

MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Held on Monday 20th December 2021 – Zoom

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

In attendance: A Briley (Clerk)

1 Apologies

Robert Greenland

2 Police report

No police report has been received from Andy Jones this is due on the 28th December 2021 and will be circulated once received.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 November 2021 were approved and signed by the chair.

4 Matters arising

4a The ARUP presentation (Wye Valley Villages Project) has been rescheduled for Wednesday 5th January 2022 @ 14:30.

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 an update. **Action JW**

4f Request to ask to CC Greenland to appoint a stand in from MCC if he is going to be unavailable for future meetings, as he has missed the last three meetings and there's a concern that outstanding items are not being progressed. **Action AW**

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

6c Proposal to discuss a Digital plan for DCC, precept to cover costs **Action AW, JW and AB**

10a A visitor sign has been put up at Wern Y Cwm advising visitors that overnight parking is not permitted.

5 Clerk Vacancy

Anita Briley has now been appointed. Contact Beverly and Williams Accountants to get put on the payroll. **Action AB**

6 Finance

- a) DCC (Finance only) meeting proposed to follow the MCC Wye Valley Villages Project meeting on 5th January 2021 to agree DCC response and approach on this year precept. Meeting to be held well ahead of the 20th January Deadline. Discussed the precept which was £7160 last year which maybe increased this year, need to sort out getting the forms signed and returned to MCC.
- b) Correspondence has been received asking if we want to continue having the precept paid in three payments or change to one annual payment on the last day of April. (see forwarded email). Need to discuss and reply by 7.1.22
- c) We received an outstanding sundry debtor invoice demand that was forwarded to JW by Nigel James. JW rang them on 7.12.21 explaining that the invoice is being queried Nigel Leaworthy. A 'hold' notice has been put on the demand for payment. JW Waiting for Nigel Leaworthy to respond on outstanding items previously listed.
- d) Balances as of 25 October 2021: current account £3,838.52; deposit account £6806.86.
- e) No invoices received this month, so no cheques needed to be signed.

7 Correspondence

- a) JW Circulated information related to Dog Bins. Susan Parkinson from MCC contacted with no new update but they are looking into advertising the contract on the Sell 2 Wales website. 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.
- b) Update on plans to introduce 20 mph zones in Monmouthshire. DCC down in early phase. Feb/March timeframe.
- c) Funding Tracker needs to be set up to establish what DCC may apply for in the future. Include in Matter arising for January. **Action AB**
- d) Email diverts for future correspondence to AB from JW ASAP **Action AW**

Circulated correspondence:

- 1) Tracy Gilmartin OVW. Community CPR and defibrillator Manager vacancy.
- 2) Tracy Gilmartin OVW. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons 2 June 2022.
- 3) Tracy Gilmartin OVW. Forwarded Access to Politics from Phillip Westcott @ Disability Wales.
- 4) Kim Lloyd MCC, new and closed enforcement cases November 2021.
- 5) Susan Parkinson MCC re dog bin emptying contract. Still working on an alternative collection service. May be a meeting with Town and Community Councils in January 2022.
- 6) Nigel Leaworthy re invoice no 70187032. response to query over grass cutting schedule and cost per cut.
- 7) Tracy Gilmartin OVW: Policy Announcements at the Compulsory Purchase Association (CPA) Wales National Conference 2021.
- 8) Tracy Gilmartin OVW letter from Lyn Cadwallader. One Voice Wales - Monmouthshire Community Boundary Review. Meeting re: - The Transfer of Undertaking (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE) - for Councils where clerks/staff are affected by the implications of the Review – Wednesday 15th December 2021.
- 9) Tracy Gilmartin OVW: Office closed from 17 Dec 2021 to 4 January 2022.
- 10) Thomas Blythe NRW: Wern Y Cwm car parking sign
- 11) Countryside MCC – response to email about blocked footpaths, Kilgwrwg, and link to definitive footpath map.
- 12) Lisa Gillespie – Wye Valley project. New date 5 January 2022.

- 13) Tracy Gilmartin forwarded a letter from the Minister for Finance and Local Government about the Eligible Community Councils (General Power of Competence) (Qualifications of Clerks) (Wales) Regulations 2021.
- 14) Tracy Gilmartin OVW: National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- 15) Tracy Gilmartin OVW: Shaping Wales' future.
- 16) Nerys Owens @gov.uk via Tracy Martin: Welsh Government Councillor remuneration and citizen engagement in Wales report.
- 17) PS Minister for Social Services via Tracy Gilmartin: First wave of Wales' national milestones.
- 18) Nicole Sana Stakeholder engagement: Keep Wales Safe.
- 19) Mandy Moore GAVO: Street games awareness.
- 20) Mandy Moore GAVO: Older People's Fund.
- 21) Wendi Patience OVW: Remote training Jan – Mar 2022.
- 22) Jan Whitham MCC: Press release – MCC Leader thanking residents for community spirit over the past year.
- 23) Jan Whitham MCC: Press release – Update on plans to introduce 20 mph zones in Monmouthshire.
- 24) John Pearson MCC: Democratic services meeting scheduled for 17.1.22 cancelled.
- 25) Jan Whitham MCC: Press release – Outline plans to improve Abergavenny bus station.
- 26) Jan Whitham MCC: Press release – Monmouthshire museums project ensures relevance of its collection to the community.
- 27) Lisa Gillespie MCC: Wye Valley Villages new date 5/1/2022.
- 28) Tracy Gilmartin: Advertisement – Chair to the Independent Remuneration Panel.
- 29) Tracy Gilmartin: The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021: Draft Statutory Guidance for Community and Town Councils.
- 30) Mark Lloyd MCC: Free Carbon Literacy Training for Town and Community Councils.
- 31) Kelly Keyse, MCC: Press release – Council launches Alexa skill to help residents with waste and recycling queries.
- 32) Tracy Gilmartin OVW: Request for a policy on Solar Farm Applications

8 Planning

- a) **DM/2021/01680**: Foxes Barn – Installation of a new french window in the west elevation, to serve existing kitchen. Not a listed building. Not overlooking another property. Recommend approval from DCC.

9 County Councillors Report

No report

10 One Voice Wales

- a) Contact Shan Bowden for description future relevant Training courses covering Clerking and Carbon accounting **Action AB**

11 Ward reports

- a) Councillor J. Williams – Problems with the Kerbing in Well Lane – Chippings have been washed away creating a gully along the development side of the lane. Wide vehicles are trying to avoid this and wing mirrors are becoming tangled into residents hedge. This is creating a risk to the existing hedge and the potential for the bank collapsing. The kerbing has made the lane too narrow for large vehicles. Write to Robert Greenland to identify who is responsible and request him to escalate it. AW to also discuss with RG. **Action AB**

- b) Councillor I. Cavill – Fibre Optic Installation in School Lane Itton, Report needed to the Highways Agency for not managing road closures correctly. Lots of disruption for local residents and Issues with attitude and communications with Quinn staff on site during the installation.
- c) Councillor A. Kitson-Smith – Enquiry/Concern over a property in Kilgwrrwg having huge amount of recycle waste appear after weekends. Question if the resident is paying business rate for the collection service Cllr Kitson-Smith to research this via MCC Environmental Health.
- d) Councillor L. Hazell-Smart – Verge encroaching on pavement near Stone Bus Stop – Cllr Hazell-Smart to try Highways for support.
- e) Communication of councillor's details with profiles to local residents. Aim to be more approachable, proactive and engaging. Look to John Davies (Devauden Website) (included in Fiveways) and create communication plan. Include with Digital Plan to avoid duplication of effort **Action AB**
- f) DCC Email Address, Google Drive & One Drive, Laptop quotes to be obtained for AB **Action AW**

12 Dates of next meeting

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

13 Budgeting meeting Scheduled Tuesday 6th January @ 6pm following Wye Valley Villages Project Action AW

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