

MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Held At Llay/Resource Centre, Llay (Including the Annual General Meeting)
 Date Thu 19th May 2016
 Time 1830

Name	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Bryan Apsley Chairperson	√	N	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	A	√	
Dave Adams	√	O	√	√	√	A	√	√	√	√	√	
Sandra Apsley	√		√	√	√	A	√	√	√	A	√	
Terry Boland	A	M	√	A	√	√	A	√	A	√	A	
Ken Cupit	√	E	√	√	A	√	√/A	√	√	√	√	
Maldwyn Davies	√	E	√	√	√	√	√	√	A	√	√	
Peter Evans	√	T	A	A	√	√	√	A	√	A	A	
Sharon Roberts	√	I	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Rob Walsh	√	N	√	√	A	√	A/√	√	A	√	√	
Vera Wineyard	A	G	√	√	A	√	√	√	A	√	√	
John O'Keefe		H		√	√	√	√	√	A	√	√	
Dennis Owen		E		√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Jan Osborne	X	L	X	X	X	√	√	√	√	A	√	
Christine Archer										√	√	
Pat Taylor										A	√	
Mark Williams (Clerk)	√	D	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	

In Attendance: 4 members of the community & PCSO A Hughes & 1

Annual General Meeting

Although this matter was discussed following the Police Report, it is reported at this point in the minutes for reasons of clarity.

After much discussion surrounding the standing orders regarding Annual General Meetings and custom and practice of the 2 year period for Chair and Vice-Chair, BA took the position of Chair following his 2 year period as Vice-Chair and it was suggested that at a future meeting, council may wish to review the standing orders with regard to the wording about Annual General Meetings.

The Chair informed all present of the procedures, and explained the background to his interim Chair position and also that of the Vice Chair, TB. There had been no resolutions forwarded ahead of the meeting. Regarding the position of Vice Chair, MD proposed KC, seconded by SA. The Chair asked for any amendments and DO was proposed by JO'K and seconded by RW. The Chair asked for any other amendments and CA proposed TB and this was seconded by SR. At this point KC asked to withdraw his name from proceedings. Once the Chair had

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confirmed there were no more amendments, he called for a vote. Following this vote DO was duly elected as Vice Chairman for the next two years.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs P Evans, T Boland. The Chair also welcomed Cllr P Taylor to her first meeting since being co-opted onto the council.
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The April Minutes were accepted as a true record.
Proposed by: MD Seconded by: DA

RW and KC signed a DOI in relation to Agenda Item 8 (Planning).

- 3. Public Questions:** On this occasion, no questions had been received by the Clerk.
- 4. Matters Arising:** SA raised the issue of Councillors having **remote access** to the bank accounts. Although SR already has access, it was agreed that the Chair and DA should also have remote access, in line with the new policy of them giving approval prior to any internet payments being made. This was agreed by all and the Clerk will arrange. MD raised the long standing issue of **Foregolf**, which RW confirmed was still an ongoing issue which he hoped to report back with news soon. At present there was no definitive end date for this matter being resolved. A number of councillors expressed their grievances about how WCBC have handled this matter. MD also mentioned the **Xmas Tree**. After a further discussion, during which SR displayed pictures of the recommended trees, MD proposed purchasing and installing a Scots Pine Tree and PT seconded. This proposal was carried unanimously. The total budget for this was set at £750. Once installed, protective fencing and a memorial plaque in memory of Llay Colliery will be installed retrospectively. The Clerk was instructed to proceed with this matter and to ensure WCBC were aware the tree was planned as the Rockery Gardens land belongs to WCBC. Regarding **Litter Bins**, RW informed all that one free bin had been located by WCBC and this was being donated to Llay gratis, along with the pre ordered 5 new bins. DO mentioned locations, emphasising that he felt combatting dog waste near beauty spots would be a priority. He then proposed specific locations. DA mentioned that he felt bins were needed near the changing rooms and the lower shops as having litter problems. There followed a general discussion with numerous councillors mentioning areas that would benefit from a new bin. RW noted the preferred locations, and confirmed that he had checked that one of the locations, that had previously caused issues with a resident, did not fall foul of any laws. SR confirmed that Shane Hughes would now be approached to be the judge of the litter pick **Poster Competition**. SR would contact Shane through the Keep Wales Tidy organisation. CA mentioned her continuing concerns regarding the system involved with **maintaining play areas and the skate park**. CA feels strongly that WCBC should clarify why the community are responsible for criminal damage when so much funding for these areas was contributed by the community and not WCBC, to ensure they were built in the first place. The Clerk will contact Martin Howarth and discuss.

- 5. Police Matters:** PCSO Hughes confirmed with the council that the priorities listed remained unchanged and then proceeded to inform all of the latest figures involving incidents within Llay. KC asked if the recent vehicles being damaged was a connected crime and PCSO Hughes stated it did not appear so. MD mentioned some dangerous parking at busy junctions and requested that some warning notices be placed on vehicles to avoid a repeat of this. PCSO Hughes agreed to look into this. PT mentioned that Vale View also had the same problem. DO raised the issue of litter around Nant Y Gaer and a recent fire there. A general discussion followed regarding this matter. RW mentioned recent issues within Alyn Waters, including damage to the skate park. He stated that consultations had taken place with Youth Services and Trading Standards (regarding alcohol sales to minors). Other councillors mentioned that it was possible some of the youths causing issues were from outside Llay. PT stated that on 3 recent occasions

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she had witnessed no anti social behaviour, with the Chair stating that after all the effort and money that went into setting up the skate park, it would be a great shame if this facility is lost due to Health and Safety issues caused by damage.

6. Finance and Appeals: The Clerk explained the April **income and expenditure** figures, which were discussed and agreed. The figures presented were approved by DO and RW.

The Chair mentioned the approval given by council for himself and DA to approve all payments prior to the Clerk paying invoices, as agreed by council at their last meeting. The Chair expressed some concern that when only two councillors were approving payment, it may be seen as slightly non democratic. After a short discussion it was agreed that the Chair and DA had the approval of council to carry out this function, with the caveat that if either or both of them had any concerns regarding an invoice, they would inform the Clerk to delay payment until the full council could discuss the matter. The Clerk mentioned that the annual insurance premium was due payment shortly and the Chair informed the Clerk to utilise the agreed system for payment by e mailing himself and DA.

Appeals; The Olympus Gymnastics Club appeal had been pre distributed to all councillors ahead of the meeting. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the merits of this appeal, with many commenting about how the club had progressed over the recent years and was now seen as a centre of gymnastic excellence. However, it was also noted that the club was a limited company and the council had previously agreed not to assist limited companies within Llay. In conclusion JO proposed and PT seconded that this appeal be turned down and this was carried unanimously. The Clerk was instructed to inform the Olympus Gymnastics Club of this decision.

7. Street Lighting: RW mentioned some recent lights he had been made aware were not working. SR asked RW if the implementation of new contractors (since April 2016) had resulted in any improvements to the service given. RW stated that no improvements were yet visible but it was still early days for the new contractors.

8. Planning: Prior to commencing this item, RW and KC left the room, having previously signed DOI's. The first matter discussed was the application for outline planning permission to **develop an area south of Llay Miners Institute for residential development**. Although there were no objections in principle to this amended application, which had reduced the original number of properties to 18, PT raised the issue of ensuring that the correct proportion were offered as affordable housing in line with current policies. SR spoke regarding the potential loss of mature trees and hedging in this area, which would be regrettable and SR asked that it be noted this should be avoided if at all possible. CA noted from the current plans, that some roads within the development were unadopted, which potentially allowed the developers to leave these areas to the detriment of residents moving in. There was also general support for the principle that any monies raised if this is approved by WCBC, should be for the direct benefit of the Llay Miners Institute and not lost to a larger national pot. The Clerk was instructed to prepare a letter expressing these concerns to be sent to the planning officer responsible, and informing him that in principle there were no objections to the development. The other planning matter was the application to build a **mobile asphalt plant at Unit 2** on the Llay Industrial Estate. All councillors were strongly opposed to this development. CA highlighted that the application actually contained the wrong current owners of the Unit in question. CA also mentioned that as the unit, if approved, would be recycling old asphalt prior to distributing the new product, this would greatly increase the HGV traffic in an area already over- burdened with these vehicles. SR mentioned concerns that insufficient information has been submitted in the application. The recent proposal on Wrexham industrial estate had numerous reports attached along with basic information such as hours of work, non of these have been included with this application. SR also mentioned the application

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would be contrary to Wrexham UDP policy GDP(f). DO, who had visited the site and areas around it, mentioned that numerous businesses in the vicinity had no idea this was planned and neither did the nearest residential area occupants. He felt this was in part caused by no notices being displayed, when legislation indicated at least two should be. Numerous councillors mentioned that the prevailing winds would almost guarantee that odours and air borne particles would be experienced by Park CP School and other areas within the residential parts of Llay. SA mentioned that once again, Llay was being earmarked for another controversial planning application and also, there was no route in or out of the village that would not be affected by heavy traffic. DO mentioned that research indicated that decibel levels would also be very high. The Chair thanked all for their comments and research and the Clerk was instructed to inform WCBC Planning Department of the strong objections to this proposal.

9. Burial Matters: The Chair informed the public present, that as a staff matter was going to be discussed, they would need to leave the room, in accordance with Standing Orders. Following the conclusion of this matter, the Chair then distributed an informative report that he and SA had produced. This document confirmed that Llay CC actually owned over 7 acres of land, in and around the current cemetery boundaries. The Chair then summarised this report briefly, highlighting various events over the last 80 years. VW and all other councillors thanked the Chair and SA for their industrious efforts regarding this matter. Due to the length of meeting this evening, the Chair asked the Clerk to include this matter on the next Agenda for final decisions regarding the way forward to be taken.

10. Reports: RW asked that Public Open Spaces be included on the June Agenda for further discussion.

11. Correspondence: The Clerk had received a thank you letter from the Friends of Alyn Surgery, regarding the £50 donation recently made in memory of Mr Charles Higgins.

There being no further business the Standing Orders were moved and accepted. The Vice Chair declared the meeting closed at 2104. The next meeting is on

THURSDAY 16th JUNE 2016 at 1830

Signed:.....

Mr B Apsley
Chairman
16th June 2016