

MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Held At Park Community Primary School, LLay
 Date Thursday 10th December 2015
 Time 1830

Name	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Bryan Apsley Chairperson	√	N	√	√	√	√						
Dave Adams	√	O	√	√	√	A						
Sandra Apsley	√		√	√	√	A						
Terry Boland	A	M	√	A	√	√						
Paul Crewe	A	E	A	A	A	A						
Ken Cupit	√		√	√	A	√						
Maldwyn Davies	√		√	√	√	√						
Peter Evans	√		A	A	√	√						
Sharon Roberts	√		√	√	√	√						
Eunice Vincent	√		A	A	A	A						
Rob Walsh	√		√	√	A	√						
Vera Wineyard	A	H	√	√	A	√						
John O'Keefe		E		√	√	√						
Dennis Owen		L		√	√	√						
Jan Osborne	X	X	X	X	X	√						
Mark Williams (Clerk)	√	D	√	√	√	√						

In Attendance: 8 members of the community, PCSO Hughes

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs P Crewe, E Vincent, D Adams, S Apsley. The Chair also welcomed Ms J Osborne to her first meeting since being co-opted onto the council.
2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The Minutes of the November Meeting were accepted as a true record: Proposed by: PE Seconded by: DO
3. **Public Questions:** There were no questions from the public on this occasion.
4. **Matters Arising:** The **Playscheme decision** has been further delayed until at least March 2016. This is due to the Head of Education Services for WCBC informing all community councils that funding for this scheme will not be guaranteed until March 2016. Therefore, this matter will be dealt with when the funding situation is clarified. The ongoing development of **Foregolf** continues to be actively pursued by both county councillors, with Mr M Howarth and Mr T Coxon at WCBC. Updates will be given when known. RW informed all that he continues to pursue the installation of a post box through Royal Mail. TB re-stated that the proposed option of using Burton or Pen Y Ffordd is neither practical nor acceptable. MD passed around an example of the **ribboned medal** that the **Llay Miners Heritage Committee** intend presenting to all school children next year and

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also thanked everyone for their help in obtaining the required “hooter” to further recognise the 50th Anniversary, planned for 2016.

5. Police Matters: Prior to presenting the crime figures for the month, PCSO Hughes asked if the council were content to keep speeding and arson as their 2 main priorities. The Chair invite comments. RW mentioned that **speeding remained an issue in many areas**, and confusion involving signage was an issue. The Chair made reference to the recent incident involving a young pedestrian on Llay New Road. PCSO Hughes confirmed the speed awareness van would make more visits to this busy road. PE mentioned the **difficulties parking** on 1st Avenue in the vicinity of the school. SR informed all that parents had been requested to assist in this matter. TB informed all that WCBC use in depth data (pedestrian numbers, volume of traffic etc.) to make decisions regarding appeals to Welsh Assembly for funding to install new zebra crossings. TB also mentioned that the possibility of **local residents having equipment to act as speed monitors** is also being actively considered. The Chair asked council if they wished to keep arson as the second priority and, after a short discussion, it was agreed to remove this at present. SR asked council to consider **drug use as a high priority**, having witnessed suspected drug use in the woods herself recently. After a general discussion this was agreed by all. The Chair asked all councillors to inform their friends within the community, that everyone is able to report suspicious matters to the Police regarding this matter. PCSO Hughes stated that he needs to be informed about **suspected drug use before action can be taken**. He then presented the monthly figures to council. Finally, TB congratulated PCSO Hughes on the monitoring of the skate park which is being used responsibly by all concerned. The Chair thanked PCSO Hughes for his attendance and he left the meeting.

6. Finance and Appeals: The Clerk presented the finance figures for November, which were approved by councillors present. The following **appeals for Grants** were listed and considered:-

Having signed a DOI, the Chair left the room prior to the first appeal.

Llay RBL Social Club Ltd appeal for funding to cover extensive repair costs. After discussions, PE proposed a grant of £1k, seconded by KC. MD proposed an amendment of £500 seconded by RW. The Vice Chair, TB, asked for councillors to vote on the amendment first, followed by the original proposal. The amendment was carried by a majority. It was agreed that whilst the offer of £500 was to be passed on to Llay RBL SC by the Clerk, no money was to be transferred until the WREN funding, essential for this project to proceed, was awarded. The Clerk will ensure this is made clear in any correspondence.

The Chair re-joined the meeting, with KC signing a DOI and leaving, and the second appeal, from **Llay Welfare Bowling Club** was read out. This involved an appeal for funding to assist in the hosting of a Senior Masters bowling event in the Summer of 2016. MD felt that financial support, if required, should come from Llay Welfare itself. DO expressed concern that the letter appeared to request funding as “rainy day” funding, without a specific purpose. Others present also expressed concern regarding the letter of appeal. DO then proposed that no money be awarded at this time, but if specific funding shortfalls arose as the date of the event approached, the bowling club could appeal for a grant again. J O’K seconded this proposal. The Chair asked if there were any amendments to this proposal and there were not. The proposal was carried unanimously and the Clerk was instructed to inform the applicants.

The Chair stated that as agreed at the last meeting, **the Precept for 2016/2017** needed to be set. The Clerk had sent out budget forecasts to all concerned. The Chair outlined the current figures for the Precept and a general discussion followed. MD proposed a 2.5% increase in the precept, in recognition of rising costs of services. Prior to being seconded, MD amended his proposal to 2%,

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based on last year, which TB seconded. The Chair asked for any amendments and SR proposed a freeze on the Precept for next year due to the difficult times everyone was experiencing. This proposal was seconded by RW. The Chair called for a vote on the amendment first, which received 7 votes and then the original proposal from MD, which received 3 votes. Therefore, the Chair declared that the amendment to not increase the precept was carried and the Clerk is to inform WCBC in accordance with their instructions.

7. Street Lighting: PE mentioned an important light was still out near the nursing home. TB will chase this up again. DO and SR mentioned various lights either not working, or remaining on all day. JO'K also mentioned a light near the Resource Centre with the protective plate missing and wires exposed. In summary, once again, there was expressions of dissatisfaction regarding street lighting in general. TB, in agreeing with the sentiments expressed, confirmed that he felt the matter would improve greatly in April, when the current contractors responsible for all WCBC street lighting were replaced with a new contracting firm. Meanwhile he will continue to pursue the relevant sections for answers.

8. Planning: There were no planning matters to discuss on this occasion. The Clerk mentioned that shortly, **all planning applications would only be issued electronically**, thus saving money for this department of WCBC.

9. Burial Matters: The Clerk informed all that the recent decoration of the **main building** had been completed and this would prevent more costly work being required at a later date. He also informed council that the **Groundsman** would be returning to work next week following his lengthy absence due to illness. The **new water towers** should be in place prior to the next meeting to replace the irreparable water tank, following the engagement of a new contractor. The Chair informed all that he had responded in writing to the recent correspondence regarding the kerb stone issues at the cemetery. He had not received a reply so has assumed his letter was accepted by the correspondent. Finally there was a discussion regarding the **timeframe and costs of extending the cemetery**. There is a lack of clarity over the costs for preparing and using the land to the rear of the current cemetery. TB mentioned that he thought the figure was close to £100k, whereas the Clerk mentioned that he was confident the figure would be around £16k. The Clerk will ascertain likely costs, through the ICLM (Cemetery Management organisation), and report back in due course.

10. Correspondence: Thank you letters had been received from **Llay Senior Citizens Club, Park CP Primary School, Llay Welfare FC and the Llay Miners Heritage** Committee in recognition of the grants made at the November meeting. The Chair then read out letters received from local residents (Ms C Archer/Ms P Pugh) regarding the **disposal of Public Open Space** (under LGA 1972) and in particular, their concern that residents of Llay and the Community Council appear to discover plans via local media and not directly. This matter had also arisen in 2013, regarding the planned disposal of Haywards Field within the village. The correspondents felt that the Community Council were treated as "poor relatives" and should be informed as soon as plans are known in the first instance and certainly before the local media. In support of this correspondence, **TB mentioned the excellent work** carried out by fellow councillor SR, which had resulted in numerous errors being discovered in the WCBC POS policy recently, which were now being addressed. In agreeing with the sentiments of the correspondents, the Chair concluded by asking **both county councillors to discover the rights of the community council** to know about plans to dispose of open spaces within the community.

11. Reports: On behalf of himself and TB, RW mentioned that he had held meetings with the Manager of Streetscene within the village, to resolve issues involving the **placement of bins** on Gresford Road (differing prices for installation being one of the problems), the **resurfacing** of the

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road from Wats Dyke to the Welfare roundabout, **hedges** in the vicinity of cottages near Gwastad Hall Nursing Home being overgrown, **Mayville Avenue path** being too narrow, and finally possible housing development to replace the **Old Community Centre** being at the earliest stages. He had also had exploratory discussions with health professionals regarding the new health Centre on the old school site. He stressed that this was in the very earliest stage of progress at the moment. PE mentioned that if the desired outcome regarding this Health Centre did come to fruition, he hoped that it would be staffed correctly and in sufficient numbers to serve the community.

There being no further business the Standing Orders were moved and accepted. The Chair declared the meeting closed at 2021. The next meeting is on

THURSDAY 21st JANUARY 2016 at 1830

Signed:.....

Mr B Apsley
Chairman
21st January 2016