

DRAFT

MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held on Monday 21st May 2018 at Devauden Village Hall

Councillors present

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

In attendance:

Mrs I Brooke
N. James (Clerk)

1. Open Session

There was no police report for this period. Mrs Brooke wished the Council to publicize by way of its minutes that MCC had accepted her view that the Order they had produced stating that routes 53-16 and 177B were designated as restricted byways was incorrectly drawn up. MCC would now have to pass the incorrect Order to the planning inspector who would formally ask them to revisit the issue. In the meantime DCC was happy to formally publicize that for the time being these routes had not been designated as restricted byways. Mrs Brooke also wished to comment on the large amount of litter on the road out of Devauden towards St Arvans; she would be happy to volunteer for a working party to clear this. However, in discussion, it was agreed that, as a busy road, it would not be appropriate for a volunteer group to clear the litter, and the Clerk would pass the issue to MCC to resolve. **Action: NJ.**

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from J Rowlands 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 April were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising

- a. Minute 5b – the Clerk still awaited a response from NRW regarding the Quarry site.

b. Minute 5c – MP would approach the suppliers of the defibrillator in Itton for suitable signs to put up in the phone box. **Action: MP.**

c. Minute 10d – the Clerk had written to OVW seeking their advice to actions he proposed under the new GDPR. OVW had endorsed the proposed approach and actions. The actions were discussed and approved by the Council. However, it agreed that no specific laptop was required for use by the Clerk but that he should obtain a back-up for his computer. The Clerk would produce a formal statement detailing the actions taken by DCC now and in the future to meet the required procedures. **Action: NJ.** One action was for all Councillors to confirm their agreement to the holding and dissemination on official Council business, of their personal details held by the Clerk, which they did.

d. Minute 11 – the outstanding highways issues had all been passed again to MCC; the Clerk would chase again during the next month.

6. **Finance**

a. Balances at 30th April 2018 were: Current Account £2794.06, Notice £5282.58.

b. The Clerk advised that he had received a quotation for insurance cover for 2018/19 from our current insurers Zurich. The quote was £331.59, virtually the same as last year. Given that he had done a comprehensive check of the market last year, an excellent service from Zurich and a similar premium, the Council agreed to continue cover with Zurich.

c. HSBC had asked for update information regarding the bank account but, given that the Clerk, was not a signatory, would not deal with him. It was agreed therefore that the Chair and Clerk would visit the bank in Chepstow to resolve. **Action: NK/NJ.**

d. NALC had produced new scales wef 1 April for clerks, and it was agreed that the Clerk should be paid the new rate for his position on the scale.

e. The Clerk produced the completed Annual Return with associated paperwork which was approved, and signed by the Chair.

f. Cheques were signed as follows: Mr S Chapman for internal audit for £104.00 – cheque number 101574; Beverley and Williams for pay services for £108.00 – cheque number 101575; N James pay for April for £217.82 – cheque number 101576; Zurich for annual insurance for £331.59 – cheque number 101577; Merlin Waste for May for £30.00 – cheque number 101578; Clerk's expenses for May for £15 – cheque number 101579; N. James pay for May for £217.82 – cheque number 101580.

7. **Correspondence**

a. Details of the 2018/19 National Salary Award for clerks.

b. Information about primary care in Wales.

c. Information about Welsh Government appointment vacancies.

d. Invitation to the Community Asset Transfer Conference.

- e. Press release on Reflecting on Year 1 after the Wellbeing of future generations act.
- f. Funding opportunity for digital infrastructure and energy projects.
- g. Request for photos of locations on the Welsh Coast Path.
- h. Invitation to the launch of the Museum of the moon on 14th May.
- i. Invitation to workshop of the Renewable Energy Community Scheme.
- j. Invitation to Place, Plans and the Value of Community Engagement in Planning.
- k. Information about grants available in Monmouthshire and capital grant funding from the Rural Development Programme. The Clerk would respond to the questions asked by this. **Action: NJ.**
- l. Request for support from Bobath Children's Therapy Centre.
- m. Clerks and Councils Direct for May.
- n. National Resources Bulletin – Issue 28.
- o. Details of Wales Audit Office Good Practice Exchange Forward Programme.
- p. Request from Seafarers UK to fly the Red Ensign on 3 September.

8. **Planning**

- a. DC/2018/00501 – the demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement and associated driveway at Corn Farm, Devauden; KM declared an interest in this and took no part in the discussion – recommended for approval.
- b. DM/2018/00411 – erection of a single storey rear extension, a front porch/extension to hallway and a timber frame lean-to outbuilding to side of property at 21 Wesley Way, Devauden – recommended for approval.

9. **County Councillor's Report**

In CC Greenland's absence there was no report.

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

- a. Details of May training events in South Wales.

11. **Ward Reports**

- a. IC confirmed that the new dog bin in Itton was now part of the collection cycle. He also wished the Clerk to raise yet again with MCC the moving of the 30mph sign at the entrance to the 57.2, first reported last June. **Action: NJ.**

b. AW advised that there was a large area of gravel on the 60.13 at the sharp bend by The Granary which was a real safety hazard. **Action: NJ.**

c. KM wished to thank MCC for the painting of the garages in Wesley Way but was disappointed that the SLOW sign at the entrance to the road had still not been done. **Action: NJ.** He advised that last weekend's Music Festival had been a great success due significantly to the tremendous efforts of a large number of local resident volunteers. There had only been one minor complaint, asking for a sign to be moved a few metres down the particular road.

d. AC advised that there were numerous potholes on the R82. **Action: NJ.** She noted that Howell Green had still not been cut although accepted that MCC had been asked to cut it during May. If not cut by the end of the month the Clerk would chase MCC.

e. JW had received complaints from local residents about motorcycles using the bridal path that runs parallel to the B4293 from Cobblers Plain past Chapel Cottage to Coale Lane. The police had been informed but it was felt that signs and possibly barriers, if feasible, should be erected. The Clerk would arrange for a meeting with MCC on site to look at the issue. **Action: NJ.** She also advised of the overgrown grass at the crossroads on the B4235 at Shirenewton by the Huntsmans. **Action: NJ.** She had attended as the DCC representative a local meeting with residents and children which decided on the name of the new field at the back of the Hall. It had been agreed to call it Cae Ni meaning Our Field. The group had suggested that DCC might wish to fund fruit trees for the field. KM would discuss with the Hall Committee and come back with a proposal. **Action: KM.**

f. MP advised that, although the flooding issue had been resolved at Pond Cottage, the drain needed clearing of leaves.

g. NK had tried to arrange a pop in session for local residents for 24 May but that had not proved possible. These sessions were being set up with the Independent Review Panel looking into the future role of community councils. He still wished to hold such a session which would allow local residents to comment on the service provided by their local council. In discussion it was noted that the next tea/coffee afternoon in the Hall, which was well attended by local residents, was on 21 June. If this was acceptable for the WG carrying out the sessions, DCC would hold it then although it was acknowledged that it might not get a representative group of residents. If WG wished it to be carried out earlier, NK would consider another date. **Action: NK.**

12. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in Itton Village Hall on Monday 25th June 2018 at 7pm.