

DRAFT

NOTES OF DEVAUDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

AS AT 26th JANUARY 2021

In view of the COVID 19 virus outbreak DCC had 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

At the AGM held remotely via Zoom on 14th December it was agreed that, until the lockdown rules change, the requirement for future meetings, and whether these should be remote or not, would be decided on an ongoing monthly basis.

2. Police Report

The police reported that there were no actual incidents to report for the period but they continued to receive reports regarding people travelling/driving to NRW's car parks in the area to exercise/dog walk which contravene the WG rules. NRW has closed the car parks at Chepstow Park Woods and Fedw wood for that reason.

3. Councillor Vacancy

AC has forwarded her letter of resignation from her position as councillor for the Kilgwrrwg Ward. MCC has issued its call for volunteers with a closing date of 29th January. If no applicant comes forward with the requisite 10 supporting signatures, DCC will advertise the vacancy for a co-opted member for the Council. If anyone is aware of individuals who may be interested please contact the Clerk.

4. Finance

a. Balances for 31st December 2020 were: £4828.70 and £6806.35.

b. Cheques were signed as follows: Monmouthshire CAB grant for £250.00 – cheque number 101743; MCC Christmas Appeal for £400.00 - cheque number 101744; Beverley and Williams for payroll services for £39.36 – cheque number 101745; HMRC for £185.00 – cheque number 101746; Clerk's salary for Dec for £234.12 – cheque number 101747; Clerk's expenses for Dec for £13.10 – cheque number - 101748; Merlin Waste for Jan for £59.15 – cheque number 101749; Audit Wales Office for £204.70 – cheque number 101750; Clerk's salary for Jan for £234.12 - cheque number 101751; Clerk's expenses for Jan for £13.10 – cheque number 101752.

5. Correspondence

- a. Information from Wye Valley AONB regarding work with Western Power to consider undergrounding of power lines.
- b. Details about the launch of a Ministerial Forum on Ageing and its public consultation.
- c. An opportunity to comment on the Countryside Code Review.
- d. Details about fixed term and secondment vacancies at the WG.
- e. A fundraising appeal request from the Wales Air Ambulance Charity.
- f. An update letter from the Leader of MCC.
- g. Cynnal Cymru Newsletter for January 2021.
- h. WLGA Coronavirus update Jan 21.
- i. The WG communications guide for local councils.
- j. Age Cymru survey aimed at older people in Wales.
- k. Information regarding the Volunteering Recovery Grant.
- l. Details about the WG Future Wales – the national plan 2040.
- m. Update of the Review of County Electoral arrangements for Monmouthshire.
- n. Letter of thanks from MCC for the grant to their Appeal Fund.
- o. Details about the planned NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers Day on 5th July 2021 – this will be discussed at a future meeting.
- p. Consultation on the Monmouthshire Replacement LDP 2018-33 Growth and Spatial Options.

6. Planning

- a. DM/2020/01675 – conversion of a disused barn from agricultural to residential use at Pwll-y-Cath, Newchurch; the following comments were passed to MCC – “The site of the derelict ex-agricultural building on which this proposal is founded is completely isolated from any other dwellings and in a very exposed position. The proposal to erect a new building on such a prominent hilltop (hence Pen-y-Fan) challenges planning policy. The dwelling and the driveway that would be carved

across open pastures would have a high impact on the landscape. The extensive plate glass on the SW elevation could cause visible glare over a wide area around noon-time. The proposed dwelling is relatively modest and it is possible that there would be pressure in future to expand and add modern amenities.”

b. DM/2020/01752 –agricultural notification of a stone track for the use of forestry harvesting machinery in Fedw Wood.

c. DM/2020/01856 – conversion of redundant threshing barn to dwelling at Llangunnog Farm, Near Llansoy – no comments received.

d. DM/2020/00734 – appeal information regarding the change of use application from holiday let to a residential property at Catry Cottage, Star Hill, Devauden – for information only.

e. DM/2021/00001 –outdoor riding area for domestic use at Brynglas Cottage, Quarry Road, Star Hill, Devauden – no comments as yet received.

f. Enforcement notices for December.

7. One Voice Wales

a. News Bulletin for December.

b. Announcement of new Chair for OVW.

c. South East Wales Regional Engagement Team’s Newsletter for Winter 2020.

8. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be decided shortly.