**MINUTES OF MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Location**: Llay Church Hall

**Date & Time**: 14th December 2022 @ 1830

**In Attendance:** Cllrs B Apsley (Chair), S Apsley, J O’Keefe, R Walsh,

 S Watson, St Watson, C Archer, K Cupit, P Taylor, K Powell

 M Jones & Clerk.

**1. Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest:** Apologies were received from Cllrs T Ankers, D Owen, S Roberts and W Austin. RW signed a DOI in relation to Item 7e. on the Agenda.

**2. Approval of previous Minutes:** The **November Minutes** were discussed by all after which the Chair sought approval of the Minutes as a true record. Approved by St W and seconded by JO’K and carried unanimously.

**3. Matters Arising:** The Chair mentioned how well the presentation to the **Friends of Alyn Waters** by CA was received and all present thanked CA for her work. The Chair thanked all involved in the purchase and erection of the **Xmas Tree and Carol Service**. In particular the Chair thanked WA for his hard work in ensuring the tree was purchased, erected and lit up. CA gave some information regarding **housing repairs** taking place locally that were causing concern.

**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. Regarding **some of the terminology** used, the Clerk will clarify with NWPS. SW mentioned **anti social driving and speeding** around 10th Avenue, which has recently started up again after a period of quiet. The Chair mentioned how well received the **event today, organised by the PCSO,** had been. The food and entertainment was superb. To ensure future events get maximum publicity in advance, **SA offered to assist in ensuring** it was included in the Newsletter that is delivered to all in the village. This would be included in an Autumn meeting agenda, to ensure it is added to the most appropriate newsletter. The Chair asked the Clerk to send a letter to PCSO Griffiths for her hard work organising **Operation Cinnamon** and this will also be noted on the website.

**6. New Matters:** St W stated there were no updates regarding the ongoing matter of utilising **unused former play areas in Llay**. RW gave an overview of how he feels this matter may progress. It is hoped that WCBC will eventually make a decision relating to Llay Community Councils request to make good use of the land. The Chair raised the listed item of **Community Agents**. Having not received the requested information in time, the Clerk will ask the organiser from WCBC to attend January meeting to address councillors, and the matter will be relisted.

**7. Finance: The** **November Income and Expenditure** (£10,052.66p) figures distributed ahead of the meeting were considered. There were no queries and these were approved. Proposed by St W, seconded by MJ and approved unanimously. The Chair then informed all about the recent **Finance Committee meeting in relation to the Precept** recommendations for 2023/2024 and the lengthy discussions that took place. The Chair further explained the costs currently being paid for a number of regular invoices every month that everyone is aware of. He also explained the bigger picture relating to Council Tax issues that affect all residents in the Borough. MJ proposed accepting the recommendation of £11,041 increase to the Precept with SW seconding. There were no other proposals and this was carried unanimously. The applications for Grants were then considered, relating to **Dynasty Stars Morris Dancing**, Llay Ind Est Business Forum and Park CP School. In relation to the Dynasty Stars, the delay was due to a bank account issue now resolved. The costs of attending events, for both transport and equipment, was outlined to all. JO’K proposed awarding £300 with KP seconding. There were no amendments to the proposal and the £300 was awarded to assist the Dynasty Stars with their running costs. The Chair outlined the second grant appeal from the **Llay Business Forum** for assistance with installing a defibrillator within the industrial estate. After a lengthy discussion it was proposed by CA seconded by JO’K and unanimously agreed that no award would be made. The final appeal was from **Park CP School** for funding towards a dinosaur event in the New Year. After a lengthy discussion SW proposed awarding them the full amount for the event with MJ Seconding. This was carried by a majority with 2 abstentions. It was also agreed that the Clerk should request that the School publicise the contribution made by Llay CC whenever the event is publicised to parents and/or local press.

**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. Other Councillors mentioned “burner” lights and other failed lights they were aware of. RW made clear his frustration with our contracted streetlight repairers (WCBC) that is affecting a number of Residents so negatively. The Chair thanked RW for his patience in trying to get lighting issues resolved.

**9. Planning:** The Chair mentioned the first listed matter involving the large **development in Cwrt Pentwympath.** Whilst there was general support for this development, there was concern about the height of the 3 storey aspects of the development, meaning nearby properties in Eighth Avenue would now be overlooked. The Clerk will ensure this comment is passed onto the Planning Officer. The final Planning matter related to an amendment of use at **Screwfix on Llay Ind Est**. There were no concerns at present.

**10. Burial Matters:** An ongoing matter relating to a local firm was resolved. Councillors remain satisfied with the work carried out by the Groundsman.

**11. Reports:** RW mentioned some **minor flooding and blocked drains** that is due to be resolved following a visit from those concerned within WCBC shortly. A short discussion took place regarding the old Co-Op site and its use for social housing which is ongoing. The Chair mentioned **Ballswood Quarry** and some recent removal of hedging to accommodate a path and their excavations have come even closer to residential properties. His objections thus far have not been successful. This matter will not be dropped as long as Ballswood Quarry management continue to breach the planning restrictions in place. It was the opinion of all Councillors that the long suffering residents of Geggin Lane deserve so much better.

**12. News/Website:** Nothing to report on this occasion. The Clerk will add the favourable comments regarding the recent social event “Operation Cinnamon” that our local PCSO organised.

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

There being no further business, **Standing Orders** were moved by JO’K, seconded by MJ and the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 2035.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th January 2023 at 1830

In the Church Hall, Llay

Signed………………………………………………………..

B Apsley, Chair

18th January 2023