

MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Location: Llay Resource Centre
Date & Time: 18th April 2018 @ 18:30

In Attendance:

Councillors B Apsley (Chair), D Owen (V Chair), S Roberts, S Watson, S Apsley, J O'Keefe, P Taylor, K Cupit, J Osbourne, R Walsh, D Adams, W Austin & Clerk
4 members of the public. PCSO Harris Press

Before the meeting started, the Chair asked all present to stand for a minutes silence in memory of former Councillor Maldwyn Davies, who passed away recently.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs T Boland, L Jones and N Hughes.

Declarations of Interest: Cllrs K Cupit, R Walsh (Planning)

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The Minutes of the **March meeting** were accepted as a true record, proposed by DA, seconded by RW and carried unanimously.

3. **Matters Arising:** RW spoke regarding the issue of **Bryn/Park Wards** within Llay. After a short discussion, with everyone agreeing that all Councillors represent all residents, regardless of their address, DO proposed and PT seconded revisiting this matter in a year. This was agreed by all. The Chair asked that approval be given for the **AGM** be held on 16th May and this was agreed by all. RW mentioned that the community now legally own the **telephone box** adjacent to the Croeshowell Restaurant, with the Clerk holding the contract. A general discussion followed about future use with no firm decision being taken. The Clerk will find out costs for moving the box and will inform Zurich regarding insurance for third party injury. SR suggested posters and boxes to be placed in key locations in the village, and the use of social media, to ask the people of Llay for their suggestions. This was agreed as a good idea and SR will lead. The final point regarding **Community Agents** will be relisted when LJ is able to update and present the case. SR mentioned that she will be contacting the Enforcement Officer for WCBC to obtain the latest update regarding the Asphalt Plant.

4. **Public Questions:** A question from a member of the public, concerning progress on installing a Toddlers Play Area within the Rockery Gardens was read out by the Chair. DA, who originally raised the matter gave some figures and issues around the community council taking over responsibility of the Rockery Gardens would be cost and resource prohibitive. It is estimated that the creation of the toddlers park itself would be in the region of £60k. Having originally suggested the possibility, DA now feels that this would not be a good idea going forward for a number of reasons, including having to take over responsibility for the whole area from WCBC, which also involved several costs. The Chair asked that this matter be relisted every three months for further consideration. RW will investigate further with Lead members.

5. **Police Matters:** PCSO Harris elaborated on the figures that had been distributed ahead of the meeting. Generally speaking, anti-social behaviour continues to be the main concern. DO asked about the community council being invited to visit the new Police HQ. Also some concern expressed now the new cells are operational, that people will be released at night, with no means of getting home. PCSO reassured all this was unlikely as there is a duty of care. PCSO Harris will liaise with the clerk regarding a visit.

6. **New Matters:** The Chair raised the matter of using a Solicitor regarding ownership of land behind the cemetery. Problems had arisen with the firm who had been engaged and the Chair wished to engage a new firm. He was seeking approval from the Council. After discussion it was agreed to get three quotes from local firms before proceeding. The Chair will progress this.

7. **Finance and Appeals:** The Clerk sought **approval for the expenditure** for the past month, £4,453.25p. This was proposed by DO and seconded by DA and approved unanimously. All expenditure items were approved, having been sent for approval during the month. The Chair signed a copy of the Inc/Exp Schedule. The Vice Chair is seeking to form a **sub-committee to look at staff salaries** before making a recommendation. SR, JO and WA agreed to join the Chair and Vice Chair to look at this matter separately. The Clerk raised the **issue of appointing internal auditors** for the current year. He will seek three quotes and

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report back in May. The Clerk informed all that the Internal Audit had been concluded satisfactorily. However, as in previous years a **number of issues had been highlighted by the Internal Auditor** and these were individually read out and discussed. Recommendations from the Auditor were also considered. All appropriate action required will be implemented as soon as practical. The Clerk will write to the internal auditor with actions taken in relation to the small number of pick up points highlighted.

8. Street Lighting: RW mentioned some lighting issues he was aware of and he was further updated by councillors.

9. Planning: The Chair read out the application as listed involving new development on land south of Llay Miners Welfare. Before the matter was discussed, KC left the room having signed a DOI prior to the start of the meeting. After discussion the Clerk was instructed to write to the Planning Department raising issues about affordable housing within the proposal, unadopted road issues, lack of one and two bedroom housing, which Llay needs and whether the trees that have been removed could or should be reinstated in some similar form by the developer. Finally, 106 funding needs clarifying.

10. Burial Matters: DO/JO'K gave a full report following their recent **inspection**, highlighting the general appearance of the cemetery. Some minor improvements to the toilet area are required. The Clerk will implement and will also invest in some card to improve the cemetery rules booklet. The Cemetery Inspectors for May will be DA and BA.

11. Reports: The Chair gave an overview of recent events involving the LDP, particularly thanking those in the Village who had shown support via the recent meetings. RW concurred and assured all that he would be available along with the Chair, to offer guidance and help to anyone requiring it, and there would be a couple of meetings to give advice being held in the resource centre. RW stated how vital it was for everyone with thoughts or comments to make, that these were forwarded within the time scales to the appropriate department. SR also mentioned that letters and e mails were also acceptable for those who struggled with the online process. SR asked for a special meeting regarding the LDP. This was agreed by all as an excellent idea.

12. News/Website: DA mentioned that apart from some updates with the Clerk there was nothing to report.

13. Correspondence: No separate correspondence had been received by the Clerk.

There being no further business, Standing Orders were moved and seconded and the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2050.

The next meeting, and **Annual General Meeting**, will be held on **Wednesday 16th May at 1830** in Main Hall Llay Resource Centre

Signed:-

Mr B Apsley
Chair
16th May 2018