

MINUTES OF MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Location: Llay Church Hall

Date & Time: 9th December 2020 @ 1830

In Attendance: Councillors B Apsley (Chair), D Owen (Vice Chair), S Apsley, R Walsh, K Cupit, P Taylor, S Roberts, J O'Keefe, L Jones, K Powell, W Austin, Clerk.& PCSO Sawyer

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr T Boland, D Adams, J Osborne, S Watson
Declarations of Interest: Cllr S Roberts, R Walsh.
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The **November Minutes** were discussed by all. The Chair then asked for approval for the **November Minutes** as published. Proposed by DO and seconded by JO'K and carried unanimously.
- 3. Matters Arising:** The Chair invited SA to speak about increasing the **Xmas Lights around Market Square** and possible rejigging the ones on the Main Road. SA proposed, with PT seconding, purchasing a few more lights for the centre of the village. After a short discussion this was carried unanimously and will be pursued later in 2021. The Chair thanked SR for finding the winning design for the **new signs** welcoming people to the village, which the Clerk will now progress and getting one designed for approval to purchase. The Chair invited RW to update all regarding the **Flashing Speed Signs**. RW is still awaiting a reply from TWM traffic with prices and lead in times, and expects this in the next two days. RW also discussed venues for these signs involving a number of locations where speeding has been an issue. The Chair asked this matter to be listed for January Agenda once prices are known for each sign, to allow a final discussion on venues. SA mentioned improving the **liaison between the local RBL branch and the community council** regarding the displaying of poppies on lamp posts in the village. It was agreed to finalise this matter earlier in 2021 to ensure it is completed well ahead of November. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the contents of the full letter from Croeshowell Residents Group relating to the future of the Telephone Box. In concluding this, SR proposed with PT seconding, the decision taken last month to allow the Croeshowell Residents Group to refurbish the **telephone box**, owned by Llay CC. This was provided that work commenced within strict timetables and that ownership remained with Llay CC. There were no amendments and the proposal was carried unanimously.
- 4. Public Questions:** On this occasion, no questions had been received from the Public.
- 5. Police Matters:** PCSO Sawyer highlighted the latest Police Figures as presented to Councillors ahead of the meeting. He also specifically outlined exactly what he has been dealing with recently. This included some anti- social behaviour involving bikes. PCSO then read out a letter from his Sgt, relating to the **discharge of people from the station**, and the issue around them hanging around in Llay. In summary, the police do offer lifts out of Llay but cannot force people to take up this offer. DO read out a letter from a local resident who had experienced a difficult situation with someone who had been released and had no idea where she was. SR read out letters received in 2015, from NWPS, confirming that taxis, use of phones etc. would be in place to avoid people wandering around Llay unsure of where to go. DO and SR will pass their correspondence onto PCSO Sawyer for further action. PT and JO'K raised some other issues relating to anti -social behaviour that PCSO will investigate further.
- 6. New Matters:** The Chair read out a letter from Park CP School regarding a vacancy that has arisen as a Community Governor at the school. After a discussion, Cllr Austin and Cllr Jones both volunteered to become the Community Governor, which a vote resulted in Cllr Austin being nominated. The Clerk will inform the relevant authorities

7. **Finance:** The Chair asked all present to consider the **November Finance Figures**, as presented. It was proposed by DO and seconded by RW that these be approved and this was carried unanimously. The Chair then raised the issue the **Precept for 2021/2022**. The Chair started the discussion by highlighting the current healthy financial position of the council and the inflation rates at present. The Chair proposed freezing the Precept with SR seconding. There were no other proposals and this was carried unanimously. The Clerk will inform WCBC Finance department before the date for notification in January 2021. The Chair then read out the application for grant funding from Park CP School. JO'K proposed awarding the full amount requested for Xmas which was seconded by PT and carried unanimously. Finally, the Chair confirmed the conclusion of the **External Audit which had resulted in an Unqualified Audit Report**, with no recommendations for improvement.

8. **Street Lighting:** RW gave a brief report relating to a major lighting issue that has arisen recently, that is currently being investigated and dealt with via WCBC and Scottish Power. A couple of other lighting issues were mentioned and noted by RW.

9. **Planning:** The Chair mentioned a recent meeting with Aldi, involving roads, size of the store etc. etc. There are still a number of unsatisfactory issues regarding this site that will continue to be challenged by Cllr B Apsley. He also gave a brief update of progress relating to the old Co-op and new houses planned for replacement. RW gave a brief overview of the Planning Inspectors and WCBC Planning meeting earlier today regarding the LDP, which has resulted in a more hopeful position for Llay. A number of Councillors commented on the general feeling of embarrassment that many feel towards WCBC Planning at present.

10. **Burial Matters:** All councillors were very satisfied with the condition of the cemetery at present.

11. **Reports:** RW stated that broadband improvements are on the horizon, through Virgin Media, which will involve a certain amount of inconvenience for residents whilst installation takes place.

12. **News/Website:** Nothing to report on this occasion.

13. **Correspondence:** The Chair mentioned that the Xmas Tree will be lit on Friday 11th December, and an online carol service will take place on 20th December. Just prior to closing the Chair distributed some correspondence from Alyn Family Doctors to help Councillors explain to residents, the latest news from their local Surgery.

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

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th January 2021 at 1830 in
The Church Hall**

Signed:

Mr B Apsley, Chair
20th January 2021