**MINUTES OF MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Location**: Llay Church Hall

**Date & Time**: 15th September 2021 @ 1830

**In Attendance:**  Councillors B Apsley (Chair), S Apsley, R Walsh, K Cupit, P Taylor, D Owen J O’Keefe, W Austin, C Archer, Clerk & PCSO

**1.** **Apologies for Absence**: J Osborne, S Roberts, L Jones, S Watson and K Powell

**Declarations of Interest**: Cllr Walsh and Austin (Planning Matter 9C Park CP School)

The **July Minutes** were discussed by all. The Chair asked for approval for the **July Minutes** as published. Proposed by RW and seconded by DO and carried unanimously.

**3. Matters Arising:** The Chair gave an update on the **speed signs**, following a recent meeting with Council officers and residents with regard to locations. Some of the suggested locations would have involved expensive temporary traffic lights being installed if the speed sign was ever defective which would be prohibitively expensive. It was agreed by councillors to have the new signs located at spots where no extra costs would be incurred. The Chair spoke regarding the **replacement of benches** at the Play Area in Alyn Waters. It was agreed that the picnic benches and tables were in a poor state so it was unanimously agreed to accept the quote from WCBC contractors to make good these facilities with the installation of new concrete bases and supports, with much of the carpentry work being kindly carried out by Groundwork as a project. The Chair asked for approval to go ahead with this which was approved. The Clerk will inform the Officer at WCBC. SA raised the matter of **Poppies** to be displayed for Remembrance Day. However, there is still a requirement for someone who is prepared to put them in position, once approval is given by WCBC as applicable. SA brought up the extra Xmas Lights that had been agreed and the additional lights to go on Market Square, by the School and 2 on the left hand side of Llay New Road by the British Legion.

**4. Public Questions:** On this occasion, no questions had been received from the Public.

**5. Police Matters:** The Chair welcomed PCSO Catherine Griffiths-Hughes to her first meeting. She introduced herself and gave a brief overview of her background. The PCSO gave the background to the **Target Hardening Equipment** matter listed. The list of equipment would ensure the Llay community would be issued with appropriate safety equipment as required. The Chair mentioned the latest report showed good Police interaction with the young around the village. The new **Community Alert system** was advertised with leaflets for all Councillors to spread the word about this new service. The Chair asked for an update on current crime figures, as the online service contains historical information. There have been some cold callers, an indecent exposure incident which is ongoing with much help being offered by the community. JO’K then raised the issue of **speeding on Gresford Road** and asked for the Go Safe van to occasionally arrive during peak times and not mid-afternoon. The PCSO noted this and will pass it on. WA asked for figures from speeding in Llay but these are not known at present. DO mentioned the recent increase of dust in the Gresford Road development causing damage. He asked for some advice.

**6. New Matters:** There were two applicants for the vacant Councillor position and Stephen Watson was elected. The Chair thanked all candidates for standing. The Clerk will inform Mr Watson. RW mentioned the award of the **keys to Llay** and in particular to recognise **Mr Geoff Patrick**, who is currently the oldest man in Wales and a Llay Resident. This was approved unanimously. The Chair invited CA to discuss the **Xmas Tree and memorial plaque**. CA felt that a robust proper **Xmas Tree** that could last for years be purchased. WA confirmed he will be progressing this in November. Next, CA mentioned the financial bond relating to the defunct **Foregolf development** and associated matters relating to this. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr Darren Williams of WCBC for an update. CA then asked about the **railings damaged** at the Rockery Gardens. RW explained this will not be done any time soon as the railings are the responsibility of WCBC, who would be delighted if Llay CC would take over the whole area from them. However, RW will arrange to meet the H and S Officer at WCBC to discuss this further, in case there is a safety issue relating to the bent railings. CA asked for any update on **Toddlers Play Area** in the Rockery Gardens. The Chair confirmed the lady who was leading on this has left her post and there was no further news. Regarding the **Resource Centre** situation, PT said it was being turned into a business and the community were being excluded. The computer classes, youth club and other groups are unclear as to the future within this community resource. SA gave some historical background to the inception of the Resource Centre. The Chair will chase up with the appropriate authorities, and this matter will remain on the Agenda going forward.

**7. Finance:** The Chair asked all present to consider the **July & August Finance Income & Expenditure as presented, (£8,661.74 & £5,729.02)** and sent to all Councillors. It was proposed by RW and seconded by DO that these be approved and this was carried unanimously. The Chair asked for the **Clerks’ Salary to be approved by full Council**, for the current financial year, as an audit requirement. This was approved unanimously.

**8. Street Lighting:** RW gave a brief report about a couple of minor lighting issues, and RW will arrange a meeting with the Mr Rogers of WCBC regarding wind powered/solar lighting possibilities to replace lighting columns in the future. This will be updated when more information is known.

**9. Planning: 0772 (extension single storey)** was passed without comment**. 0775 (shipping container, fencing and gates at Nant Y Gaer Road)** which benefits the youth footballers in Llay. This was supported in principle. However, the |Clerk will send a letter to the Planning Officer highlighting some concerns about safety relating to the gates and ability to climb on the container. The Clerk was directed to inform WCBC Planning Officer (Mr J Kerr) of these safety issues.**0720 (erection of classroom at Park School)**, was passed without comment.

**10. Burial Matters:** There were no major issues to discuss and the appearance of the cemetery is considered good.

**11. Reports:** RW and the Chair, as County Councillors, reported there are still issues in dealing with the Planning Department as the recent Farm Shop demonstrated.

**12. News/Website:** Nothing to report.

**13.** **Correspondence**: The Chair read a short thank you letter from Llay WI, thanking the Council for their recent Grant. The Chair then asked the Clerk to leave the room, to allow Council to discuss the salaries of both Staff Members for the current financial year. The outcome of this will be conveyed to both staff members by the Chair.

There being no further business, **Standing Orders** were moved by RW seconded by JO’K and the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 2030.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th October 2021 at 1830 in**

**The Church Hall**

Signed: …………………………………………………………………..

Mr B Apsley, Chair

20th October 2021