

DRAFT
NOTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
AS AT 27th MAY

In view of the COVID 19 virus outbreak DCC decided to cancel actual Council meetings until further notice. It would nevertheless publish notes updating its situation and any appropriate information.

1. Covid 19-Council Meetings

Inevitably there has been a reduction in events/activities on which to report but, at the time of writing, it would appear that lockdown restrictions will gradually start to ease. Consequently, but of course totally dependent on what the rules are at the time, the Chair and Clerk have discussed the possibility of a suitably socially-distanced meeting. At this stage the thinking is to look to hold a Council meeting in the main hall at either Devauden or Itton on 27th July. The aim will be to hold the AGM then, sign off the Annual Return, select a new co-optee member, as well as any other business. I stress that this would be totally dependent on the rules/situation at the time and there will be no intention of holding a meeting if it is felt unsafe to do so.

2. Police Report

The police reported the following incidents for this period:

“An operation was conducted between Monday the 27th of April 2020 and Sunday the 10th of May 2020 by Chepstow Neighbourhood officers and neighbouring stations(South Monmouthshire) to target offenders involved in the recent theft/burglary incidents which were predominantly in the rural wards of Chepstow and bordering ward areas with the following results over that period:

-30 x stop searches, 4 x drug drive arrests, 1 x drink drive arrest, 1 x possession of Class A and B controlled substances arrest, 7 x possession of cannabis, 2 x vehicle seizures, 2 x Covid 19 FPN's, 4 x Traffic Summons/TOR's for various traffic offences.

There has been a significant drop in reported incidents during this time and since.

6/5/20 – Report of 2 males in a blue Vauxhall corsa acting suspiciously on the outskirts of the village. Officers attended and spoke to the males and all was in order apart from them being given covid 19 restriction advice and asked to leave the area.”

3. **Matters Arising**

a. Minute 5a – a local contractor had now started regular cuts of Howells Green and MCC had started cutting essential areas.

4. **Finance**

a. Balances for 30th April 2020 were: £3617.62 and £6802.83.

b. The Welsh Audit Office had updated its advice regarding this year's Audit. It hoped that councils would be able to sign off their annual returns meet before the end of August although appreciated that this might not be always possible. The DCC Annual Return had been completed with the various paperwork required for this year's audit, and the Internal Auditor had completed his audit. The Return was ready for the Council to consider and approve at a formal meeting.

c. Council had approved the insurance quotation for the year from Zurich Municipal as the company had given good service over the year and the increase in premium was very small.

d. Cheques were signed as follows: Zurich Insurance for £345.98 – cheque number 101702; Merlin Waste for March/April for £52.50 – cheque number 101703; Clerk's salary for May – for £227.92 – cheque number 101704; Clerk's expenses for May for £12.60 – cheque number - 101705.

5. **Correspondence**

a. Covid 19 financial impact survey for councils.

b. Covid 19 dietician and nutrition advice for food parcels.

c. Update on MCC Planning Department activity.

d. Information about the WG Land Release Fund for 20/21.

e. Consultation from the Boundary Commission regarding the forthcoming Electoral Review.

f. Amendments to two orders for Sustainable Drainage.

g. Information about a Covid 19 Youth Endowment Grant.

h. Email from a local resident regarding new consultation rules for woodland creation schemes.

6. **Planning**

- a. DM/2020/00503 – replacement dwelling at Mynyddbach Farm. Newchurch – comments awaited.

- b. New and completed enforcement cases for April.

7. **One Voice Wales**

- a. OVW Bulletin for May.

- b. Results of OVW National Awards for councils for 2020.

8. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held when the Government rules regarding the virus outbreak are lifted – but see para 1 above.