fuel poverty forums - March 2015.
- f. Advertisement for board member for the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.
- g. Resource Efficient Wales – advice and information on energy, waste and water.
- h. Invitation to events of Natural Resource Wales.
- i. New advice to town and community councils in Wales to help residents in fuel poverty.
- j. Consultations on council tax exemptions for long-term empty homes and second homes in Wales.
- k. Clerks and Councils Direct.
- l. Notification of a seminar with Julian Dobson, author of “How to save our town centres”.
- m. The Review of designated landscapes in Wales Stage 2.

8. **Planning**

- a. DC/2015/00057- to enlarge an existing field access to allow modern day vehicles to safely pull off the public highway at Cartref, Wolvesnewton - recommended for approval.
- b. DC/2015/00297- a proposed rear extension at 14 Churchfields, Devauden – recommended for approval.
- c. DC/2015/00275 – erection of four timber stables with tack, bedding and feed storage at The Old Rectory, Wolvesnewton – recommended for approval.
- d. DC/2015/00367 – detached double garage at Kilgwrrwg Cottage, Kilgwrrwg – recommended for approval.
- e. New and completed enforcement cases for February 2015.

9. **County Councillor’s Report**

CC Greenland had nothing further to report.

10. **One Voice Wales (OVW)**

- a. Local training sessions for April.
- b. Invitation to forward debate motions for the OVW AGM on 3 October 2015.

11. Ward Reports

a. AC advised that the road surface outside Devauden Court was deteriorating further. The Clerk confirmed that this was on the outstanding list and MCC had advised that they would aim to do it during this winter period; he would chase. **Action: NJ.** The Clerk also confirmed that he had met the contractors for BT on the site of the damaged notice board in Kilgwrrwg. USL – the contractors – had informally accepted the liability and the Clerk had forwarded to them a quote from the original notice board provider. It was hoped that formal liability would be accepted and a new board could be supplied within the next few weeks. **Action: NJ.** The no through road sign at the same location was down and needed to be reinstated. **Action: NJ.**

b. JR advised that Natural Resources Wales had caused significant damage to the areas around Hood Hall in their recent harvesting programme, especially on the bank opposite Beaufort House and on the bank of the Green opposite the front of the Hall. In addition, a “finger post” had been damaged in Coal Lane. The Clerk was asked to contact them to make good. **Action: NJ.**

c. Someone was dumping rubbish on the walkway between Wesley Way and the fields at the back. The Clerk was asked to write a note to put up on the walkway. **Action: NJ.**

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in Devauden Village Hall on Monday 27th April at 7pm.

POLICE REPORT 24th FEBRUARY-30th MARCH

28/02 – one vehicle on the B4293, collision with a wall. Investigations are in hand with Chepstow Police as to the cause.

23/03 – theft of heating oil from a tank in the garden of an address in Wesley Gardens.