**MINUTES OF**

**MEETING OF LLAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Location**: Llay Church Hall

**Date & Time**: 15th May 2024 @ 1830

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

R Walsh, K Cupit, C Archer, M Jones, W Austin,

S Watson, T Ankers, D Owen & Clerk

**1. Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs P Taylor, St Watson and K Powell sent apologies ahead of the meeting. There were two DOI’s signed by the Vice Chair and RW in relation to Agenda Item 7d.

**2. Approval of previous Minutes:** The Chair asked if there were any comments or points to consider relating to the **April Minutes**. The Chair highlighted a small typo in the original minutes relating to approval of the previous month stating “February” instead of “March”. This has already been corrected. RW mentioned a couple of minor errors in his report contained in the Minutes which he corrected. There were no other issues and the April Minutes were proposed as a true record by DO, seconded by MJ and approved unanimously.

**3. Matters Arising:** RW gave a brief report relating to the update on the 20mph speed limits. A general discussion followed with the Chair instructing the Clerk to put this matter on the June Agenda for further consideration by all Councillors. JO’K mentioned the 2 bins ordered for the path near Gegin Lane and Ballswood Quarry are still not installed. This is being constantly chased up, as it is approaching one year since the original request was sent to WCBC.

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

**5. Police Matters:** The Chair invited comments from Council regarding the latest Crime Figures document that had been distributed by PCSO Griffiths-Hughes. It was also noted that a new form of reporting document was now being used by NWPS. After a general discussion, the Clerk was directed to ask our PCSO if any future dates for the “Go Safe” van being located in Llay were known.

**6. New Matters:** The Chair mentioned the listed matter relating to historic events occurring within Llay this year that he has been made aware of by the excellent work of Llay Historical Society. Park CP School celebrates its centenary this year and it is 90 years since the Gresford Colliery Disaster, which took the lives of 12 Llay Residents. It is also 100 years since the Llay Mining Disaster that took 9 lives. St Martins Church will celebrate their centenary in February 2025. It was agreed that the Council would support any activities that are arranged.

**7. Finance:** The **April Income** (£49,398.50p) **and Expenditure Figures** (£11,648.87p ) distributed ahead of the meeting were considered. These were unanimously approved with JO’K proposing and DO seconding. The Chair asked for approval to sign the **Annual Return** after the **internal Audit report** was considered. This was proposed by MJ, seconded by DO and approved unanimously. The Chair then signed the Annual Return. It was also unanimously agreed to **re-engage Coxeys and Co.** as the Internal Auditors for the Year 2024/2025. The Vice Chair and RW then left the room having signed DOI’s before the Chair raised the **Grant Application from Park CP School** for funding towards their Olympic themed sports events being held this summer. After a short discussion, DO proposed a £500 grant with WA seconding. The Chair asked if there were any other proposals and there were not. It was unanimously agreed to award £500 towards the school event. The Clerk will arrange payment.

**8. Street Lighting:** RW gave a report on streetlight issues around Llay. Recent reports involve reported issues on Park Road and a “burner” on Watt’s Dyke. MJ asked who is responsible for paying for streetlights on new housing estates. RW stated these would be the responsibility of WCBC, and not Llay CC, based on local developments over the past 40 years.

**9. Planning:** The Chair gave a report relating to the one planning matter listed involving the new houses being built on Llay RBL land**.** This amended application involved changes to conditions originally granted. CA raised some queries regarding the layout that she agreed to clarify with further research. This involved gaps between acoustic fencing and the War Memorial, where it was unclear what would be in this gap on completion of the new estate.

**10. Burial Matters:** The Chair confirmed the application for a **new grave kerb set** has now been received. After discussion, given the unique circumstances involving this one grave, this was approved to proceed. Initial permission for the use of the extra land by the family had already been granted at the Council meeting in April 2023. The Clerk will contact the stonemason requesting permission to install the memorial stonework and inform them of this decision.

**11. Reports:** RW informed all of some **grass cutting** that is about to commence.He also informed all some **new white line marking** was required in certain locations but is not sure when this will be carried out. Also the Housing department will be installing some driveways in council properties in some streets (notably Bryn Place) to reduce congestion. Some Croeshowell residents have asked for an update about when they will receive a **flashing speed sign**, but this will have to wait until the speed limit matter, currently under consideration throughout Wrexham, is resolved. RW thanked the Vice Chair for her speedy action in relation to the **illegal signage** stopping local residents using a **public footpath** near the Oakfield Park area, confirming the signage had now been removed.. The Chair updated all regarding the **Croeshowell application**, where some contentious parts were withdrawn by the applicant. The Chair had also made clear to those responsible, his dismay about how this application had been publicly displayed in advance. The Chair then gave a quick update regarding the **exterior fence** at the school that has caused concern amongst a number of parents and local residents. This matter is being pursued by the Director of Education in conjunction with school governors. Finally, the Chair offered the Councils’ full support to **Operation Sceptre**, which is aimed at removing as many knives and bladed articles off the streets. This was unanimously supported by all as a great idea.

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

**13. Correspondence:** Nothing received that has not been addressed elsewhere in the meeting.

**14.** **Post Meeting Actions**: The list of agreed post meeting actions to be carried out was discussed and agreed and will be prepared by the Clerk and distributed with the draft Minutes.

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

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th June 2024 in the Church Hall, Llay

Signed………………………………………………………..

B Apsley, Chair