

MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Location: Llay Church Hall
Date & Time: 18th July 2018 @ 18:30

In Attendance:

Councillors B Apsley (Chair), D Owen (V Chair), S Roberts, L Jones, S Watson, S Apsley, K Cupit, J Osborne, D Adams, P Taylor, R Walsh, & Clerk, 3 members of the public. PCSO Land,

Prior to the meeting starting, the Chair asked all present to join him in a moment of silence in memory of Mrs Pearl Pugh, who sadly passed away recently. In doing so, the Chair made reference to the amount of good work Mrs Pugh had carried out for the people of Llay.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs T Boland, W Austin & J O'Keefe
Declarations of Interest: Cllrs RW, SR, SW, KC and Chair all signed DOI's relating to business listed for discussion on the Agenda (Llay Park CP School Petition) and SA, BA and RW relating to MUGA Grant Appeal.
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The Minutes of the **June meeting** were accepted as a true record, proposed by RW, seconded by JO and carried unanimously.
- 3. Matters Arising:** RW gave a brief update regarding the **new bins**, in the absence of TB to expand. The Chair mentioned a couple of minor alterations to the **T and D policy** presented by the Clerk and once amended, this documented is accepted by all. A short discussion regarding the state of the **memorial tree** within the Rockery then took place, with the general appearance of this tree causing serious concern. In conclusion, DO agreed to speak to WA to assess the tree before any further action is taken. The aim will still be to put up a memorial plaque to ex Cllr M Davies before the Xmas Carol Service. SR also mentioned that another plaque required would be in memory of those who served in Llay Colliery also. This had been previously agreed.
- 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 as presented to all councillors. RW and SR asked for clarification on a couple of minor points. There being no further issues, the Chair thanked the PCSO Land for attending.
- 6. New Matters:** The Chair expressed delight that there had been three candidates for the **vacancy** on the community council. He then outlined the procedure to all present. The Clerk distributed the voting slips, and Ms C Archer assisted with the count. There was no need for a second vote and the Clerk will inform all candidates of the outcome following the meeting.
- 7. Finance and Appeals:** The Clerk sought approval for the **expenditure for June, £17,113.00p**. This was proposed by DO and seconded by RW and approved unanimously. All expenditure items were individually approved, having been sent for approval during the month. The Chair signed a copy of the Inc/Exp Schedule. The appeal from **WCBC for the MUGA Grant** was preceded by SA, BA and RW leaving the room having signed DOI's. The Vice Chair read out the appeal, which regarded an appeal for a contribution towards the cost of improving conditions and security within the MUGA. SR raised issues with the grant application form, in particular, the out of date bank statement. KC expressed concern regarding his perception that the application was in the form of an ultimatum, which others present agreed with. Concern was also expressed about the lack of information that the Resource centre management Committee received, and the recent decorating work taking place, some of which seems unnecessary. DA was also concerned at the way the whole area would be sub divided, and that the same outcome as proposed could be achieved with a much smaller budget and the purchase of a lock. DA proposed turning down the application and SR seconded with no other proposals and this resolution was carried unanimously. The Clerk will inform the applicant.
- 8. Street Lighting:** RW gave a short report with SR highlighting difficulties of reporting faults online and the length of time it takes to repair.
- 9. Planning:** The Clerk regretted that he had not received any response to his letter, sent to Mr Isted on 17th June and delivered by hand, which outlined council concerns on timing for responding to planning applications, and the lack of paper copies now being sent. He will endeavour to find out when a response is likely. The Chair then presented the two planning matters listed (0517/0534), relating to an extension to a reserve power plant on Llay Ind Est and tree pruning at a residential address. There were no comments regarding the extension to the Power Plant and the Chair gave some background to the residential application, with regard to distances from property and tree branches. There were no other comments.
- 10. Burial Matters:** RW gave his report with no pick up points and generally he had found a well presented cemetery. SA volunteered to carry out the next inspection with SR and they will report to the September meeting. PT was disappointed to mention some flowers had gone from the display tub at the entrance, and this was not the first time she had replaced damaged or missing flowers.

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11. **Reports:** RW gave a quick overview regarding the **LDP**, thanking all for their contribution. The Chair supported this, and then mentioned recent activity at the **concrete works on Llay Ind Est**, which was producing huge amounts of dust, and the local community had not received notice of such work. The Chair also gave an insight into how reports of pests within private and council properties are dealt with. RW then spoke regarding the **Rockery Gardens** and the matter of ownership. He felt that there would not be issues if Llay CC did wish to take on ownership of parts of the Rockery Gardens. The Chair had spoken to the volunteer gardening group, who had apologised to him that due to lack of numbers, the area had fallen into a poor state. The Chair stated that their numbers had now increased and they intended making the area as nice as possible starting in the next week. SR mentioned that **the toddlers play area** would conform to WCBC policy as stated in recent press releases, and DA felt strongly that, if any future developments raise money, this should go directly towards helping the village, and not as recently, to improve cycle paths through Alyn Waters. A number of councillors agreed with this principle. It was agreed that the Finance Sub Committee would discuss this matter at length when they meet for their first meeting in the near future.

12. **News/Website:** SR asked for confirmation that Approved Minutes will be listed and DA confirmed they would, once provided by the Clerk. The same applied to finance statements and other approved documentation.

13. **Correspondence:** The Chair read out a short **thank you letter** received from **Park CP School**, relating to the recent grant towards summer activities that was awarded last month by the community council. The Chair then read out a letter accompanying a **petition** he had received regarding the resolution to not award monies to Park CP School for swimming lesson transport costs. KC chose to leave the room at this point, having signed a DOI. The Chair gave an overview of the situation which was generally agreed by all. SR felt that the community at large may not be aware of all the facts. At this point those who had signed a DOI left the room. Those remaining discussed the matter, and in accordance with Standing Orders, the original decision cannot be reversed for a minimum of six months. It was agreed to continue to support the school and to judge each grant application on its' own merits. This was unanimously agreed by all.

Prior to ending the meeting, the Chair asked the public to leave, as there were two items that needed to be discussed in private, that were not in the public interest. Whilst not minuted, these will be recorded as a separate document and retained as an addendum to these minutes.

There being no further business, and following the conclusion of the discussions held in private, Standing Orders were moved and seconded and the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2058.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 19th September at 1830** in
Main Hall Llay Resource Centre

Signed:-

Mr B Apsley
Chair
19th July 2018

ADDENDUM TO JULY MINUTES (NOT FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY)

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Following the departure of members of the Public, the Chair informed all that he had received correspondence from Councillor Terry Boland, requesting an extended leave of Absence from Council Meetings, due to his ongoing health issues. This had been received in advance of the six month absence date being reached.

The Chair explained that Cllr Boland last attended on 21st February, and would cease to be a Councillor on 21st August, this being the exact date of his six months of absence. A number of Councillors spoke on behalf of Cllr Boland, stating that as he clearly wished to remain a Community Councillor whilst recovering from his serious health issues, that this should be allowed.

It was proposed and seconded, and carried unanimously, that Councillor Boland be given an extension and this will be for a further period of six months, commencing on 18th July 2018. The Clerk will inform Cllr Boland of this decision.

The Chair gave a concise report to all Councillors in attendance, regarding the legal status of the field directly to the rear of the Cemetery. This is the area proposed to be converted for the extension to the Cemetery in approximately six to eight years' time.

Due to no actual land deeds being held, it was necessary to engage suitably qualified Solicitors to confirm that this field is the property of Llay Community Council. To this end, following a protracted period of time, the Chair was now in a position to ask Council to engage a firm to conclude this matter.

After presenting the requisite quotes, DO proposed and PT seconded the engagement of Allington Hughes (Wrexham) for a fee of £530 to carry out this work. This was also the most cost effective quote.

There were no other amendments and the proposal was carried unanimously.