

MINUTES OF THE LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Held At Llay Resource Centre, Llay
 Date Thu 17th November 2016
 Time 1830

| Name | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Bryan Apsley Chairperson | √ | N | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |
| Dave Adams | A | O | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |
| Sandra Apsley | √ | | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |
| Terry Boland | A | M | A | A | A | | | | | | | |
| Ken Cupit | √ | E | A | √ | A | | | | | | | |
| Maldwyn Davies | A | E | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |
| Sharon Roberts | √ | I | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |
| Rob Walsh | √ | N | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |
| Vera Wineyard | A | G | A | A | A | | | | | | | |
| John O'Keefe | √ | | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |
| Dennis Owen Vice Chair | √ | H | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |
| Jan Osborne | A | E | √ | √ | A | | | | | | | |
| Christine Archer | √ | L | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |
| Pat Taylor | √ | D | √ | A | √ | | | | | | | |
| Wynn Austin | | | | √ | A | | | | | | | |
| Mark Williams (Clerk) | √ | | √ | √ | √ | | | | | | | |

In Attendance: PCSO Edwards , 3 members of the public and Press.

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllrs J Osborne, T Boland, V Wineyard, W Austin, K Cupit

DOI's – SR (Park CP School Appeal), RW (Park CP School Appeal/Planning), PT(Charity Float Appeal) all signed Declaration of Interest Forms prior to the meeting.

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chair mentioned that, due to the number of issues requiring discussion this evening, the **Precept decision** item would be finalised at the December meeting, unless time allowed later on. All agreed this suggestion.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The October Minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposed by DO and seconded by RW.

3. Public Questions: On this occasion, no questions had been received by the Clerk.

4. Matters Arising: SR gave an update on the **Open Space** meeting that a sub committee had met to discuss. A further meeting would be required due to the size of the subject matter, with a view to presenting recommendations to the whole Council at the December meeting. A general

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discussion followed regarding the **Non Attendance of Community Councillors** at meetings to ensure that Llay CC conformed with the guidelines as laid down in the Local Government Act. It was agreed that were any community councillor required to miss more than 6 months of meetings, then they would need to write to the Chair, for the whole community council to approve an extension, or not as the case may be. The Chair stipulated that this written request would ensure that if a community councillor were to suffer a serious illness, from which they would eventually hope to recover, then their place on the council could be retained if that was the agreement of the whole council. However, a failure to attend for six months without requesting an extension of absence, would result in any councillor ceasing to be a member of Llay CC, without the need to discuss further. All agreed that this flexible approach was the best way forward. The Clerk was instructed to ensure that any councillor approaching this six month deadline, be reminded of their obligations. The **Code of Conduct**, raised by CA at the October meeting, has now been distributed to all Councillors by the Clerk. MD gave a report on the latest plans for the **tree planting** ceremony and carol service, to be held on 9th December. He further requested funding to purchase some mulled wine for the occasion, to enhance the light refreshments being provided by the Church. After a short discussion, councillors agreed to provide one bottle of mulled wine each to MD for this prestigious occasion. MD is preparing posters to advertise the event and PT offered to assist in distributing these. DO mentioned that he had seen the first of the **new bins** installed at Nant Y Gaer and RW mentioned that they would all shortly be in position as agreed. Finally, RW mentioned that he had forwarded meeting dates on to the Police Commissioner regarding his attendance to talk about **Fracking**. As it may be difficult for him to attend on specific dates, the Chair suggested that a special meeting to discuss this important subject might be best, allowing more flexibility for the Police Commissioner to attend. This was agreed as a good idea and RW will take it forward.

5. Police Matters: PCSO Edwards gave an overview of the latest figures, which were encouraging. Speed checks were continuing throughout the village. RW mentioned that these checks need to continue as he is aware it is a main complaint from residents in all areas of Llay. JO'K and MD also spoke about this problem.

6. Finance and Appeals: The Clerk presented **October finance figures**, bank statements and the ledgers. After discussion, these figures were accepted by all. The Clerk mentioned correspondence received from the Internal Auditors (JDH Business Services) offering to carry out a mini audit to assist with preparing Precept figures. After discussion, the council decided not to partake of this offer.

The Chair then read out an appeal from **Park CP School** for funding to assist with the cost of various activities planned for December. A discussion followed with numerous councillors expressing a variety of views. The Chair mentioned that this appeal, along with the next matter for discussion, had both been submitted following the posting of the Agenda but in the spirit of Christmas he had allowed them to be heard tonight. MD, seconded by DA proposed awarding £350. The Chair asked for amendments and DO, seconded by SA, proposed £700. Following a vote it was agreed to award £350 to the school and the Clerk will arrange payment as soon as practical. The Chair then read out a second appeal from **Pat and Gwyns Charity**, which he had allowed to be heard even though it was submitted late, due to the event taking place prior to the next planned meeting in December. After discussion, it was decided to re-list this appeal for consideration at the December meeting as, unlike the Park CP School appeal which had been distributed over three days ahead of the meeting, no-one had had the chance to consider the merits of this appeal prior to the meeting. The Chair asked that his objection to both appeals being submitted after the Agenda had been posted, but resulting in two different outcomes be noted. The Clerk will inform the Charity and re-list.

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- 7. Street Lighting:** RW gave a short report on the state of lighting, with Councillors mentioning their issues for investigation. Most notable amongst these is the ongoing problem with the light situated at the bottom of the hill on Gresford Road which RW will chase up.
- 8. Planning:** The single planning matter before council, regarding the replacement of a conservatory, was passed without comment.
- 9. Burial Matters:** The Chair mentioned issues with **the inspection** of the cemetery by Councillors. It was agreed after a short discussion, that the next two councillors due to inspect, would be noted within the Minutes as a reminder. This was agreed by all. Regarding the **replacement of the plastic bins**, it was agreed following a full discussion, to replace these with the ornate round litter bins as proposed by DA at the October meeting. The estimated cost of twelve of these installed will be £1500-1600 inclusive of VAT. The Clerk will follow this up. Regarding the one **wooden box** that had been purchased, SA suggested this be turned into a flower bed and positioned just inside the cemetery. Everyone agreed this was a good idea and the Clerk will ensure it is done. The Chair read out a letter from a resident, **requesting a bench** be installed at the cemetery. The Clerk was aware of this application and the groundsman has no issues with it. This was approved and the Clerk will inform the resident. Finally, the Clerk gave out the quotes to remove the unsightly **hedges at the car park entrance**. After discussion it was decided to proceed with a local resident, Mr Elson, who has carried out voluntary work at the cemetery previously and also gave the most competitive quote. The Clerk will inform Mr Elson.
- 10. Reports:** RW mentioned he was aware of some minor **flooding and overflowing drains** in the area. He is in the process of dealing with this and asked all councillors to let him know if they were aware of any flooding or drain issues in the village. DO then gave a presentation regarding ongoing opposition to the proposed **Gresford Road development**, as the appeal from the landowners draws close. He asked for maximum support for this appeal and also displayed boards that were going to be displayed on private land along the road adjacent to the development land. Leaflets had been produced and would be distributed, to follow on from the letters already despatched. DO concluded by emphasising the danger of Llay losing its' identity as a village if this appeal is successful.
- 11. News/Website:** DA confirmed that details of the new councillor, WA, had been added to the website. There were no other issues.
- 12. Correspondence:** The main item of correspondence, consisting of 4 letters, related to the future of **Youth Provision within Llay**. The Chair outlined the content of these letters, all of which had been distributed by the Clerk ahead of the meeting. A general discussion followed, with the Chair concluding this matter by asking all councillors to ensure they had prepared their own arguments and recommendations for the December meeting as this matter also impinged on the councils' ability to set a Precept, which is required by 31st December at the latest. The main issue is the lack of clarity contained within the WCBC proposals, which is making choices difficult. However, it is hoped that by mid December, the availability of all services and their costs will be clearer. The Clerk mentioned an upcoming meeting of the Flintshire/Wrexham area of **One Voice Wales**, which JO could not attend as she was abroad. SR agreed to take the paperwork and will try and attend.

There being no further business, Standing Orders were moved and seconded and the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2045. The next meeting will be held on :-

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THURSDAY 15th DECEMBER 2016 at 1830

Signed:.....

Mr B Apsley

Chairman

15th December 2016