

DRAFT

MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held on Monday 22nd July 2019 at Itton Village Hall

Councillors present

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

In attendance:

CSO A Jones
CSO B Winstone
N. James (Clerk)

1. Open Session

The police report for this period is at the back of these minutes and was summarised by CSO Jones. In addition, he mentioned that notices would be distributed shortly to encourage residents to advise the police if they had prior information about possible raves in the area so that the police could take action in advance of the event. He also went through the details of recent speed checks in Devauden and Itton, acknowledging that, although the average speeds clocked were below 30mph, a significant proportion of drivers had been driving over the speed limit.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from CC Greenland.

3. Matters Arising from the Open Session

There were no matters arising from the Open Session, not covered later in the Agenda.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes were approved, and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising

a. Minute 3 – the delegated panel meeting for planning application DM/2018/01573 had been postponed on a couple of occasions. There was some concern over the postponements and that MCC appeared to be evasive over some issues regarding this application. The Clerk was asked to write to express DCC's concerns that the objections of local residents would appear not to have been addressed. **Action: NJ.**

b. Minute 5a – MCC had declined the offer of a meeting to discuss safety issues regarding the proposed Well Lane development but it was accepted that these issues would be taken up within MCC's overall consideration of speeding and road safety for the village.

c. Minute 5c - the Clerk and AC had again been in communication with MCC about the waste collection at Kilgwrrwg crossroads. MCC had advised that it was making changes to its schedules which it hoped would resolve the issues. MCC agreed to speak with the local residents involved. AC acknowledged that there had been an improvement in the short term but the problem would appear to be that some households were greatly exceeding the maximum number of black bags that could be put out. The Clerk would pass this information on to MCC. **Action: NJ.**

d. Minute 5e – JW still awaited confirmation of the positioning of signage in Coale Lane from local residents.

e. Minute 6f – AW had forwarded a comprehensive letter to the Chair of the Wye Valley Forest Protection Group, outlining the concerns of local residents and seeking a meeting to discuss how best this matter could be resolved. He awaited a reply.

f. Minute 11a – NK and KM had considered the practicality of temporary pedestrian access through the allotments during the 10k run, and considered it feasible.

6. Speeding

IC, KM and AW had considered the speeding issues in the areas of Itton, Devauden and Star Pitch and brought forward a number of proposals including imposition of lower speed limits, extension of speed limits, pinch points, double white lines to prevent overtaking, new signage, flashing signs. After some discussion it was agreed that, irrespective of MCC's separate look at speeding in the area, DCC would proceed with its own proposals. To that end, AW and KM were asked to produce a draft paper incorporating the views for all three

2 areas to be circulated to councillors for their comments/consideration in advance of the next meeting on 23 September. The Chairman advised that the aim was to confirm a final report at that meeting. **Action: AW/KM.**

7. **Finance**

- a. Balances for 30th June 2019 were: £3715.80 and £6789.69.
- b. The bank reconciliation and financial report as at the end of June had been circulated, and were approved.
- c. Cheques were signed as follows: Merlin Waste for June for £52.50 – cheque number 101649; Clerk's pay for June for £227.92 - cheque number 101650; Clerk's expenses for June for £10.40 - cheque number 101651; payments to the 4 local churches except Devauden towards grasscutting for £100 each cheque numbers 101652/3/4/5; AED Locator for defibrillator monitoring for £58.80 – cheque number 101656; N Knowland for obtaining and erecting defibrillator signs for £41.76 – cheque number 101657.
- d. JW advised that the question of insurance cover for a clerk's absence through sickness had been raised at the recent OVW meeting. It was not clear whether DCC's policy covered this and the Clerk was asked to investigate. **Action: NJ.**

8. **Correspondence**

- a. Request for financial support from Gwent young farmers club.
- b. WG written statement on non-domestic rates relief for public lavatories.
- c. Information about a 100 mile walk in Monmouthshire.
- d. Consultation document on MCC'S replacement LDP Growth and Spatial options.
- e. Information document on Building a healthier Gwent engagement event.
- f. Update on the Tintern Slip on the A466.

- g. Details about a Blaenau Gwent public meeting on Talk Health.
- h. Request for nominations for the 2019 GAVO volunteer achievement awards.
- i. Aneurin Bevan Patients Voice News Bulletin.
- j. Information about a survey from the Welsh Senate of Older People.
- k. Invitation to buy tickets for an event at Chepstow Racecourse.
- l. Clerks and Councils Direct for July.
- m. Information about a consultation event on the national strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in Wales.
- n. Update from MCC on the boundary review.
- o. Update from MCC on waste collections.

8. **Planning**

a. DM/2019/01037 and 01054 - agricultural notification of the construction of a new access track and the erection of an agricultural concrete block work farmyard wall at Church Farm, Wolvesnewton – proposed single storey extension at Brynglas Cottage, Devauden. There was concern over this application as in 2018 an application at the same location applied to convert stabling into holiday accommodation and included a new access – the same as now requested. However, in 2018 there were legal objections regarding ownership/access rights to the lane that passes Red house, and that application was subsequently withdrawn. Although this application was now using the agricultural notification route AW noted that the new access route had the potential to cause real impact and inconvenience on neighbours. He wished the Council to ensure that MCC was aware of the recent background and ensured that proper scrutiny of the purpose, route and need for this new access track took place. **Action: NJ.**

b. New and completed enforcement cases for June.

9. **County Councillor's Report**

In CC Greenland's absence there was no report.

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

- a. OVW Bulletin for Jul 2019.
- b. Details for the OVW Conference and AGM in October.

11. **Ward Reports**

a. AC noted that Howells Green had now been cut for the first time. NK would monitor and advise the Clerk if the next of the four contracted cuts had not been completed by the end of the month. **Action: NK.** She also updated the Council on the position regarding Kilgwrrwg's plan to purchase a defibrillator. The aim was to provide defibrillators for Kilgwrrwg and Newchurch. Whilst they were hoping to secure funding for the machines she asked if DCC would consider granting funds for the purchase of two cabinets. There followed a long discussion about defibrillator provision across the whole area and it was accepted that funding to help with the purchasing of such equipment was a very justifiable expenditure from the Council's budget. Having said that NK advised that he had been approached by a resident in Itton asking about training for residents on the defibrillator there, and the Council wished to emphasise – and record - that DCC bore no responsibility for the defibrillators, their maintenance or indeed any part of their operation, including the training of local residents on use. It was agreed to purchase cabinets for Kilgwrrwg and Newchurch when required.

b. JW advised that there was a significant pothole in the middle of the B4293 alongside the Green in Devauden. **Action: NJ.** In addition, she noted that a leg of a piece of play equipment at the Hall had rotted; KM agreed to look into this. Thirdly, she reported that the NHS would be sending a representative to give a presentation on the new hospital at the Devauden Teas on 15th August.

c. NK advised that PC Louise Thorpe was now a member of the Gwent Rural Crime Team and was keen to brief local communities on their work. It was agreed that the Clerk should progress this and try to arrange a local presentation/meeting. **Action: NJ.**

12. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in Devauden Village Hall on Monday 23rd September.

POLICE REPORT 23/6/19-22/7/19

15/7/19 – Report of a vehicle hitting a property wall and damaging it on the outskirts of

Devauden. The road was closed for a short time while officers and highways dealt with the incident and cleared the debris. No injuries to the occupants of the vehicle.

20/7/19 – Report of a stable and caravan entered at a property on the Gethley to Devauden Court road. A turquoise blue with white detail horse driving cart and a quantity of horse rugs were amongst items stolen.

21/7/19 – Report of a cyclist knocked off his bike by a towed caravan on the B4293 just outside Devauden. The male cyclist was taken to hospital with a head injury. The vehicle driver towing the caravan has been spoken to regarding driving offences. The road was closed whilst the incident was dealt with. Enquiries are ongoing.

On the 3rd of July Chepstow neighbourhood team conducted a mini speed operation around the rural village area.

In Devauden village(near Churchfields) 79 vehicles were monitored with an average speed of 27mph clocked. The highest recorded speed was 43mph with 2 vehicles being reported for speed offences.

In Itton village 57 vehicles were monitored with an average speed of 27.5 mph clocked. The highest recorded speed was 41 mph and that driver was reported for speed offences.