**MINUTES OF MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Location**: Llay Church Hall

**Date & Time**: 15th February 2023 @ 1830

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

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

D Owen, W Austin & Clerk.

**1. Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest:** Apologies were received from Cllr T Ankers. There were no declarations of interest.

**2. Approval of previous Minutes:** The **January Minutes** were discussed by all after which the Chair sought approval of the Minutes as a true record. RW asked for a slight amendment regarding streetlights as general repairs are quite good but more complex ones are slower. The Chair thanked all who attended the funeral of ex Cllr Terry Boland. The Minutes were then approved by MJ and seconded by DO and carried unanimously.

**3. Matters Arising:** RW mentioned the next issue of the Newsletter is imminent and informed all that it would include information about the Public Meeting regarding highways etc.

**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. PT mentioned some criminal damage to cars she was aware of. RW and JO’K raised the matter of large vehicles blocking roads, including Meadow Court, whilst queuing to access the development. JO’K stated that breaches of conditions have gone unchecked by anyone for four years. SA mentioned the danger of these large vehicles blocking the views of others in cars, who have their view of the road blocked. WA mentioned a recent incident where a lorry was parked dangerously, a police car was nearby and did nothing regarding the lorry. A short discussion followed regarding why WCBC cannot do more to enforce the conditions they have put in place. DO mentioned a sink hole that appeared on the site and was quickly filled by the developer with crushed stone. It was agreed a letter would be prepared by the Clerk for the attention of various parties with involvement in these matters.

**6. New Matters:** The Chair raised the unused Play Area item that has been ongoing for a while. He mentioned a reply has been received from WCBC, stating that it might be possible to lease the land in the future. The Chair emphasised that local residents would need consulting before any final decision is made. It was further agreed an on site meeting would be preferable, to ensure there were no hidden issues that could cause further delays and/or further costs to the Community.

**7. Finance: The** **January Income and Expenditure** (£11,266.45p) figures distributed ahead of the meeting were considered. There were no queries and these were approved. Proposed by DO, seconded by RW and approved unanimously. The Grant Appeal from Your Space, relisted from January meeting was then discussed. A number of Councillors spoke regarding this matter, with CA giving information regarding the background going back to late 2021, when this matter was first raised at Council. DO proposed with SA seconding that the grant requested for a defibrillator cabinet be approved. The Chair asked if there were any other proposals and there were not. The Grant was therefore awarded with one abstention. KC suggested that this matter is also included in the newsletter. The final finance matter relates to IRPW Expenses for the year. The Chair outlined the latest rules and regulations as issued by IRPW. An agreement regarding any community councillor not completing the full year and then receiving a pro rata payment was also discussed. The option to opt out was also explained, with the Clerk requesting anyone wishing to Opt Out to please inform him before the end of February.

**8. Street Lighting:** The Chair thanked all who had contributed to his request for questions relating to the MEGA Electrical matter recently. A lengthy discussion followed relating to how to proceed forward regarding street lighting. The Chair will progress this and then moved onto the Service Level Agreement with WCBC for street lighting maintenance and repair for 2023/2024. This was agreed to be continued at present and the Clerk will inform WCBC Head of Lighting.

**9. Planning:** The Chair gave another full report relating to the listed matter of Ballswood Quarry. The Chair had sent 2 concerns to the proposed liaison committee and would ask that his concerns be supported, which was agreed. CA would send in the 3rd concern which was to be added to the response.

**10. Burial Matters:** The Chair raised the listed matter of reviewing the fees charged for interments in Llay Cemetery, which have not been reviewed since 2018. A number of Councillors spoke with varied thoughts. It was agreed to consider this at the March meeting after the Clerk has distributed current costs to all councillors. The Vice Chair then stated it would be useful to have a list of approved workers/companies to use at the cemetery. The Vice Chair asked all present to consider people they are aware of who may be interested in being on an approved list for future consideration.

**11. Reports:** RW gave a brief report on some issues. Firstly, recent meetings have confirmed that the Farm Shop continues to progress and will open in due course. The Residents of Gwastad Hall have all been relocated to other facilities although a number of Councillors expressed sadness that this local Home was no longer operational. RW reported that he and the Chair had met with the new Streetscene Supervisor and had toured the village looking at roads and footpaths and many would be listed for repair. The supervisor works from a yard on the Llay Ind Estate. The Chair informed all he had recently attended a meeting with RW and the Lead for Youth Services, which was held in Ruabon. The Chair stated the meeting was very promising and he was hopeful that indoor facilities for the Youth of Llay would be returning in the future. CA then read out a list of the most recent activities for the last three months which had mainly been held at night within the Rockery Gardens, save for a couple of visits elsewhere. Everyone agreed that an indoor facility was vital for the Youth Club, or similar activity for children, to flourish. The Chair gave a brief update on the sad news that the Co-op would not be located at the Legion site and that he was also very concerned about the condition of the old site which was in a terrible mess. This had been publicised in the local papers recently, and meant those with mobility or transport issues in that area of Llay would not have any shops available which is far from ideal.

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

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

Due to time constraints the Chair asked all to agree to carry over Part 2 of the meeting to March.

There being no further business, **Standing Orders** were moved by JO’K, seconded by DO and the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 2104.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 1830

In the Church Hall, Llay

Signed………………………………………………………..

B Apsley, Chair

15th March 2023