

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Location:** Llay Church Hall

**Date & Time:** 18<sup>th</sup> November 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, D Adams, K Powell, S Watson, J Osborne.

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr T Boland, W Austin and Clerk

**Declarations of Interest:** Nil on this occasion.

**1a.** The Chair invited Larissa Jones, Jake Rees and Andrew Jones to give a short presentation **relating to the Rackery Farm Planning Proposal**. This proposal, if approved would see a Farm Shop opened off the Straight Mile in Llay. There would also be a Café and outdoor area for customers to enjoy. The applicants were seeking the support of the community council prior to application. Overall, the Councillors supported this application and felt it would be of benefit to the village.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The **September Minutes** were discussed by all. The Chair then asked for approval for the **September Minutes** as published. Proposed by DO and seconded by JO'K and carried unanimously.

**3. Matters Arising:** The Chair asked for comments regarding the **siting of the Telephone Box**. SR stated that the new Head teacher at Park CP School has indicated she will be happy to have it located within school grounds. DO had received a letter from residents in the Croes Howell area who wished to see the box remain where it is and are happy to carry out the refurbishment work themselves with some grant assistance from Llay CC. After a discussion, JO'K proposed that a six month timeframe be placed on this renovation which DO seconded. The Chair asked for an amendment to the proposal that refurbishment must be completed within 12 months with the community council retaining the right to move the box if this was not completed. This proposal was unanimously supported. The Clerk will send a letter to the Croes Howell Residents confirming this agreement. RW then raised the issue of siting **flashing Speed Signs** in Llay. The Chair asked RW to report to the December Meeting with a full costing for this matter for Council to discuss further. The Chair asked DA if a firm date for **switching on the new Xmas Lights** was known. DA would contact the contractors and report back to Councillors. SA proposed extending the **Xmas Lights to include Market Square for 2021** as this is considered the hub of the village. After a short discussion it was agreed to list this on the December Agenda for full discussion. DA asked about the **village signs** with SR responding to say that she had forwarded relevant information to the Clerk and this would also be listed for December.

**4. Public Questions:** On this occasion, no questions had been received from the Public.

**5. Police Matters:** In the absence on duty of PCSO Sawyer, the Chair asked for comments regarding the latest crime figures which had been distributed ahead of the meeting. The main issue raised involved the **anti-social use of fireworks** in the village and the Clerk will be instructed to write a letter to PCSO Sawyer, highlighting this issue for future occasions.

**6. New Matters:** None on this occasion.

**7. Finance and Appeals:** **The September and October Finance Figures**, as presented, were approved without further comment. The disparity in the two fuel figures for the Cemetery was queried, but post meeting this was explained as a posting issue, with a purchase at the end of September being accounted by the garage in the October invoice. The **Standing Orders and Financial Regulations**, having been approved by both recent Audits, were adopted for the year without amendment unanimously.

In addition, **Internal Financial Control, Investment Strategy, Risk Assessment and Cash Reserves Policies** were all adopted without amendment. Regarding the initial **Precept Recommendation**, the Chair suggested that this be carried over to the December Meeting for a final decision, in the hope that circumstances might allow a meeting of the Finance Committee to take place beforehand to make a recommendation to full Council. Finally, PT and SA kindly offered to purchase the **Christmas Tree for the Rockery Gardens**, as they did last year. This was unanimously approved and PT/SA were thanked for carrying out this task.

**8. Street Lighting:** RW gave a brief report relating to lighting issues within Llay, mainly involving the length of time taken to fix lights. This was due to staff absences within the lighting department at present. DA suggested the possibility of using new contractors, including MEGA Electrics who recently installed the Xmas Lights, when the SLA is next due for renewal.

**9. Planning:** The Chair expressed disappointment regarding the response from WCBC in regards to the **formal complaint against WCBC Planning** over the early occupancy of properties on the Gresford Road Development. This is being pursued through the Ombudsman, and a response is awaited. The Chair raised the matter of the Inspectors' Report in relation to the **Traveller Site in Llay**. The report highlighted serious concerns regarding the inclusion of the site in Llay and that this was in direct conflict with national planning policy. RW suggested that the local AM (L Griffiths) be made aware of both the above issues. RW mentioned the listed plans to extend Tir Y Capel. Whilst this would give residents larger living spaces than at present, it was also noted how upsetting it can be for residents to have to move out of their homes temporarily whilst the improvements are carried out. The Chair raised an urgent matter regarding an **application for a License to sell alcohol** in Unit 1, Prospect Industrial Units, Rackery Lane, that had been received just after the publication of the Agenda. Because of the unusual hours of business that had been proposed in this application, the Chair will send full details to all Councillors to deal with this as individuals.

**10. Burial Matters:** KC and BA carried out a recent full inspection and found the cemetery in excellent condition. Some **leaves remain**, inevitable at this time of year, and the **moss/algae on the paths** had increased with the risk of slipping needing attention. KC had researched a product that could get rid of this and it was agreed to try it on a small area before looking at other methods. JO'K and SR agreed to carry out the **next inspection in January**.

**11. Reports:** RW started that Virgin Media would be commencing upgrade work in February 2021. RW also informed all that now the consultation period regarding installing double yellow lines on Park Road has ended, hopefully resulting in yellow lines being installed, which will greatly alleviate the problems experienced by residents and HACK.

**12. News/Website:** DA stated there were no new items for discussion.

**13. Correspondence:** There was no correspondence not already discussed on this occasion.

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

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 1830 in  
The Church Hall**

Signed: .....

Mr B Apsley, Chair  
9<sup>th</sup> December 2020