**MINUTES OF MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Location**: Llay Church Hall

**Date & Time**: 16th February 2022 @ 1830

**In Attendance:**  Councillors B Apsley (Chair), S Roberts (Vice Chair) S Apsley, R Walsh, J O’Keefe, C Archer, P Taylor, K Cupit, Steve Watson, C Ankers D Owen, K Powell, S Watson, M Jones, W Austin & Clerk. The Chair invited Mr S Goodwin, a Planning Expert, to give a short presentation relating to a pre planning consultation about some current grazing land (off Llay Road towards Cefn Y Bedd) that Tarvin Sands Fishery hope will become a Xmas Tree and Reindeer Farm. The water areas on site would be enlarged and become an outdoor activity area for pastimes like paddle boarding. Mr Goodwin highlighted intentions for parking, removal of some hedges, and expectation of visitor numbers. The Chair and a number of Councillors raised queries regarding angling rights, flora and fauna, employment prospects for locals, replacement of hedges and a number of other issues. Further contact with Mr Goodwin will continue as queries arise prior to the formal planning process commencing.

1. **Apologies for Absence**: Nil
2. **Declarations of Interest**: Nil
3. The **January Minutes** were discussed by all. The Chair asked for approval for the **January Minutes** as published. Proposed by RW and seconded by SW and carried unanimously.

1. **Matters Arising:** The Chair informed everyone on the rules regarding street parties for the **Queens Platinum Jubilee** later this year. SW informed all that a survey he had put on Llay NB showed that the majority were in favour of a fete/gala type event. A number of Councillors spoke in support of an event with a few different venues being discussed. There was also concern that individual street parties are known in advance. After a short discussion the Chair asked for approval to renew the **WCBC SLA** for maintenance etc at the **Skate Park and Play Area**. This was approved unanimously and the Clerk will confirm the renewal of this SLA with Ms Carla Hughes of WCBC.
2. **Public Questions:** On this occasion, no questions had been received from the Public.
3. **Police Matters:** The Chair introduced the latest **Police Figures**, as sent to all Councillors ahead of the meeting. The Chair mentioned the huge problem of scammers and asked all to ensure they are on alert. RW mentioned the issue of parking on pavements still causing issues. A number of Councillors mentioned this also, with problems for the many who use mobility scooters, along with the width of the roads causing parking problems for car owners.. DO stated that following the recent request from Llay CC, the speed camera vans were now varying their times of attendance.
4. **New Matters:** The Chair invited RW to expand on the item relating to a Croeshowell street sign, to enable parcel delivery firms to know where it is. A lengthy discussion followed with bemusement as to why this signage is not the responsibility of WCBC as it is a main road. It is felt this is not a matter for the community council. RW will advise the enquiring residents of this decision.
5. **Finance:** The Chair asked all present to consider the **January Income & Expenditure** aspresented, (£13,744.38p) and sent to all Councillors. It was proposed by DO and seconded by KP that these be approved and this was carried unanimously. The **grant application** from Family Friends Group awaits further paperwork before it can be discussed fully. The Chair outlined the **IRPW Expenses** matter as listed. He expanded on a number of points that had been raised when he had joined an online discussion session recently. The Chair highlighted the current rules regarding all expenses and payments. It was unanimously agreed that the optional payments of varying amounts for extra duties/senior positions would not be paid/taken. This will be the council position for this financial year only, as the upcoming elections will require decisions to be made next year, with the Councillors who are then in position after the elections. The Chair raised the **telephone box refurbishment.** It was unanimously agreed that further quotes to refurbish the box would be sought, which the Clerk will progress and report back.
6. **Street Lighting:** RW gave a brief report on current lighting issues in Llay, expanding on those lights requiring repairs. Recent problems had not been helped by the very slow response from Scottish Power, the supplier contracted to carry out repairs. A discussion followed, looking at all options for length of time repairs take. The Clerk will send a letter on behalf of Llay CC to the Mr Ian Bancroft at WCBC outlining the lack of control that it appears WCBC have over its’ chosen contractor (Scottish Power) to take any enforcement action, or obtain timeframes for repairs that actually result in any punishment for S Power when these timelines are not met..
7. **Planning:** The listed matter on the Agenda is shown at the start of the meeting, involving the possible Xmas Tree/Reindeer Farm/Water Activities Centre.
8. **Burial Matters:** The Chair informed all that the repairs to the main building were nearly completed. There were no other issues raised regarding the cemetery.
9. **Reports:** RW gave an update regarding the **speed signs**, as he is awaiting responses from WCBC. The new **welcome signs** have been well received and this will be discussed further in March, with regard to considering the purchase of more signs and the addition of plants to the existing ones for the summer. RW gave advice regarding ongoing issues relating to the **Aldi development** and who to contact in the event of a query. RW mentioned the quarry and the removal of some trees recently, which has raised alarm within WCBC and locally. There is a meeting upcoming with **Wales and West** regarding some of their properties in Cwrt Pentwmpath Llay. A number of councillors expressed concern about the future for these properties, along with cost of rents, removal of perfectly healthy trees plus a number of other concerns. The litter pickers will be distributed as agreed. Both RW and the Chair mentioned the LDP and the progress that will be made following the upcoming elections, following some recent delays to local developments.
10. **News/Website:** Nothing to report.
11. **Correspondence**: Other than matters already listed and discussed, there was no further correspondence.

There being no further business, **Standing Orders** were moved by JO’K seconded by DO and the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 2040

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th March 2022 at 1830 in**

**The Church Hall**

Signed: …………………………………………………………………..

Mr B Apsley, Chair

16th March 2022