

DRAFT

MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL Held on Monday 29 November 2021 Hood Memorial Hall, Devauden

Councillors present: A Williams (Chair)
J Williams (Acting Clerk)
M Powell
I Cavill
P Kenington
A Kitson-Smith
L Hazell-Smart (representing Devauden Ward)
P Williams (representing Kilgwrrwg ward)

Once the meeting was declared open Mr Leighton Hazell-Smart and Mr Paul Williams signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office

1 Apologies

2 Police report

The police report for this period is at the back of these minutes. Andy Jones attended the meeting. He apologised for the non-attendance of the newly appointed Sergeant Lee Smith-Stephens who was unable to attend because of a prior engagement. The Sergeant and newly appointed Inspector will attend a meeting at a later date. Police were called to a rave in the Kilgwrrwg area. Andy would appreciate any information that comes our way regarding raves. Dates of DCC meetings for 2022 to be sent.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 October 2021 were approved and signed by the chair.

4 Matters arising

4a The proposed ARUP presentation has been cancelled as the presentation had not been completed. A new date is to be set. AW will liaise with the ARUP team to arrange a meeting to further discuss the proposals put forward for Devauden.

4b Allotment holders do not want an additional gate into the allotments. Letter to go to the developer of the Well Lane site. DCC, as land owners of the allotments and hedge, expressly do not give permission for the installation of a gate at the rear of the allotments. **Action AW**

4e Feasibility of re-siting bus stops in Devauden. CC Greenland was not present. Email to be sent requesting a update. **Action JW**

6b The correct form has now been obtained and will be submitted. Peter Kennington and Andy Williams will be added as additional signatories. **Action JW**

10a No sign has been put at Wern Y Cwm advising visitors that overnight parking is not permitted. NRW to be contacted. **Action JW**

10b A sign has now been placed on the allotment gates. Thanks to AKS for producing the sign.

5 Councillor Vacancy

Mr Paul Williams has been co-opted as the Councillor for Kilgwrrwg Ward.
Mr Leighton Hazell-Smart has been co-opted as the Councillor for Devauden Ward.

6 Clerk vacancy

One potential candidate has been interviewed for the position. Two more candidates are to submit CVs and interviews to be arranged as soon as possible.

7 Finance

Balances as at 25 October 2021: current account £4021.94; deposit account £6806.86.

a. Cheques for approval:

(i) Following confirmation from OVW that a contribution towards the cost of Insurance for the village bonfire and fireworks display does comply with the S137 payments cheque no. 101799 was issued to Hood Memorial Hall.

(ii) Cheque number 101801 £83.42 - Merlin Environmental Services.

(iii) Cheque number 101802 £150 – Hood Memorial Hall. Donation towards the Pensioners Lunch in Devauden. (S137)

b. Invoices/requests for payment received:

MCC £856.80 for grass cutting services. The response from Nigel Leaworthy was unhelpful. A schedule of cuts and cost per cut to be requested. Also to be compared with the costs in 2019 prior to Covid. **Action JW**

8 Correspondence

a) Tintern Community Council advising us of additional assets that will be transferred to Devauden DCC once the boundary changes come into force. A notice board and bench will need to be added to our asset register valued at approximately £250 each.

b) Julie Pinnell MCC has requested that the emergency contact for DCC be updated. Malcolm Powell, Andy Williams and Jacqueline Williams will be the new contacts. **Action JW**

c) Merlin Environmental Services have advised us that there will be another price rise for dog waste bin collections in April 2022. The new price will be £6.50 per bin. MCC to be contacted to see if any progress has been made in their proposals relating to providing an alternative service. **Action JW**

Correspondence circulated:

(1) Dewi Jones Press release – Council launches cashless parking payments.

(2) Dewi Jones Press release – Support offered as initiative looks to bring underused Community Halls back into use. Email response from PK – Hood Memorial Hall have received this and completed the questionnaire.

(3) Paul Egan – Consultancy services for recruiting Clerk.

(4) MCC Planning: Cartref Yard query. No application has yet been received.

(5) Tracey Gilmartin – COP Cymru 2021 A toolkit.

(6) Shan Bowden: Devauden CC Section 137 payments. For 2022/23 the amount will be £8.82

(7) N Knowland: Fwd from John Rowlands – Bonfire Insurance Donation query. Request for donation for pensioners Christmas lunch. Dealt with in Finance.

- (8) Lynda Wilcox Wales NHS, Advocacy Support Officer. Informing us of Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council meetings. IC to represent DCC.
- (9) Nesta Jones, Urdd Gobaith Cymru, Urdd National Eisteddfod will be visiting Denbigh during May 2022.
- (10) John Pearson MCC. Advising of an online forum that will be set up to enable liaison between Community and Town councils on boundary changes and next year's elections.
- (11) Sian Williams.gov.uk via Tracey Gilmartin OVW. Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Wales) Rules 2021 and Local elections (Communities) (Wales) rules 2021.
- (12) Gareth Freeman MCC. Temporary road closure Georges Delight, Gaer Fawr, 29/11 – 1/12.
- (13) Lucy Allen Town Clerk, Chepstow via Tracey Gilmartin OVW. Job advertisement for Chepstow Town Council.
- (14) Karen Dummett, Beverley and Williams Accountants. Re payroll run October.
- Gareth Freeman MCC. Temporary road closure Chepstow Park Wood Lane, Itton Common 6/12 – 17/12.
- (15) Naylor Firth regarding temporary road closure in Itton.
- (16) Gareth Freeman MCC. Temporary road closure R80 Llangwm to Cobblers Plain 22/11 – 24/11.
- (17) R Wade. Response to Clerk vacancy.
- (18) Deb Jeffreys Planning Aid Wales. Planning training portal on listed buildings and heritage sites.
- (19) Tracey Hacker MCC enforcement lists October new and closed lists.

9 Planning

- a. DM/2021/01710: Listed building consent. Strip existing roof, remove defective rafters and other rotten timbers, retain purlins and trusses, stiffen severely bent purlins, fix new rafters and re-roof. Ty Croes Model Farm. No objection to repair and renovation work but attention drawn to the covenant that no conversion to private accommodation was permissible. Councillor A Williams declared an interest in this application and signed the requisite form.
- b. DM/2021/01718: Installation of a South facing ground based Photo Voltaic array totalling some 60 sq metres. Recommend approval
- c. DM/2021/01725: Proposal for the retention of a 3.65m x 10.67m caravan to be used as a farm office. Cartref, Wolvesnewton. Objection: request that MCC ascertain the actual current and future use of the caravan.
- d. DM/2021/01795: Discharge of condition 8 and 13 for planning decision 01741. Well Lane development. Councillor J Williams declared an interest in this application and signed the requisite form. Objection: Clarification required on the boundary treatment on plots 1, 2 and 5 and along the 1.8m fence boundary on the green link access path by plot 12

10 County Councillors Report

No report

11 One Voice Wales

- a) Various online training courses have been offered.
- b) S137 new rates advised. £8.82 for 2022/23

12 Ward reports

- a. PK – John Rowlands has stepped down as Chair of the Hall Committee. Kevin MacElroy is now the Chair and Tim Walker Vice Chair.

- b. MP – resident complained that NRW have not trimmed the tops of the hedges at 57.2 for two years. Report to NRW. **Action JW**
- c. PW – At the bus stop by Tredean Lodge there is a blind spot at the summit. Cars attempting to go around the stopped bus cannot see vehicles approaching from the other direction. Several children regularly use that stop. Report to Highways. **Action JW**
- d. IC – Nothing
- e. AKS – A defibrillator has been installed at/near the crossroads in Kilgwrrwg. A suitable sign and lighting is required to indicate its whereabouts. Kilgwrrwg Charity Committee would fund the installation. Is planning required? **Action Clerk.** Mike Fleetwood has been a member of KCC for 37 years and has elected to retire with AKS accepted as his replacement. Mr Fleetwood's long service on KCC is very much appreciated. Many footpaths in the area are blocked and impassable, especially down to the church. Countryside footpaths officer to be contacted and a current definitive footpath map to be requested. **Action JW.** There is a carol service on 19 Dec 11.30 at the Church of the holy Cross. After that the church will be closed until Sunday 3 March 2022. KCC has funded and planted hundreds of daffodils in the Kilgwrrwg ward public spaces. This was spearheaded by Mike Fleetwood and Martin Cheiney. KCC's funded upkeep of Howells Green has been much appreciated by local residents. A query has been raised over the Best Kept Village competition. Clerk to see if that competition will be running in 2022.
- f. LHS – Concerns over the speed of traffic through the village. The ARUP report should address this issue. Once the new date of the feedback is announced we will have a better idea on possible proposals.
- g. JW – Received queries over the progress of bus shelter locations. See point 4e above.
- h. AW – Agricultural vehicles had been observed mounting the recently placed kerbing in Well Lane. No reply has been received to our email to MCC regarding this problem. To be followed up. **Action Clerk.**

13 Dates of next meetings

20 December 2021.
 31 January 2022.
 28 February 2022.
 28 March 2022.
 25 April 2022.
 23 May 2022.
 20 June 2022.
 25 July 2022.

Police report

Subject: Devauden CC police report 21/10/2021 - 26/11/2021

Good Morning Everyone,

Hope you are all well .

Myself and Sergeant Lee Smith-Stephens will hopefully be attending the meeting on Monday evening at 7.15 pm if commitments allow , so will hopefully see you there .

There is very little to report for the area since the last meeting apart from the following :

29/30 – 11/2021 – Several reports of loud music coming from the area of Wolvesnewton during the night and following day by local residents . Officers attended the area several times during this time and a large party /rave was found in a field near Wolvesnewton Church which was in the process of dispersing . The area was monitored until the event had dispersed the following day .

If any residents in that area see any surge in vehicles accessing this area , and you think it is suspicious please call us at the time going forward. It is very difficult once an event has established so an early call to us would be really helpful and beneficial for obvious reasons.

5/11/2021 – Report of vehicles parking on both sides of the road through Devauden Village during the Firework display . The caller was concerned for emergency vehicle access.

Please remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity/crime at the time via either 101 or 999 if you deem it an emergency . If it is low level you can also report via email on contact@gwent.police.uk .