**MINUTES OF MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Location**: Llay Church Hall

**Date & Time**: 19th January 2022 @ 1830

**In Attendance:**  Councillors B Apsley (Chair), S Roberts (Vice Chair) S Apsley, R Walsh, J O’Keefe, C Archer, P Taylor, K Cupit, Steve Watson, C Ankers D Owen, K Powell, S Watson, M Jones & Clerk.

The Chair welcomed Cllr C Ankers to her first meeting and expressed hope that the role would prove enjoyable and worthwhile.

1. **Apologies for Absence**: Cllr Austin, PCSO Griffiths Hughes
2. **Declarations of Interest**: Cllrs Walsh and Cupit (Item 9a), Cllr Jones (7b)
3. The **December Minutes** were discussed by all. The Chair asked for approval for the **December Minutes** as published. Proposed by JO’K and seconded by RW and carried unanimously.

1. **Matters Arising:** RW gave an update on the **Speed Signs,** specifically relating to the positioning of one of the two signs. This was caused by a gas pipe running close to the first location. Situating this sign in a lay by would save expensive costs of erecting temporary traffic lights should any repairs need carrying out in the future. The Chair and RW will progress this matter with relevant authorities at WCBC. JO’K raised the ongoing matter of the traffic situation at the **Crown Crossroads.** The Chair then read out a letter received today from WCBC regarding the situation and past planning conditions that have yet to be met. A number of Councillors commented on their dissatisfaction with how the entire process has been allowed to progress. SR confirmed the new **Welcome to Llay signs** are due to be fitted on 26th January. RW will liaise with WCBC to ensure the old signs are removed. SA asked for an update on the **telephone box**. The Clerk confirmed the land owner has given permission for access to remove the box to a place of security for the refurbishment to take place. DO will chase up the company carrying out this.
2. **Public Questions:** On this occasion, no questions had been received from the Public. Due to a sore throat, the Chair asked the Vice Chair to take over the meeting at this stage.
3. **Police Matters:** The Vice Chair introduced the latest **Police Figures**, as sent to all Councillors ahead of the meeting. A number of councillors commented regarding the anti social off road bike riding and information concerning those involved has been passed on. There is serious concern about this matter, both for the disturbance caused and the danger to the riders themselves. The Chair asked for those interested in the village walk with the PCSO to re send their most suitable dates.
4. **New Matters:** The Vice Chair read out the SLA (Service Level Agreement) with **WCBC for the Play Area and Skate Park for 2022/23.** Some concern was expressed about the lack of any formal monthly reporting regarding the inspections by the service provider, and also concern about exactly what the litter collection service involved. This will be carried over to February, to allow the Clerk to find out more details from WCBC and report to Councillors. The Chair then invited CA to give an overview of the **Borras Quarry Planning Approval** matter listed. This gave all present historical background to how this matter has progressed through the Planning stages, going back a number of years.CA explained fully how the process has been dealt with, highlighting the interest of WCBC in ensuring more aggregate is allowed from the Borras Quarry due to the conditions imposed on the owner company regarding royalty payments for the extraction of minerals that is in place. The Chair thanked CA for her meticulous research and he also expressed his belief that WCBC should declare their financial interest in the expansion of these quarries at the Planning Stage. The Vice Chair invited CA to expand on her agenda point regarding the **Queens’ Platinum Jubilee** ideas to celebrate in Llay. The Chair suggested liaising with the Resource Centre and paying for a celebratory buffet in the Rockery Gardens for the residents of Llay. CA also suggested decorating the MUGA. PT suggested some form of prize for the best decorated street in Llay to try and encourage maximum participation. The Vice Chair asked all to firm up their ideas for the February Agenda and SW will upload onto Llay Notice Board to get the public involved.
5. **Finance:** The Vice Chair asked all present to consider the **December Income & Expenditure** aspresented, (£14,230.07p) and sent to all Councillors. It was proposed by RW and seconded by DO that these be approved and this was carried unanimously. The Vice Chair asked for comments regarding the grant appeal from Offa CC for a **permanent memorial outside the Hightown Barracks** to recognise the long standing relationship between the town and the Royal Welsh Fusilier Regiment. MJ left the room, having declared an interest. KC proposed, with JO’K seconding, the award of £500. There were no other proposals and this was carried unanimously. The Clerk will arrange payment promptly.
6. **Street Lighting:** RW gave a brief report on current lighting issues in Llay, expanding on those lights requiring repairs. RW answered some queries from individual Councillors regarding some long standing lighting issues.
7. **Planning:** The matter of the **Llay Miners Welfare extension of licence** was briefly discussed as the letter of objection from Llay CC has been sent to WCBC.The Clerk will ensure he liaises with the Licencing Officer, regarding ensuring letters are being sent to local residents directly affected by the proposed extension. The Chair will be in attendance to present the views of the Community Council if required.
8. **Burial Matters:** Nothing to report. All Councillors happy with the condition of the cemetery.
9. **Reports:** RW gave a report regarding his great disappointment over the **closing of the roads** around the Crown Crossroads with little or no consultation. After a general discussion, Councillors instructed the Clerk to write to WCBC to ensure that, going forward, major road closures in Llay will not occur without far better consultation with residents who are going to be adversely affected. That has not happened with the current road closure that commenced yesterday. This was unanimously agreed and the Clerk will prepare a letter for approval by Councillors before forwarding onto WCBC. The Chair outlines the forecast for WCBC’s Budget for 2022/2023, which was looking a lot brighter because of a much improved settlement from the Welsh Government, but the indications for the following two years “contained no sunshine”.
10. **News/Website:** Nothing to report.
11. **Correspondence**: A “thank you” e mail had been distributed before the meeting, from David Gilmour on behalf of the Church of the Nazarene, in recognition of the Grant awarded by Llay CC in December.

There being no further business, **Standing Orders** were moved by RW seconded by DO and the Vice Chair declared the Meeting closed at 2024.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 1830 in**

**The Church Hall**

Signed: …………………………………………………………………..

Mr B Apsley, Chair

16th February 2022