**MINUTES OF MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Location**: Llay Church Hall

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

**In Attendance:** Cllrs B Apsley (Chair), S Roberts (Vice Chair), S Apsley, D Owen,

J O’Keefe, R Walsh, T Ankers, S Watson, St Watson, C Archer,

K Cupit, P Taylor & Clerk.

**1. Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Austin, Powell & Jones. There were no DOI’s on this occasion.

**2. Approval of previous Minutes:** The **October Minutes** were discussed by all after which the Chair sought approval of the Minutes as a true record. Approved by RW and seconded by DO and carried unanimously.

**3. Matters Arising:** The Chair invited CA to update all on theformer **Foregolf site within Alyn Waters.** CA passed around a large folder which contained ideas, plans and examples of trees, and associated planting to improve the site. The hard work CA had put in to produce the excellent drawings and plans was admired and appreciated by all. RW suggested it should be shown to Friends of Alyn Waters initially at their next meeting on 27th November, then the Head of Assets at WCBC, so the “bond money”, forfeited by the previous owners of the site, is used to maximum effect. CA will attend this meeting to start progressing the excellent research and work carried out to date. RW then gave an update on the **Highways and Footpath safety audit,** mentioning some slippery paths and missing white lines, a large number of leaves causing increased risk, that all need attention. RW also mentioned the introduction of the **20 mph speed limit** that is due to be introduced, explaining that he understands the local community will have some choice as to which roads are affected by this new piece of legislation. A busy zebra crossing in Llay is a matter of concern, mainly because of cars ignoring pedestrians waiting to cross. The Chair gave an update on a **recent visit with our local PCSO** to distribute and discuss staying safe within your home.

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

**5. Police Matters:** The latest crime figures and information received from NWPS were discussed by all. The **new style of report** issued is considered a great improvement by all. **Increased patrols** around the village had been noticed by a number of Councillors which is appreciated. Positive outcomes had been noticed regarding a couple of matters that had previously caused concern for residents.

**6. New Matters:** The Chair invited St W to update regarding disused **play areas.** St W confirmed formal letters had been sent to all those involved at WCBC with the areas that Llay CC hope to develop back to use for the community. No replies had been received yet, and RW will chase up those at WCBC who he is aware are responsible for the areas involved. The Chair then mentioned the **Christmas Tree** purchase and the **Carol Service.** The Chair had discussed this event with MEGA Electrical, who fitted the Christmas lights on the lamp posts each year. Mr Bellis (MEGA Elec) had suggested installing a power box near the tree that could be used each year. However, the Chair informed all that contact with WCBC had not been productive, as the nearest power supply from a light belonged to WCBC. The Chair proposed **Fri 2nd Dec** for the official tree launch with a Carol Service, commencing at 6pm. WA has offered to purchase and install the tree with assistance from others. The Chair mentioned the recent publication of **Warm Spaces** that involves communal areas in every location being utilised to allow locals to attend and keep warm with other activities, due to the high cost of heating homes. Grants are available and the Chair distributed a leaflet that he had produced, which outlined how individuals could get involved and help those struggling to keep warm this winter. CA mentioned the **defibrillator that Your Space** had indicated was ongoing back in July and the Clerk confirmed nothing has been heard back since. The Clerk will liaise with CA and chase up this important issue.

**7. Finance: The** **October Income and Expenditure** (£8, 674.55p) figures distributed ahead of the meeting were considered. There were no queries and these were proposed by RW, seconded by DO and carried unanimously. The Chair outlined the grant application from the **Llay Community Church**, for their Nativity event for all the community during the upcoming Christmas celebration. PT mentioned that the same event last year was fantastic and enjoyed by all who attended. DO mentioned the purchase of a **welcome sign for the Gresford Road**. This is the final access road to Llay. A lengthy discussion followed with a number of contributions from Councillors. Following this, RW suggested a site visit to ensure the best location is identified, and also to carry this matter into the next financial year, in May 2023. It would then be reconsidered at a future meeting. This was agreed by all as a sensible proposition and was carried unanimously.

**8. Street Lighting:** RW gave a report of the numerous issues involving lights at present that are awaiting repair or replacement.These have all been reported to WCBC. Specific letters will be sent by the Clerk to WCBC regarding the repair urgently required in **Bron Alyn**, and other **new lights** required in a couple of venues. The Chair asked about the requested visit from WCBC lighting department, which can only happen if held during the normal working hours. The Chair will contact Mega Electrical to invite them to talk about changing the type of lighting used to save money in the long term.

**9. Planning:** The Chair raised the listed planning matter regarding a small extension in **Bryn Place**. There were no concerns at this stage.

**10. Burial Matters:** There were no issues relating to the cemetery at present. Councillors remain satisfied with the work carried out by the Groundsman.

**11. Reports:** RW mentioned his sadness at difficulties dealing with **housing applications and repairs**, which continues to frustrate him. The Chair supported RW regarding housing issues, involving poor contractors and length of time to repair properties. Finally, RW mentioned the superb development at **Tir Y Capel** near completion, which he invited all to see in person as it showed what could be achieved with an excellent development. The Chair then spoke regarding his total disgust regarding the recent planning matter involving **Ballswood Quarry**. All Councillors who had watched the proceedings live online also spoke about their great disappointment about how the matter was dealt with by the Planning Committee at WCBC. DO wished to thank the Chair for all his efforts and research regarding this contentious planning matter. Finally the Chair asked all members of the Finance Committee to confirm their availability for a Finance Meeting in the next 2 weeks. Primarily, this will be to discuss the Precept for 2023/2024.

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

**13. Correspondence:** No correspondence has been received, other than mentioned in other Agenda items.

The Chair asked if all present were content to change the date of the next meeting from 21st to 14th December. All agreed this was a good idea. The Clerk will arrange the venue on 14th December.

There being no further business, **Standing Orders** were moved by RW, seconded by JO’K and the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 2041.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th December 2022 at 1830

In the Church Hall, Llay

Signed………………………………………………………..

B Apsley, Chair

16th November 2022