

DRAFT

MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held on Monday 27th February 2017 at Devauden Village Hall

Councillors present

J. Rowlands (Chairman)

M Powell

J Williams

In attendance:

N. James (Clerk)

1. Open Session

There was no police report for the area for this period.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from N Knowland, I Cavill, A Williams, K McElroy, A Cooke and CC Greenland.

3. Matters Arising from the Open Session

There were no matters arising from the Open Session.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

5. Matters Arising

a. Minute 5a – NRW had advised that the contract for the final reinstatement works at Wern-y-Cwm car park had been awarded and it was hoped that work would start on 27th February.

b. Minute 5b – the Clerk had not received a response from MCC about a sign at the junction to Chepstow Park Woods and would chase. JW advised that she had received a report of another near miss at this junction. **Action: NJ.**

c. Minute 11a – KM had advised that the bulbs in all the telephone boxes would be changed shortly.

6. **Location of 30mph sign in Devauden**

DCC had received a letter from a local resident who was very concerned about the danger to children's safety because of the speed limit on the B4293 going north out of Devauden. Children daily caught a school bus opposite Tredean Lodge which was outside the 30 mph area and many drivers accelerated at that area. In discussion councillors strongly endorsed this concern and recalled at least two occasions when they had asked MCC to extend the 30mph limit to include this spot. The Clerk was asked to write again to MCC expressing this concern over safety to pedestrians and seeking an extension. **Action: NJ.**

7. **Finance**

- a. Balances at 31 January 2017 were: Current Account £5723.41, Notice £5279.54.
- b. MCC had confirmed that there would be a credit from the 2016/17 grasscutting programme of £49.54, having only completed 13 instead of 14 cuts in the year.
- c. Cheques were signed as follows: Merlin Waste for Feb for £27.12 – cheque number 101517; JR for payment for additional bolts etc for the bin for £23.77 – cheque number 101518; MCC for salaries for Oct-Dec for £831.09 – cheque number 101519; OVW annual subscription for 2017/18 for £130 – cheque number 101520; Clerk's expenses for Feb for £15 – cheque number 101521.
- d. The Clerk also produced the bank reconciliation for the end of December with a financial report for the same period. These were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

7. **Correspondence**

- a. Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council Newsletter.
- b. Community and Town Council Tree Survey.
- c. Information regarding secondary consultation about changes to parliamentary constituencies in Wales.
- d. BCUHB stakeholder events for people aged over 50.
- e. Information regarding a temporary road closure in Tintern from MCC.
- f. Details of the next meeting of the First World War Centenary Programme Board and commemorative plans for 2018.
- g. Request from MCC for information to submit a bid for homeshare.
- h. Information from MCC about their Verge Sponsorship Policy.
- i. Details of the Welsh Tree Charter Survey Preview.
- j. The Ombudsman's Casebook Issue 27.
- k. WG Marine and Fisheries Stakeholder Survey.

l. Consultation letter regarding the White Paper on Reforming Local Government: Resilient and Renewed.

m. Report on Investment in third sector services in Wales.

n. Wales Audit Office Newsletter.

o. Monmouthshire Draft Well-Being Assessment.

p. FCFCG Events in Cardiff in 2017.

q. Consultation on changing the name of the Welsh Assembly.

r. Call out for a writer to undertake a literary residency in Brussels.

s. Invitation to organise a Walk for Life in the Devauden area on 23rd April.

t. Letters requesting financial support from Bobath Children's Therapy Wales, Teenage Cancer Trust and Gwent Young Farmers Club.

u. Details about the Reform of School governance regulatory framework.

v. Request from Abergavenny Eisteddfod to sponsor adult and children's competitions in March and June this year.

x. Meeting Notes from the Chepstow Area Town and Community Council Cluster held on 24th January.

y. Clerks and Councils Direct March 2017.

z. Consultation document on a draft circular for the planning of gypsy, traveller and showpeople sites.

aa. Information about a company LS1 Energy.

bb. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Report for 2017/18.

8. Planning

a. New and completed enforcement cases for January 2017.

10. County Councillor's Report

In CC Greenland's absence there was no report.

11. One Voice Wales (OVW)

a. OVW/SLCC Joint Event on 12 July 2017.

b. One Voice Wales Bulletins for Jan and Feb 2017.

c. Information about a Webinar on Financial Management and Governance on 27th February.

d. OVW Innovative Practice Awards for 2017.

12. **Ward Reports**

a. In his absence IC had forwarded a request for DCC to write to the Caerwent Training Area asking them to include DCC amongst those community councils that were circulated with notices of forthcoming noisy activity at the base. This activity was very loud in Itton and IC would then post notices of forthcoming activity in the village. **Action: NJ.**

b. JW raised the following points:

1. It had been noted that a camera had been installed by the side of the Hall on the walkway into the woods. JR advised that this had been installed by the Hall because of various concerns like flytipping.

2. Various signs had been erected around the village and she wondered whether these had been authorised since she had received objections from local residents. Whilst acknowledging that some were of direct benefit to the village others were not. The Council agreed to monitor the situation and, if necessary, would take it up with Hood Memorial Hall.

3. She had noted that along the A48 there were very practical and effective bus shelters and, given that the two shelters in the village had very poor visibility, she wondered whether the council should seek advice from Highways on obtaining new shelters and their location to maximise safety. After some discussion the Clerk was asked to investigate the possibilities and likely costs. **Action: NJ.**

4. She asked whether the location for camping for this year's Music Festival had been decided. JR confirmed that they would be using the same site as last year in the field opposite Well Cottage in Well Lane.

c. MP had been approached by a local resident regarding a dead sheep in a field in Itton. He passed the details of the Environmental Health Officer to the local resident for it to be cleared away.

d.. In his absence AW had forwarded the concerns of a local resident in Wolvesnewton about the dirt and disruption caused by logging in Tredean Wood. The resident had corresponded with Woodlands about this and AW asked that DCC also write to them to make them aware of general concerns from the neighbourhood and seeking their assurances that they would remove all debris/dirt when they concluded their operations there. **Action: NJ.**

3. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in Devauden Village Hall on Monday 27th March 2017 at 7pm.