

## **DRAFT**

### **MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Devauden Village Hall**

#### **Councillors present**

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

#### **In attendance:**

N. James (Clerk)

#### **1. Open Session**

The police report for this period is at the back of these minutes.

#### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from A Cooke.

#### **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 24<sup>th</sup> September were approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### **5. Matters Arising**

a. Minute 3 – KM had provided a report for councillors prior to the meeting on his meeting with the three allotment holders. The main issues raised were the requirement for a shed with a water butt rather than metered water, and a fence to keep out wild life. After some discussion it was agreed to wait to see what might be obtained from the proposed development. In the meantime KM would obtain quotes for appropriate sheds and JW would look at a cross section of allotment rents. Two of those on the current waiting list had confirmed their continuing wish for an allotment should one become available. **Action: KM/JW.**

b. Minute 5e – Welsh Water had advised that their loggers installed at the treatment plant in Well Lane had signified that the plant was working correctly and they did not feel it was the plant that was causing the odour. JW confirmed that an odour was still present and the view was that there might be a leak as there is a stagnant pond of water close by. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask Welsh Water to investigate this

potential leak further and JW would liaise with them to ensure the correct spot is identified. **Action: NJ/JW.**

c. Minute 5g – the Clerk and JR had met the rights of way officer on the site of the overgrown footpath opposite The Firs. He had agreed to consider a plan of action with proposed works schedules. That schedule was still awaited. **Action: NJ.**

d. Minute 5h – the additional dog waste bin was still awaited.

e. Minute 6b – MP had investigated the unpresented cheque and would ensure it was presented shortly.

f. Minute 11d – MCC had responded that the white lines remained on their priority list but that no firm date could be given as the priority list continually got updated.

## 6. **Finance**

a. Balances for 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 had not been received.

b. The reconciliation and financial report as at the end of September had been circulated, and were approved.

c. The Annual Report had been returned. There was one issue for the Council to note and that was that it must ensure in future years that consideration of the level of reserves held should be given when considering the budget. The Council agreed to discuss this at next month's meeting when the budget for 2019/20 would be discussed. **Action: NJ.** The Annual Return was approved and accepted by the Council.

d. Cheques were signed as follows: Beverley and Williams for pay services for £39.36 – cheque number 101606; N James pay for October for £222.06 – cheque number 101607; Merlin Waste for Sep for £30.00 – cheque number 101608; Clerk's expenses for October for £15 – cheque number 101609; Hood Hall for fireworks insurance for £450 - cheque number 101610.

## 7. **Correspondence**

a. Independent Remuneration Panel draft annual report for 2019.

b. MCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan questionnaires.

c. Information about social media training for volunteers.

d. Invitation to an evening with the Lord Lieutenant of Gwent.

e. Information about a forthcoming recruiting drive by the WG.

f. information about the Subordinate legislation consolidation and review of the town and country planning order 1987.

g. MCC Christmas lights code of practice.

h. Information about training events for sustainable drainage systems.

## 8. **Planning**

a. DM/2018/01049 – proposed use of existing holiday unit and residential annex at Cledd-y-Tan Farm, Newchurch – councillors noted that a change of use had been turned down in the recent past recommended for refusal.

b. DM/2018/01573 – retrospective planning application for the installation of field access gates following the previous approval for a general agricultural building at The Billets Field adjoining The Billets, Devauden – it was noted that there were a lot of local objections and the original provision was only temporary. Given also that the applicant had not yet met the conditions for the mast installation councillors recommended for refusal.

c. DM/2018/01561 – installation of a new domestic sewage treatment plant at Corn Farm, Devauden – recommended for approval.

d. DM/2018/01643 – construction of a new industrial single storey building at Percus Barns, Devauden –councillors agreed with the local objections that this creeping industrialisation was not appropriate in that area– recommended for refusal.

e. DM/2018/01634 – discharge of conditions 2 and 3 from E6840/A/18/3193689 at Oak Tree Farm, Devauden. AW would consider and report back. **Action: AW.**

f. DM/2018 01592 – established lawful use of land as residential curtilage associated with The Old Granary and the lawful siting and use of a building as a single residential dwelling at The Old Granary, Devauden. Councillors were unable to initially obtain information on this on the website but AW would consider and respond to the Clerk. **Action: AW.**

g. DC/2016/00938 – proposed extension and alterations to the barn conversion at Bluebell Barn, Newchurch – recommended for approval.

h. New and completed enforcement cases for September.

## 9. **County Councillor's Report**

In CC Greenland's absence there was no report.

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

a. Details of November training events in South Wales.

b. September 2018 News Bulletin.

## 11. **Ward Reports**

a. JW advised that the condition of the road surface along Well Lane just before the treatment plant was poor. **Action: NJ.**

b. IC advised that the proposed sale of a dwelling on the Parc Maes Ffynon estate had been stopped by the Planners.

c. AW had been asked by a local resident to report the state of the uncut hedges on Star Pitch and on the lane leading down to the church off it. On examination of the areas it was felt that actually the hedges were in no worse state than many others in

the vicinity but AW agreed to talk to the local landowners to see if they could be cut back. On Star Pitch particularly it was thought that there might be a possible safety issue from the overhanging trees and hedges on such a busy but narrow road, and the Clerk was asked to enquire of the Highways Department to see whether anything could be considered. **Action: NJ.**

## 12. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in Devauden Village Hall on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 7pm.

## POLICE REPORT 24/9/18 TO 26/10/18

12/10/18 – Report of a vehicle colliding with a falling tree on the Itton road. There were no injuries thankfully but the road was closed for a short time while the incident was dealt with by officers.

25/10/18 – Report of a metal lock up container broken into at land just off the Devauden/Llanishen road. The locks were cut off with a disc cutter and a fork lift was used to remove approx. £4500 worth of welsh roofing slates and a generator was removed from inside.

Also a farm outbuilding at a property on Penterry lane near Tintern/St Arvans recently also with chainsaws, hedge trimmer and brush cutter amongst items taken so there is theft activity going on in the rural areas as a whole.