**MINUTES OF MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Location**: Llay Church Hall

**Date & Time**: 20th April 2022 @ 1830

**In Attendance:** Cllrs B Apsley, S Apsley, K Powell, D Owen, W Austin, J O’Keefe, K Cupit,

R Walsh, S Watson, Steve Watson, P Taylor, T Ankers, C Archer & Clerk

**1. Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest:** CllrsM Jones, S Roberts had sent apologies, andCllrs R Walsh and W Austin signed a DOI due to Agenda Item relating to Park CP School (7b).

**2. Approval of previous Minutes:** The **March Minutes** were discussed by all after which the Chair sought approval of the Minutes as published. This was proposed by DO, seconded by KC and carried unanimously.

**3. Matters Arising:** The Chair asked for updates regarding **Queens Jubilee celebrations.** Various events already planned in a number of locations (Streets, Llay RBL etc) were mentioned. The Chair reminded all about requirements ahead of events if street closures were required. CA read out a response from the Resource Centre Manager, dated March 17th, which has not been updated with any information since. This is in relation to CA’s original request to decorate the MUGA with flags/bunting etc, which the Resource Centre would be required to approve. CA will now chase this up. Meanwhile CA asked all to assist with bean bags and tins and will ask for other things in due course. The Chair then raised the listed item of **Poppies and Xmas Lights**, asking all for their thoughts. SA mentioned some being installed at entrances to the village from all directions. It was agreed that an extra 6 lights, positioned at various entrances to Llay, would be purchased. The Chair will liaise with the Clerk to ensure these locations are passed on to MEGA electric. Next, the matter of poppies for Remembrance Sunday was raised by the Chair. It was agreed to supplement the current 50 with another 20 so there would be 70 in total. RW mentioned the ground remaining after the phone box was removed, and he will contact WCBC Streetscene to discuss. KC mentioned that some of his colleagues at the flower society thought that creating a small wild flower garden around the new signs would be the best way forward (as opposed to some construction containing formal flowers) and this was agreed as a great idea. Regarding the **base required for the** **phonebox** within the school, PT will inform a family member and get them to contact the Clerk so this can be installed before the refurbished box is returned. The Clerk has already liaised with SR to ensure the selected location within the school grounds is identified.

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

**5. Police Matters:** In the absence of the PCSO, the Chair invited all to comment on the recent report from NWPS. There was disquiet expressed that it appears to be the policy of senior officers at NWPS to discourage their local Officers from attending Community Council meetings. The policy preventing the local Police Representative from attending a monthly meeting for approximately 10 minutes is considered unreasonable.

**6. New Matters:** RW raised the issue of **Llay Focus (local newsletter),** which he used to be responsible for. He wishes to relaunch this under a new title, to highlight issues that the County and Community Councillors of Llay would wish to pass on to the community. He asked all to contact him with ideas/new titles etc for this relaunch to ensure it meets the need. This was felt to be a great idea, with the Chair stating it could replace the Llay in Partnership leaflet that used to be distributed throughout Llay. RW thanked all for their comments and support and will now progress this. RW will attempt to get the first draft to all before the May meeting.

**7. Finance:** The Chair asked for any comments relating to the **March Income and Expenditure** figures distributed ahead of the meeting. These were unanimously approved with DO proposing and SW seconding. The next item involved the grant appeal from **Park CP School** for a small present for each pupil in recognition of the Queens Jubilee celebrations. RW and WA had already left the room at this stage having signed a DOI. A full discussion ensued with a number of Councillors expressing various views on the relationship between the local school and the Community Council regarding funding. Following this Steve W proposed with BA seconding, the award of the requested monies. There were no counter proposals and this was carried unanimously. Regarding the relisted **Family Friends** Grant Appeal, it was agreed, following a lengthy discussion, to award £100 in recognition of their good work involving some families from Llay. The Council then discussed awarding money to assist the people of Ukraine. It was unanimously agreed to award £1k to the **Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)** and the Clerk will arrange all three payments asap.

**8. Street Lighting:** RW mentioned some local lighting issues that are ongoing in a number of locations, as did some Councillors. DO mentioned the recent huge spike in street lighting power costs and the Chair agreed this matter will require close attention and action from Councillors going forward.

**9. Planning:** The Chair asked all Councillors if they knew about the venue of the planning application from **the Break Room on Rackery Lane,** who have applied for an alcohol licence. The Chair will chase up this application on behalf of Llay CC before deciding how to proceed.

**10. Burial Matters:** All Councillors expressed satisfaction with the excellent condition of the cemetery and the work carried out by the cemetery groundsman. The Chair asked permission to pursue some enquiries regarding the extension of the cemetery to ensure this is able to be done with the minimum of disruption.. Councillors gave their approval for this course of action to the Chair.

**11. Reports:** RW expressed some concerns regarding planning application conditions being varied and only finding out by accident of these amendments. RW also mentioned the upcoming demolition of the old Co-Op and RW is trying to ensure this is done with the minimum of disruption and maximum safety to local residents. The Chair expressed concern about the distribution of information regarding planning, along with the reduction in the ability to carry out the work of a County Councillor whilst the election process is ongoing.

**12. News/Website:** The Website is up to date regarding information contained as a legal requirement and there is nothing else to report.

**13. Correspondence:** No correspondence has been received that has not already been dealt with under previous headings in these Minutes.

There being no further business, **Standing Orders** were moved by RW, seconded by JO’K and the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 2025.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th May 2022 at 1830

In the Church Hall, Llay

Signed………………………………………………………..

Mr B Apsley, Chair

20th May 2022