

MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Location: Llay Resource Centre

Date & Time: 16th January 2019 @ 18:30

In Attendance:

Councillors B Apsley (Chair), D Owen (Vice Chair), S Apsley, K Cupit, J O'Keefe, K Powell, W Austin, R Walsh, L Jones, S Roberts, S Watson, J Osborne, P Taylor & Clerk, 1 PCSO member of Press and 4 member of the public.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs T Boland, D Adams
Declarations of Interest: Nil
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The Minutes of the **December meeting** were accepted as a true record, proposed by DO, seconded by RW and carried unanimously.
- 3. Matters Arising:** The relisted item of the **Toddlers Park** was raised by the Chair and he invited comment. In the absence of DA, who was looking at costs, this will be relisted again in three months time. RW mentioned that the **telephone box** is still on his list of things to progress. The same applies to the flashing speed signs and the double yellow lines. Regarding **Nant Y Gaer paths**, RW and BA intend getting a full H and S assessment carried out before committing to improving the paths.
- 4. Public Questions:** No questions from the Public had been received by the Clerk on this occasion.
- 5. Police Matters:** PCSO Land outlined the **latest figures** that had been presented before the meeting to all councillors. Concern was raised regarding the published figures, in particular in relation to crimes/assaults committed in and around the new Police HQ and whether this falls within Llay, due to its' location. Concern was expressed regarding the release of people from the station wandering around the village. PT raised the issue of teenagers **anti social behaviour within the Rockery Gardens** at night once again. PCSO Land stated that unless the teenagers are committing an offence there is little that can be done. A number of councillors mentioned littering, loud music, possible illegal drug use, and this needs to be reported. The Police will continue to monitor this area. The Chair then asked PCSO Land to expand on the recent issue of **cold callers within the village**. The PCSO referred to the document distributed by PCSO Harris as part of the figures which outlined the clear rules regarding this matter. KP stated that since putting the yellow police style stickers up in her property, she has not had a single cold caller. SR suggested that obtaining a bulk of these stickers to distribute might be useful. PCSO Land will find out about this and inform the Clerk. The Chair then raised the ongoing issue of **installing CCTV** in the village. DO stated that one of the two quotes obtained by PCSO Harris was from a company that he could not find registered with any body covering CCTV and the second quote did not list the company in question. PCSO Land will pass this on to her colleague. The Chair mentioned some distasteful incidents of theft at the cemetery recently and wondered whether CCTV would be useful or not within this area. The Clerk will meet with PCSO Harris at the cemetery to look into this matter further. Finally, PCSO Land mentioned the Your Space charity currently based in the Resource Centre and she is looking to raise money for them. The Clerk will liaise with PCSO to progress this.
- 6. New Matters:** The new Action Plan as presented by the Clerk was proposed by RW and seconded by WA and is now adopted as a policy document.
- 7. Finance and Appeals:** The Clerk sought approval for the **expenditure for November totalling £ 6,184.45p** This was proposed by RW and seconded by JO'K and approved unanimously. All expenditure items were individually approved, having been sent for approval during the month since the last meeting. The Chair signed a copy of the Inc/Exp Schedule. A's proposal to clarify the newly formed **Finance Committee**. The Chair gave background information to all regarding how the finance committee was formed with full approval of the full council. A number of councillors spoke to support the work of the **Finance Committee**, so long as they only recommend decisions to full Council and do not have delegated powers. The aim remains to try and save time by having a Finance Committee to discuss issues at some length, to allow time to be saved at full meetings. It was unanimously agreed to leave things at present until the next AGM when it can be revisited if required. The Chair and others emphasised that Finance Committee will only ever bring recommendations to full councils and will not make decisions of their own. The Chair stated that the listed item regarding Staff Salaries will be discussed at the end of the meeting when the public and press have left the

MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

room. DO volunteered to take over from DA regarding the role of **approving all payments and invoices** in advance, along with the Chair. This was carried unanimously.

8. Street Lighting: RW raised the issue of repairs and time taken to carry out these. He is aware that a lot of residents are frustrated by the length of time taken in some cases. SR mentioned a light that is out that has not been repaired for an age, which affects residents of Llay who work in a business located in the area. In summary, serious concern was expressed about our **SLA with WCBC relating to street lighting repairs and maintenance**. The Clerk was instructed to write to WCBC asking for an explanation on late repairs in relation to our Service Level Agreement with WCBC. This was carried unanimously and the Clerk will ensure it is done as soon as possible. RW also mentioned an ongoing issue regarding a lighting issue in **Tir Y Capel**, which he is progressing at present.

9. Planning: RW outlined proposed improvements in the area of **The Crown crossroads**. RW asked for opinions from other councillors, regarding the new proposed filter lanes/traffic lights. DO spoke about his concerns regarding this area once the new estate is completed, and asked if the road improvements have to be completed before the housing development or is it the other way round. RW agreed this was a grey area and one of concern.. RW will share with all when received. JO'K mentioned an issue regarding use of a private road that is expected to be used by contractors involving this development. This is ongoing. WA expressed concern that a complete lack of transparency from WCBC Planning over this whole matter has led to the position we are now in. WA was fully supported when stating that a more robust attitude from WCBC Planning in the early stages of the process could have avoided the choices now being made. LJ asked if the opinion of the Police could be sought about the crossroads. RW will liaise on this. The next matter was the LDP and minor editing changes. Before inviting RW to speak, the Chair stated that Llay provided more responses than any other village and everyone involved is to be congratulated on this. RW stated that it was vital that as many people as possible respond to this as WCBC wish to remove the Green Wedge (formerly Green Barrier) status of the area designated for use as a potential traveller site. SR suggested the only reason WCBC wish to remove the green wedge status is to allow this development. The Chair asked all councillors to make their thoughts known to the Clerk asap and he will then construct a letter of collective response for the attention of the Planning Inspectors. In summary, the Chair agreed with suggestions that a public meeting might be of use. It was unanimously agreed that Wednesday 6th February at 1830 in the Llay RBL would be the date for the meeting.

10. Burial Matters: BA apologised on behalf of himself and WA that time constraints prevented a full inspection in January and they will carry out the February inspection. A further update on staff issues was discussed with the current situation continuing.

11. Reports: The Chair gave a brief report on business from WCBC. The **bus route** discussions with Arriva are ongoing, with the post office being badly affected by recent changes. The Chair mentioned that by population, Llay is **very poorly represented by way of shops**. JO'K mentioned a recent issue regarding **ear inspections** being carried out by private companies for a charge, as this is no longer carried out by local GP's due to staff shortages. This would involve significant costs to those requiring ear treatments.

12. News/Website: SR mentioned that the Park CP school are keen to carry out a **litter pick**. RW will liaise regarding this.

13. Correspondence: The Chair read out a **letter of thanks** from **Park CP School** regarding the recent grant awarded to them.

There being no further business, Standing Orders were moved and seconded and the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2056.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 20th February 2019 at 1830** in
Main Hall Llay Resource Centre

Signed:

Mr B Apsley, Chair
20th February 2019

MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING