

MINUTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON

MONDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2023

Councillors present: J Williams (Chair and Acting Clerk)

P Kennington

J Lucas

A Williams

M Powell

L Hazell-Smart

In attendance: R Buckler MCC

Mrs D Walker

1. Apologies: A Kitson-Smith

2. Declarations of interest on the Agenda: None

3. Confirmation of minutes from meeting held on 31 July 2023: Approved

4. 15 minute public participation:

Mrs D Walker raised the following points

a). Devauden Hall have decided that they will not site a Leukaemia collection box in the hall grounds.

b) A 'warm space' will be provided in the hall between the hours of 10.00 am - 2.00pm on a Tuesday and Thursday. Tea, coffee and cakes will be provided free of charge and soup and a roll will be available between 12.00 - 1.00 pm. The scheme will initially run from October to Christmas.

5. Police report

See back of minutes

6. Matters arising

a) Recruitment of replacement clerk

An advertisement has been placed on the Devauden web site and notice boards in Devauden and Itton. Job descriptions have been sent to interested candidates. Closing dates for applications is 28 September 2023. Following that date AW will arrange for virtual interviews to take place.

b) Tree cutting at the allotment

David Lucas (MCC) to be contacted for advice on the urgency of cutting down the Ash tree on the allotments that has stage 2 dieback. A decision will be made based on his advice.

c). Defibrillators

A letter from Nigel Knowland regarding the most recently installed defibrillators was read out. JW to contact Peter Richards. Following his advice on the best way to proceed, four heated boxes to be ordered and organisations to be contacted to obtain the defibrillators.

Llanfihangel Project group have requested via JL 3 defibrillators in their area. This request will be considered on how it fits in with DCC's policy on the provision of defibs by looking at population density in the area.

Discussion took place on the asset transfer conditions on the defibrillator box in St Arvans. No decision made yet.

d) Allotments

No progress can be made on this until a new Proper Officer has been appointed. There are a lot of covenants attached to the transfer agreement that need careful, detailed consideration. Documents currently with LH-S.

7 Clerk's report

Nothing to report

8 Finance

Balances were not available for the meeting. Two names need to be supplied for online banking. This has been deferred until the new Proper Officer has been appointed. Cheques will be issued to pay current invoices.

Invoice number E0300OJMN8 for Microsoft online services £55.01 has been held over until next month as BACS payment is preferred.

PAYEE	REASON FOR EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT	VAT	TOTAL	PAYMENT METHOD
H Dixon	Clerk's salary	£394.21	0	£394.21	Cheque
HMRC	Tax liability	£197	0	£197	Cheque

9 Correspondence

10) Planning

Planning application DM/2023/00727. Forge House, Itton Common. Demolition of conservatory and lean to and the proposed erection of a two-storey dwelling house extension. Decision: No

objections.

11) County Councillors Report.

a) MCC (contact Gareth Freeman) is considering how road safety can be improved in Devauden village. DCC ask that any discussions/ site meetings involve Devauden Ward councillors following on from the earlier meetings involving Graham Kinsella.u

b) RB asked that any concerns raised by residents relating to school transport are passed to her.

c) MCC are producing a new Development Plan. There will be a major impact on the Chepstow, Magor, Monmouth and Abergavenny area. Housing developments may be affected by the ongoing phosphates issue.

D) RB will investigate why three of the shared ownership houses are still vacant when there is such a need for social housing in the area.

12 One Voice Wales

Nothing to report

13 Ward reports

JW – Gate posts on the allotments need replacing. LH-S will obtain a quote.8

A letter has been received from a resident concerned about the HGV sign at the top of the road leading into the new development which could prevent large oil tankers from making deliveries. Generally small tankers can make deliveries which may be a solution.

Concern has been expressed by residents who need to use trailers on their vehicles when coming up Well Lane over the on- road parking in the new development. They need to swing to the wrong side of the road to avoid the parked vehicles on a sharp left-hand bend straight into the path of vehicles entering the lane from the B4293. MHA to be contacted.

PK - PK and AW will look at the draft agreement LH-S is drawing up on conditions for the Hall to place advertisements on the side of the bus shelter. Once they have looked at it, it will be passed to the Hall Committee for their consideration.

JL – Llanfihangel have requested a noticeboard board for their area. Will be discussed when the budget is considered.

Friends of the Lower Wye have offered to talk to DCC about phosphates. Will be considered at a later date.

Large tractors and trailers are creating hazards due to their size. Branches are being ripped from mature trees as the vehicles/ trailers are too wide to safely pass through the narrow lanes. The Wolvesnewton end of Well Lane has been blocked by very large branches. Contact NFU Cymru to see if they can give advice to contractors on using more suitable routes. (AW/JL)

AW - Malcolm Wrigley concerned about a blocked drain. Exact location is required.

MP – Extremely large tractors and trailers are causing similar damage to that in Wolvesnewton. Hopefully when the contractors have finished harvesting the problem will resolve itself. To be monitored.

MCC have said that the blocked drain reported last month is on the schedule to be done.

AKS (via email) - the response of MCC on the MyMon app has been non-existent. The lack of response relates to a highway issue where a signpost is incorrectly positioned and the non collection of food and recycling waste in the Kilgwrrwg area.

LH-S - Has been asked by residents if the booking system used at the recycling centres is going to be stopped. RB replied that the system will be continued as it is felt to be more effective.

Allotment tenant has asked if water can be supplied to the allotments. This has been discussed and rejected in the past as the cost implications are complicated.

One of the points raised in the Hall AGM was who does what in the village, e.g. bus shelters (DCC) village hall grounds (Hall Committee). This could be developed in conjunction with the Hall Committee.

Date of next meeting: 30 October 2023