

## **DRAFT**

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

**Held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021 Remotely via zoom**

#### **Councillors present**

A Williams(Chair)  
J Williams  
I Cavill  
M Powell  
P Kenington  
A Kitson-Smith

#### **In attendance:**

CC R Greenland  
N. James (Clerk)

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Knowland.

#### **2. Police Report**

There was no police report for this period.

#### **3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting dated 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were approved with one amendment to para 10d. Para 10d should now read “AW advised that there appeared to be a planning breach at Cartref Yard, Wolvesnewton where a static caravan had been installed and connected to the local septic tank but the owner had now committed to submit a formal planning application”.

#### **4. Matters Arising**

a. Para 4a – AW advised that he had not had time to pursue this and would need help to do so. Councillors offered to help with arranging a meeting regarding the speeding issue and reiterated their disappointment with the Arup report which appeared to have no coherent vision and still didn't address issues of concern to the local villages. CC Greenland advised that the Report would be considered separately from the already-agreed actions

to be taken in Devauden by MCC to reduce the speed limit to 20mph. AW would contact Sadie Beer of MCC. **Action: AW.**

b. Para 7f – the Clerk had not received a response from the Enforcement Officer. JW referred to comments relating to the Well Lane development made in the S106 Agreement dated 3 July 2019(section 14.2) and Schedule 1 -Covenants to the Council (section 2.3) and an email from Andrew Nevill(MCC) to David Wong(MCC) dated 17 December 2019 regarding the car parking area adjacent to the allotments and its future ownership. The developer had not consulted with DCC on this nor on the proposal to breach the rear hedge of the allotments and install a gate. She would circulate the document and since this was just one of several questions still unanswered a meeting was required with the developer. This would need to be deferred until a meeting in person could be arranged.

c. Para 10a – MCC had confirmed that they had inspected the tree at Itton Common and stated it was in good health. MP advised that the resident was still unhappy with that response and the Clerk was asked to try and arrange a meeting between the two. **Action: NJ.**

d. Para 10b –the police had advised that the Council would need to get the permission of the owner of the land in order to install a camera but, if it was private property, a camera could only be installed to view property owned by the owner and not a public footpath. However the report shows how in 2018 Natural Resources Wales successfully used wildlife camera footage of fly tipping on a publicly adopted lane to achieve a conviction. The action was to bring this article to the attention of concerned landowners along Coal Lane. **Action: JW.**

e. Para 12 – the Chair had been approached by the Chair of St Arvans Community Council as there was a thought that perhaps the two clerks' jobs could be shared. They agreed to consider that but advertise separately. There had been no responses to the first – of two – adverts in the local press for the Devauden clerk. It was agreed that notices would be put on the notice boards, in the Devauden shop and on the website. **Action: NJ.**

## **5. Proposed Newsletter**

AW wondered how the Council could help to increase participation in local issues; how the Council could improve access to, and discussion with, the local community. PK mentioned that Hood Hall was planning to have its own website which the Council might be able to use to obtain a better

internet profile and hence improve communication. The Council agreed to start a conversation: **Action: PK**

## 6. Finance

- a. Balances as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were: current account £4167.06 and deposit account £6806.69.
- b. The bank reconciliation and financial report as at the end of June had been circulated; there were no comments.
- c. Cheques for approval were: Clerk's expenses for July for £13.10 – cheque number 101779; Clerk's pay for July for £234.32 – cheque number 101780; Martin Leach for grasscutting for £25.00 – cheque number 101781; Merlin Waste for July for £88.67 – cheque number 101782; Tindles Newspapers for £297.60 – cheque number 101783; Holy Cross Church Kilgwrrwg for £100.00 – cheque number 101784; St peters Church, Newchurch for £100.00 – cheque number 101785; Wolvesnewton Church Fund for £100.00 – cheque number 101786; Itton Parish Church for £100.00 – cheque number 101787. In approving cheques for the four churchyards for grasscutting the question was asked why no contribution was made to St James' Church in Devauden and it was agreed that the Council would be happy to consider a request from the church. **Action: PK.**

## 6. Correspondence

- a. SE Regional Engagement Team Bulletin.
- b. Details about a new networking group to discuss environmental issues.
- c. Update on the Wye Valley Villages Stage 2 Report.
- d. Fields in Trust email bulletin.
- e. Information about consultations for the Replacement LDP.
- f. Details about Operation London Bridge.
- g. Consultation note on the UKFS Review.
- h. Details about the all Wales Public Service Graduate Programme.
- i. Electoral Reform Newsletter for June.
- j. Climate Change Newsletter for June.

m. Details of a digital conference in October on Achieving Racial equality.

n. Telephone call and meeting with a local resident about the lack of a bus stop in the middle of Devauden. CC Greenland had met the resident on site and had arranged subsequent meetings with MCC officers on site. It was recognised that the existing stop was dangerously-sited and it was a long walk to the end of the village to catch a bus at the shelters especially for those with mobility issues. It had been agreed that the best site for a bus stop in the village would be on the Green just after the turning towards Itton. Drop kerbs and new kerbs would be required but it was also recognised that these were required in any event in the village. MCC's engineering officer had been asked to report on this option and Cllr Greenland would advise DCC of the findings. **Action: BG.**

## **7. Planning**

a. E21/47 -alleged change of use at Cartref Yard, Wolvesnewton – this had already been actioned and the Enforcement Officer had been advised; no further action.

b. New and closed enforcement cases for June.

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

CC Greenland had no items to report.

## **9. One Voice Wales**

a. Details about the OVW remote training sessions for July.

b. Details about the OVW Innovative Practice Conference in September.

## **10. Ward Reports**

a. AKS advised that there was a dangerous 4 foot drop in the footpath going down to Wern-y-Cwm quarry. **Action: NJ.**

b. JW had noted that the surface around the swings at the Hall was breaking up. In addition, the gate to the play area was often left open and she wondered if a sign could be erected asking people to ensure it is kept closed. **Action: PK.**

c. AW wished to record the Council's sincere gratitude and appreciation to John Rowlands who had announced his resignation from the Council this week. John had made a huge contribution and would be sorely missed.

**11. Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held at 7pm on the 27<sup>th</sup> September. The Clerk would check out the hall availability at Devauden and Itton, and a decision would then be made whether to continue with a remote meeting, a hybrid meeting or an actual meeting at one of the halls.

**Action: NJ.**