

DRAFT

MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held on Monday 24th September 2018 at Devauden Village Hall

Councillors present

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

In attendance:

CC B Greenland
R Corcoran
P Hickman
D Maddocks
N. James (Clerk)

1. Open Session

The police report for this period is at the back of these minutes. Mrs Corcoran had been invited to the meeting to talk about the Bus 65 route. She explained she was attending community council meetings to promote awareness of the route and the team of volunteers that were trying to ensure its continued survival. In this respect she was not asking for any financial assistance but wanted the Council support to try to identify other volunteers so that the team could be represented over the whole of the route between Monmouth and Chepstow. The group received no funds but, through voluntary help, had already raised the profile of the route which had been very influential in the decision to waive for the time being the original decision to scrap it. Volunteers had made the bus stops clearly visible, produced timetables for various public places, now had a Facebook and Twitter accounts, was in the process of producing a webpage and had secured the future support of Monmouthshire Tourism. They had also received support from MCC given the potential benefits of the bus service to help the fight against loneliness and isolation. In discussion, CC Greenland explained that MCC was looking at transport from a county-wide perspective given the significant costs of running services and, in this respect, the more a route was used the more likely it would be retained.

Mr Maddocks was concerned that the minutes of the July meeting contained many comments which were not factual and wished to advise the Council on some of the history of the Well Lane development proposals. He also felt that insufficient time /notice had been given to local residents about the meeting held on 4th September. The Chair explained that the meeting

then was part of a pre-application consultation period which legally only lasted for 28 days and there had been significant publication of it which was evidenced by a fairly large turnout. In discussion CC Greenland also explained that the current LDP, produced in 2013, was still extant. However, MCC had recognised that insufficient affordable houses were being made available from the plans within the LDP, and had therefore decided that it was essential, given the housing crisis especially for young people, to relook at further opportunities to increase the supply of affordable houses, rather than have to wait for another LDP to be produced. The site at Well Lane was still in the LDP but any application would still have to meet all planning criteria.

2. **Apologies**

J Rowlands was absent until Agenda Item 8.

3. **Matters Arising from the Open Session**

Regarding the Bus 65 route the Council agreed to put a notice up in Itton to seek a volunteer and JW volunteered to be a representative for Devauden. **Action: JW/MP.** The Council noted the views of Mr Maddocks but felt that the minutes of the July meeting were a true record of individuals' comments. As such the minutes should not be amended. However, it was agreed that, for the next Council meeting and before the formal planning application was received, the Council should gather the views of the current allotment holders regarding the possible additional piece of land and how improvements could be made. **Action: KM.** In addition, the Clerk was asked to confirm that the individuals who were on the waiting list for an allotment still wished for one. **Action: NJ.**

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meetings on 30th July and 4th September were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. **Matters Arising from 30th July meeting**

a. Minute 3 – CSO Jones had written to apologise for no police reports which was due to his absence over a lengthy period but advised that they would now be forthcoming.

b. Minute 3 – the Clerk had met with the planning officer responsible for S106 procedures; this had been discussed at the 4th September meeting which discussed the proposed development at Well Lane.

c. Minute 5a – MP was still looking to procure signs for the telephone box in Itton. **Action: MP.**

d. Minute 5f– MCC had advised that the verges had been cut according to the contract. They noted that some of the hedgerows had not necessarily been cut in the same way but these were the responsibility of the relevant land owner.

e. Minute 5g – Welsh Water had advised that they had installed two loggers on the treatment plant to investigate the smells emanating from it. The process takes a few weeks and they intended to report back to the Council by the end of September.

Action: NJ. However, JW had noted that the smell and some stagnant water were at some distance from where the loggers had been placed. After some discussion it was agreed that in the first instance NK would take a look. **Action: NK.**

g. Minute 11b – the Clerk and Councillor Rowlands would be meeting with the MCC rights of way officer on site at the end of September to discuss resolving the overgrown footpaths around Devauden. **Action: NJ.**

h. Minute 11b – an additional dog waste bin had been ordered, and would be fitted shortly. **Action: JR.**

i. Minute 11d – NK had fixed the handle on the notice board and MCC had advised that they would look to relocate the signage as requested. **Action: NJ.**

6. **Finance**

a. Balances at 31ST August 2018 were: Current Account £2644.54, Notice £5283.50.

b. The Clerk noted that Itton Village Hall had not yet cashed its cheque for £200 paid to it on 23 Apr 18. MP would investigate. **Action: NJ.**

c. JR had asked the Council to consider increasing their contribution to the Fireworks insurance this year from £350 to £450 which was agreed.

d. A cheque had been signed by Councillors Williams and Knowland between meetings to AED Locator for £118.80 to purchase the essential replacement pack for the defibrillator, required to be installed before 31 August.

e. Cheques were signed at the meeting as follows: Merlin Waste for Aug for £30.00– cheque number 101599, and for Sep for £30 - cheque number 101600; Clerk's expenses for Aug/Sep for £30 –cheque number 101601; N. James pay for Aug for £222.06 – cheque number 101602 and for Sep for £222.26 – cheque number 101603; Nigel Knowland for notice board repair for £27.04 – cheque number 101604; HMRC for employee tax Jul-Sep for £166.60- cheque number 101605.

7. **Correspondence**

a. Information about a WG consultation on petroleum extraction policy in Wales.

b. Invitation to purchase anything for the centenary of the end of the first world war.

c. August Newsletter of the Independent Review Panel.

d. Information about a consultation into supporting and promoting the welsh language.

e. Offer to attend a Council meeting from MCC to update the new company set up to deliver tourism, leisure, culture and youth services on its behalf.

f. Details from MCC regarding new S106 arrangements.

g. Information about upcoming forestry operations in Chepstow Park Wood.

- h. Questionnaire form MCC regarding waste and recycling.
- i. Information about the consultation report into a review of additional learning needs and inclusion services.
- j. Information about the annual AONB Wye Valley Partnership tour.
- k. An update on the ongoing issues with the A466 works.
- l. Natural Resources Wales Bulletin for August 2018.
- m. Information about WG vacancies.
- n. Information about the community infrastructure levy.
- o. Information about the boundary commission for Wales final recommendations.
- p. Details about the Monmouthshire Borough Forum public meeting on 5th October.
- q. Draft paper on road safety and a process for managing speed-related concerns.
- r. Invitation to forward grant proposals to Enabling Natural Resources and well-being in Wales.
- s. Timetable for the delivery of the revised local development plan.
- t. Clerks and Councils direct for August.
- u. Advice from WG on advanced bid/tender submissions.
- v. Letter received from local resident giving his views regarding the Well Lane development and asking the Council to take these into account when the planning application was formally considered. The Council noted his comments and would return to them when the application was received.

8. **Planning**

- a. DM/2018/01221 – agricultural building to store 1000 bales of hay and machinery at The Billets Field, Devauden – for information only.
- b. DM/2018/01460 –removal of conditions 1, 2, and 3 relating to DC/2013/00001 at The Wenallt, Devauden – recommended for refusal on the basis of local objections.
- c. New and completed enforcement cases for July and August.

9. **County Councillor's Report**

CC Greenland expanded on his earlier statement about the LDP and affordable housing. There was a housing crisis especially among young people not only in the county but across the UK as a whole. He advised that MCC had recently decided that it could not rely entirely on the sites in the LDP to meet the demand for affordable housing. The Council had decided that it could not wait until the production of a new LDP in 2021/2 and it would now consider applications of land for development from landowners which were not in the current LDP. He stressed that any applications would still be subject to planning criteria.

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

- a. OVW Bulletins for July and August.
- b. List of final motions to be debated at the OVW Annual Conference on 29 September.
- c. Details about a vacancy for a development officer in Mid- Wales.

11. **Ward Reports**

- a. IC had noted that a stand-alone building at Parc Maes Ffynon which had been given planning permission for staff accommodation, was now on the market for sale as a normal dwelling. He wished to inform the Enforcement Officer of this. **Action: NJ.**
- b. KM advised that, although not showing in the police report, there had been a fire in Chepstow Park Woods which had been attended by the Fire Service. He also noted the awful flytipping on NRW land along the B4293 between Itton and Devauden. The Clerk was asked to contact NRW and the Environment Agency about this. **Action: NJ.**
- c. JW advised that the public footpath sign along Well Lane just above the treatment plant had been uprooted. **Action: NJ.**
- d. JR raised the question of the white lines at the top of Well Lane which had still not been done. MCC had advised previously that they were on their priority list and should be done in the summer. The Clerk would again contact MCC, copying in CC Greenland. **Action: NJ.**

12. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in Devauden Village Hall on Monday 29th October 2018 at 7pm.

POLICE REPORT 30/7/18-24/9/18

19/8/18 – Report of an attempted break in to a property on the outskirts of Devauden. The residents were away and on their arrival back saw that a wood framed patio type door had been kicked/forced. Thankfully no entry was gained.

8/9/18 – Report of a field gate going missing at a property in Newchurch. The caller had heard voices in the night outside. Thankfully the gate was later found nearby.

12/9/18 - Report of a quantity of jars of honey taken from outside a property in Newchurch overnight.