

DRAFT

MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held on Monday 23rd April 2018 at Devauden Village Hall

Councillors present

N Knowland (Chairman)
J Rowlands
J Williams
I Cavill
M Powell
A Williams
A Cooke

In attendance:

CC B Greenland
N. James (Clerk)

1. Open Session

There police report is attached at the end of these minutes.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from K McElroy.

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 26th March were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising

a. Minute 5b – the signs on the B4293 at the entrance to Chepstow Park Woods have now been erected.

b. Minute 8 – a response from MCC regarding noise control had been received but the Clerk was asked to check with NRW that they had given permission for the owner of the quarry to make use of the NRW track on the site. **Action: NJ.** In addition the planners should be made aware that part of the application statement was incorrect as school buses do use the road alongside the quarry. **Action: NJ.**

c. Minute 11d – a defibrillator sign for the Itton telephone box was still awaited.

6. Finance

- a. Balances at 31st March 2018 were: Current Account £3635.34, Notice £5282.58.
- b. Cheques were signed as follows: Merlin Waste for Apr for £28.56 – cheque number 101570; Clerk's expenses for Apr for £15 – cheque number 101571; Hood Memorial Hall for £200 – see Jan18 minutes – cheque number 101572; Itton Village Hall for £200 – see Jan 18 minutes – cheque number 101573.
- c. The bank reconciliation and financial statement for the end of March 2018 had been circulated and were approved. It was noted that, although the budget had been fully spent this year, the Notice account had remained at a reasonably high level throughout the year. In discussion, it was acknowledged that it had been agreed to build up a deposit account four years ago as the Council had very few funds apart from the annual precept, and the account would enable the Council to provide financial help for additional capital items, to support any future additional responsibilities caused by delegation from MCC and to fund repairs and maintenance to any of the Council assets which would gradually cost more as time went on. Moreover, although no councillors at present accepted any expenses, there appeared to be a growing trend in other councils for expenses to be taken, and this might add to the Council's costs in the future. The Council reiterated their wish to maintain a significant reserve as it felt it was now in a position to help more local initiatives than hitherto. It was agreed however to keep the level in the Account under annual review when considering each year's budget.
- d. The Annual Return had been received and it was agreed to appoint Mr S Chapman as the internal auditor and that his hourly rate should be increased to £13.00. **Action: NJ.**

7. Correspondence

- a. Fields in Trust – Active Spaces grants programme.
- b. Information about vacancies for up to 10 Brexit interns.
- c. Report from Age Cymru entitled Showcasing tackling loneliness.
- d. Reminder for applications for funding support in 2018/19.
- e. Living levels Project Spring Newsletter.
- f. Review of additional learning needs and inclusion services in Monmouthshire.
- g. Invitation to attend the Monmouthshire Talk Health Borough Forum.
- h. Historic Environment update 7 from the Welsh Office.
- i. Invitation to attend a focus group on health and social care in Wales.
- j. SW Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2018-23.
- k. Information about vacancies with the Welsh Language Support Team.

l. Statement from the ICO on the new GDPR.

m. Atlantic School for young leaders information leaflet.

8. **Planning**

a. DC/2016/01219 – appeal against the refusal of the planning application for the siting of a temporary rural workers dwelling for a period of three years at Oak Tree Farm, Devauden – for information only. The Council reiterated its recommendation for refusal.

b. DC/2018/00543 – two storey rear extension to Bramble Cottage, Devauden – recommended for approval.

c. DC/2018/00433 – erection of a new open-fronted covered store within but independent of the existing derelict stone enclosure and courtyard at Ty Mawr Farm, Devauden – recommended for approval.

d. New and completed enforcement lists for Feb and March.

9. **County Councillor's Report**

CC Greenland advised that MCC would be considering the earlier Boundary Commission proposals which DCC had discussed in its February meeting. Following MCC'S vote, the Boundary Commission would then circulate to community councils for their views. He noted that the proposals as they stood would mean Wolvesnewton would be represented by a Devauden Ward and Kilgwrrwg would lose one councillor. The Council felt it made no sense to incorporate the Wolvesnewton Ward in to Devauden and to let an expanded Llanfihangel stand alone. Whilst DCC accepted the anomalies in numbers of electors per councillor position, it still felt that, especially as there were no cost implications, it would prefer to retain its 8 councillors. When given the opportunity by the Boundary Commission it would make this point. BG also mentioned that the temporary mast outside Devauden had been removed. He had not received any complaints from local residents about the state in which the site had been left but the enforcement officer would be checking to ensure it had been left in a satisfactory condition.

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

a. Invitation to attend the OVW AGM in September 2018.

b. Results of the 2018 OVW Innovative Practice Annual Awards.

c. OVW March 2018 News Bulletin.

d. MP had attended the recent OVW Area Meeting at which the forthcoming GDPR changes were discussed. The Clerk was aware of the new legislation and it was agreed to await the toolkit form OVW – which was imminently expected – and for the Clerk, Chair and AW to then recommend actions to be taken at the next meeting. **Action: NJ.**

11. Ward Reports

a. AC advised that there was significant damage to the left hand side of the road towards Kilgwrrwg at the junction of the R82/B4293. **Action: NJ.**

b. JW asked for the Clerk to continue to chase MCC Highways regarding the need for white lines at the B4293 entrance to Well Lane. **Action: NJ.** In addition, she and others had noted the asbestos which had been dumped at the NRW site on the B4293 in Devauden. The police had been made aware of this.

c. MP asked the Clerk to chase MCC Highways regarding the drain blockage outside Pond Cottage that had earlier been reported. **Action: NJ.**

d. JR still awaited a response from MCC regarding the damaged verges outside the Hall. **Action: NJ.** He also noted that MCC had still not cleared the public footpath at The Firs. In discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would contact MCC Countryside department to see whether it would be possible to arrange a voluntary clearing arranged by DCC of this footpath. **Action: NJ.**

e. NK advised that the satnav sign requested for the road off the B4293 to the Glyn had been put in the wrong place; it needed to be on the junction with R84. In addition, he advised that there was significant kerbside damage on the R82 outside Prospect House which was causing flooding to the road. **Action: NJ.** He had received correspondence about this year's Best Kept Village and would pass a copy to JW for Devauden and MP would check with the Itton Village Hall Committee to see whether Itton had received a copy.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in Devauden Village Hall on Monday 21st May 2018 at 7pm.

POLICE REPORT 26/2/18 – 6/4/18

14/3/18 – Report of 2 males acting suspiciously in the Churchfields area of Devauden. They seemed to be visiting certain properties. Area search by officers was negative.

26/3/18 – Report of fly tipping in a lane near Tredean Woods. A large amount of what seemed like household waste was dumped in a gate way.

29/3/18 – Report of a 1 vehicle non injury rtc just outside Itton towards Devauden.. The vehicle had hit some mud on the road and veered into a hedge. The highways were informed and attended to clean the road. The vehicle was

later recovered.

1/4/18 – Report of a lock up building entered on a farm on Itton road. The padlocks were prized off but no damage caused and nothing taken thankfully.