

## MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Held At Llay Resource Centre, Llay  
 Date Thu 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016  
 Time 1830

Name	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Bryan Apsley Chairperson	√	N										
Dave Adams	A	O										
Sandra Apsley	√											
Terry Boland	A	M										
Ken Cupit	√	E										
Maldwyn Davies	A	E										
Sharon Roberts	√	I										
Rob Walsh	√	N										
Vera Wineyard	A	G										
John O'Keefe	√											
Dennis Owen	√	H										
Jan Osborne	A	E										
Christine Archer	√	L										
Pat Taylor	√	D										
Mark Williams (Clerk)	√											

In Attendance: PCSO Humm and 4 members of the public.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chair invited Cllr S Roberts to introduce Dylan Griffiths and Jessica Jones who had won the Litter Poster Competition that SR had organised. Dylan and Jessica were then presented with their much deserved prizes.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs D Adams, J Osborne, M Davies, T Boland, V Wineyard
2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Prior to approving the minutes for the June meeting and the Special June Meeting, SR, PT, SA, RW and BA all signed DOI's for business due to be discussed later. The Chair then asked for the Minutes to be approved and DO/RW approved the June minutes, with KC/JO'K approving the June Special Meeting Minutes.
3. **Public Questions:** On this occasion, no questions had been received by the Clerk.
4. **Matters Arising:** The Chair mentioned the points listed on the Agenda by himself that he wished Council to consider. Regarding answering points from **anonymous calls**, he felt this was not good practice and could lead to the Clerk dealing with a number of calls going forward. After a general discussion it was felt that if the caller made an allegation that was worthy of a quick investigation, this should be done. Regarding **outbursts from members of the public**, RW felt

## MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

that if those attending to observe are made aware of the boundaries and rules of good practice, then this could ensure no outbursts should occur. This was agreed by all. The Chair invited councillors present to join himself, the Vice Chair and DA on the **Standing Orders review committee**. After discussion, SR and CA declined the opportunity to join, but JO had indicated she would like to be involved and, along with KC, will make up the five person review committee. The Chair will offer some dates in the near future to meet and perform this review of Standing Orders, with a view to presenting a draft document to all councillors in September. JO'K was concerned at the **length of time** it had taken to receive the June Minutes. The Clerk explained that he had typed draft minutes overnight following the meeting but due to some of the complexities that had arisen during the meeting, they had taken longer to be approved for distribution, while some research was carried out. CA had asked that **Fracking** continues to be in the minds of everyone, and also that some other local councils were declaring themselves "frack free". She also mentioned that the recent plans for Borrás Park had been withdrawn by the company involved. RW stated he would attempt to get Arfon Jones to speak about this subject at a future meeting and DO also mentioned he knew someone who would also contribute to the argument. The Chair asked for this to be brought up again when there was some more information regarding the guest speakers. Next, CA mentioned the eyesore that is the **Fore Golf development**. Having recently visited the site, she felt there were serious issues regarding the state of the ground and the area now known as a tip. There were also deep pools of water that, apart from posing a real risk to youngsters, appeared to be water that would also hold innumerate bacteria. In response, RW stated that he had sought permission from WCBC to inform the community council of the latest developments, but this permission had been refused. CA also mentioned that her research had shown the company involved had recently opened two new restaurants, whilst the beauty spot of Alyn Waters continued to be heavily blighted by this development. Many councillors spoke in support of CA's comments and in conclusion, the Chair instructed the Clerk to prepare a letter to Laurence Isted at WCBC, expressing the serious concerns, health and otherwise, regarding this matter. Finally, CA mentioned that a number of **paths were dangerously overgrown** in the area, and referred to a resident who had actually fallen into heavy overgrowth of nettles and brambles as the edge of the path cannot be seen. CA wished to know if the community council could arrange to cut these paths. After a general discussion it was felt that by doing this, the community council would quickly be assumed to continue this process, and that WCBC are paid to ensure paths are safe and clear of debris. RW asked all to let him know when they are aware of any path overgrown, and he will continue to harangue Streetscene who are responsible. In their defence, RW also stated that the staff at Streetscene do an excellent job, but are playing catch up in many areas at present, due to the exceptionally wet and humid weather in June.

**5. Police Matters:** PCSO Humm gave a report on the latest figures for Llay. He also informed the council that PCSO Hughes would shortly be re-commencing police surgeries for the community, and posters would be shortly displayed advertising these surgeries. RW mentioned the recent spate of litter on **Shones Lane football pitches** and he had spoken to the Police who will increase patrols in this area. PT mentioned that she had talked to groups at night, using this area, and they had tidied up their rubbish when asked to do so. KC was concerned that as some of the youths drove cars, he was concerned that older youths could unduly influence the younger youths. SR asked if it would be possible to **lock the car park** used by the older youths and RW stated he would speak to the local garage to see if this would be possible. JO'K mentioned that he felt **speeding is a major issue** throughout the village and not just in a couple of hotspots. JO'K felt it would take an accident to resolve this. CA mentioned a recent **newspaper article** written by the ACC of NWP which appeared critical of the role of PCSO's. SR mentioned the number of **ASB's in Llay** and asked if this would increase either patrols or numbers of officers going forward.

## MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

PCSO Humm confirmed that Gwersyllt and Llay are amongst the highest areas in WCB and this has been noted. In the absence of MD, the Chair raised the issue of Mayville Avenue and restricted vision when entering and leaving, and RW mentioned he had obtained funding to repaint the white lines in a number of areas where it had faded, including Mayville Avenue. There being no further questions or comments the Chair thanked PCSO Humm for his attendance.

**6. Finance and Appeals:** The **June finance and budget figures** were presented to all and there were no questions. These figures were approved and seconded by DO and KC. The Clerk also mentioned the late return of the forms from the external audit, with the new auditors, as appointed by the Welsh Audit Office (Grant Thornton) taking an age to carry out this task that the previous external auditors used to complete within two weeks. He has been informed the matter will be concluded next week. SR then proposed that Llay CC **consider joining One Voice Wales**, which will allow access to legal advice training, employment advice and other assistance. The cost for the first year included a 50% discount meaning the fee would be £248. DO mentioned that as we now break until September, perhaps it would be best to wait until then. Others commented that if the renewal date is automatically renewed in January we should also wait till then, but go ahead if it was late March or April. The Clerk was instructed to find out when the membership would run from and to, and following this it was agreed that Llay CC would join this organisation and review when the full membership fee was next due. **The LIP Appeal** was next to be considered, with PT, SA and BA taking no part in proceedings having signed DOI's earlier. JO'K expressed serious reservations about contributing to this local magazine whilst one of their committee, as listed on the most recent copy, is currently being investigated by the Police for alleged fraud. The Vice Chair, leading this matter, invited the Chair to elaborate on the situation raised by JO'K and he stated that the person involved was not involved with LIP anymore and would not be in the future. In concluding this matter, DO proposed awarding the £330 that had been sought in two instalments as each magazine was being produced and KC seconded. SR proposed an amendment namely that the appeal is rejected and JO'K seconded. The Vice Chair asked for those supporting the amendment and this was carried by 3 votes to 2. The Clerk will inform the LIP Secretary and also mention that they should consider appealing for a grant in the future. Finally under Finance, the Chair spoke on behalf of MD regarding the subject of **Plant Displays** that MD had seen in Rossett, which certainly enhanced the view when entering and leaving this local village. It was agreed that this would be equally impressive if there were similar displays in Llay, and RW agreed to speak to the local councillors from Rossett to ascertain costs and will report back.

**7. Street Lighting:** RW referred to his recent e mail regarding costings for changing streetlights to **LED** in the short term. After a general discussion, it was agreed that currently, the costings for replacing ordinary lights with LED were prohibitive, especially as the advice received from WCBC was that they recommended changing whole streets at the same time and not light by light. RW also mentioned that a number of residents had spoken to him regarding streetlights that were staying on all day. Other councillors mentioned this issue also. The Clerk was instructed to contact the relevant department and enquire as to how this matter can be resolved promptly.

**8. Planning:** Prior to discussing planning SA and RW, having signed DOI's, left the meeting (SA for 0535 only). There were a number of planning matters (full details listed on the Agenda) to be discussed as follows:-

0535 – passed without comment

0598 – passed without comment

## MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

0613 – with regards to the demolition of a derelict garage and the erection of dwellings in place plus access road, comments to be passed onto planning were that vehicular safety could be an issue, which was tied in with the number of dwellings currently planned. It was felt that if the number of dwellings was reduced, this would also reduce the issue of cars, parking and safety when entering a very busy road from the proposed development.

0618 – passed without comment

0590 – this application, for a number of turkey rearing sheds, led to a lengthy discussion with many commenting. CA had carried out some research and the company involved appeared to raise turkeys in the best way possible as the birds are used to produce good eggs for the next generation. The plans showed that efforts had been made to reduce noise, waste and odours. DO stated he had received an e mail expressing concern regarding this application. The Chair asked DO to pass on the e mail to the Clerk for him to pass on to planning in due course.

**9. Burial Matters:** The Chair explained that quotes had been received from three reputable local firms regarding **engaging a Solicitor to finalise the ownership** of land adjacent to the current cemetery grounds. After discussion it was agreed to engage Slater and Gordon to complete this task. Most of the research work has been completed by the Chair and SA and the matter should be resolved fairly quickly. The Chair will contact Slater and Gordon in due course. The Clerk asked that council consider purchasing a **new blower** for the cemetery as the current one is not performing as required. The cost will be £205 approximately and this was unanimously approved. The Clerk will contact the firm to order this equipment. CA then reported on her findings at the cemetery as part of the inspection process. This report was very full and the Chair thanked both CA and DA who had also furnished councillors with a full report. The Chair stated that their reports had set a high standard for all to follow. One of the issues raised by CA was the poor appearance of the black plastic bins within the cemetery and the Clerk will investigate costings for some more attractive wooden planter style boxes, within which the black bins would be less conspicuous.

**10. Reports:** RW will inform councillors of any news during the summer recess but there was nothing additional to report at this meeting.

**11. News/Website:** SR will ensure that on his return from holiday, DA is given the posters and photographs of the litter poster competition winners to add to the news section.

**12. Correspondence:** The Chair informed all that a thank you letter had been received from Park CP School, in response to the recent grant awarded by the Community Council.

There being no further business, Standing Orders were moved and seconded and the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2103.

**THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016 at 1830**

Signed:.....

Mr B Apsley  
Chairman  
15<sup>th</sup> September 2016