

MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Held At Park Community Primary School, LLay
 Date Thursday 21st May 2015
 Time 1830

Name	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
David Broderick Chairperson	✓	N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	
Dave Adams	A	O	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	
Bryan Apsley	✓		✓	✓	A	A	A	✓	A	✓	✓	
Sandra Apsley	✓	M	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
Andrew Boland	A	E	A	A	A	✓	A	A	A	A	A	
Terry Boland	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	A	A	
Paul Crewe	✓	T	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Ken Cupit	A	I	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Maldwyn Davies	A	N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
Peter Evans	A	G	✓	A	A	A	✓	A	A	A	✓	
Charles Higgins	✓	H	✓	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
Eunice Vincent	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	
Vera Wineyard	✓	L	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
Sheila Woolrich	NA	D	NA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A	
Mark Williams (Clerk)	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

In Attendance: 7 members of the community.

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chairman asked all attending to stand and observe a minutes' silence for Councillor **Malcolm Taylor**, who passed away recently.

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllrs A Boland, T Boland, D Adams, S Woolrich

Mr Charles Higgins has now resigned from the Council.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The Minutes of the April Meeting were accepted as a true record: Proposed by: M Davies Seconded by: P Crewe

3. Public Questions:

There were no questions from the Public on this occasion.

Mr Trevor Sutherland attended as requested by the Community Council, and gave a full breakdown of the finances for the forthcoming **Llay Band trip to Germany**. He emphasised that nobody was attending this most worthwhile trip as a "freebie", using the grant from the Council for the same. He elaborated on the various sources of funding that had been attained to allow the trip to take place and reiterated how valuable the Llay Band should be viewed within the community. To emphasise this point he mentioned that the pupils who attended the very school where this

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evenings' meeting was being held, benefitted from free instruments and tutoring for the meagre sum of £1. After further consideration the Chairman proposed that the £750 grant originally awarded should be confirmed and this was carried unanimously.

4. Matters Arising: MD mentioned that he had witnessed lots of activity at the new **Skate Park**, and was happy to admit his fears about lack of use were incorrect at present. KC was concerned that there had already been 2 accidents at the Skate Park. PC informed all that safety signs were going up shortly, but those using this facility cannot be forced to wear the recommended safety equipment, in the same way lots of cyclists do not wear helmets. The Clerk informed all that the **road signs** mentioned last month have been repaired, or will shortly be repaired. Going forward, WCBC policy is to only have a street sign on one side of the road entrance, due to costs. Regarding **dog bins** in areas identified as needing them, WCBC will not be carrying out this task as they already provide plenty of suitable alternatives and cannot meet the numerous requests from the whole Borough, as all these bins need regular maintenance and emptying. A number of Councillors asked the Clerk to ascertain the exact policy.

5. Police Matters: In the absence of the PCSO, who was unfortunately delayed by an ongoing incident, the crime figures, shown in a new format, were discussed without comment.

6. Finance and Appeals: The Clerk reported that the **Internal Audit** had been successfully completed and the Chairman signed the necessary documentation to post on to the External Auditor by 31st May. The Clerk will ensure this is done. The Clerk mentioned the only minor point raised in the Internal Audit was a lack of written **risk assessment** regarding the financial position of the Council throughout the year. This will be overcome with a quarterly assessment of budgets that will be introduced going forward. SA expressed concern that all our monies were now held within one Bank, but after discussion it was agreed to leave this at present. Prior to discussing the 2 appeals received by the Clerk, BA signed a DOI and left the room. **Llay RBL Social Club** had appealed for £1k towards the overall cost of £5.8k required to provide **new heating** within the concert room that is used by many local groups and organisations. After discussion, MD proposed that this be approved with PE seconding and this was carried. **Llay Dominoes Club** had also appealed for £100 towards the **transport costs** for their away matches in local leagues. VW expressed concern at this appeal, mentioning that others who participated in their chosen pastime usually paid the relatively small costs themselves. She also pointed out that this activity involved adults, as opposed to parents transporting their children to sport for example. PE mentioned that the dominoes players were also residents of Llay and also paid their precept as part of their Council Tax and he felt they were entitled to at least appeal for the monies. The Chairman called for a vote, leading to the grant being awarded by a majority.

7. Street Lighting: VW and SA mentioned the long standing lighting issue in **Vale View** that had been previously mentioned, was still outstanding. The Clerk confirmed that this had been reported and on inspection, it had been found that the light needed major repairs costing £300. The Clerk had agreed to these repairs in writing. He will try and find out when the repair is likely to take place.

8. Planning: A number of minor planning applications, involving the erection of small extensions and a garden wall at private dwellings, were passed without comment. There was one application, for the **removal of 6 trees in Nant y Gaer Woods**, to prevent damage to power lines, that was discussed at length. The Clerk explained that he had received verbal communication from a Planning Officer that WCBC had major concerns regarding this application. He further explained that his attempts to find out from the applicants why the trees could not be simply pruned, had not received a response. After discussion, the Council voted unanimously to object to this application and the Clerk was instructed to inform the Planning Officer of their objections as

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soon as possible. He was also tasked to ensure that if a fresh application to prune the trees was placed with Planning, that enough time would be given to further discuss this within the Community Council meetings.

9. Burial Matters: Following a recent visit to BA and KC, on behalf of the Council, BA gave a full report regarding the **kerbstones** situation. They had found many areas in a poor state, due to grave spaces not being attended for many years. There was also the issue of old kerbstones that had “dropped” below the normal level presenting a possible health and safety issue for the Groundsman who would not be able to see the remaining stones when cutting. At least one grave space contained kerbstones that looked to exceed those around it. A discussion followed with BA **suggesting that all Councillors should visit the Cemetery** ahead of the June meeting, when some formal decisions could be made. He also asked the Clerk to ensure this matter was listed. The Clerk placed on record his gratitude to **Stephen Price Memorials**, who had kindly replaced, free of charge, the old “no dogs allowed” sign with a superb slate sign that had improved the look of the entrance from the car park.

10. Correspondence: There was no separate correspondence on this occasion.

11. Reports: There were no reports on this occasion. However, the Chairman agreed to allow **Mr Dennis Owen** to give an update on the **Gresford Road development** to all present. In summary, he stated that he had received full support from Lesley Griffiths AM and Aled Roberts AM, and that he was now aware that apart from the known issues regarding capacity at the Doctors’ Surgery, there were serious concerns regarding the capacity overload on the sewerage system in place. Finally, he confirmed that the expected date for this application to be discussed was likely to be in September. Mr Owen was thanked for his time and effort.

VW mentioned the undue haste with which an election notice had been placed on the Community Council Notice Board regarding the late Malcolm Taylor. She felt it was in bad taste for this to be done prior to the funeral. The Clerk explained that the Notice was required to be placed, to allow the election to be held when due, and required 20 days of notification to the community. The only rules relating to this matter, as explained to him by the Electoral Services Manager at WCBC, is that no election may be held prior to the funeral. On the same subject and after discussion, it was unanimously agreed to donate £50 in memory of Malcolm, to his chosen charities, in lieu of flowers. PC explained that this was in keeping with the wishes of the family. The Clerk will ensure he has the funds ready for Thursday 28th May at St Martins Church at 1.00pm.

There being no further business, Standing Orders were moved by the Chairman, seconded by M Davies and agreed and the meeting closed at 1947. The date and time of the next meeting is:

THURSDAY 18th JUNE 2015 at 1830

Signed:.....

Mr D Broderick
Chairman
18th June 2015