More worries for cleared editor

By Maurice Rotheroe

Cleared of suspicion over the arson attack on his Llangeitho home this week, 43-year-old community newspaper editor Rowland Parsons says he now been the victim of another worrying incident.

He revealed that a mystery intruder had spilled 100 gallons of central heating fuel at his £200,000 home by turning on an obscure stopcock.

"The oil is like paraffin and the spillage is, in effect, like a fire waiting for a match," he said.

The new attack follows a Dyfed-Powys police announcement that the threat of charges being brought against Mr. Parsons over the fire, which caused £90,000 worth of damage, had now been withdrawn.

He was questioned by police and put on bail for two months after the blaze.

Relieved, but still angry that police had suspected him, he said this week he intended to call for an inquiry into his arrest.

"This has all been a terrible slur on my character," he said.

"And what worries me is that the police could have spent this time looking for the real culprits who are still out there.

"That is not a comfortable thought to live with, especially in light of this latest oil-spilling incident, which could not possibly have happened by accident.

"It must have been done by someone who had been here before and knew the place because the storage tank is behind outbuildings and the stopcock is very difficult to get at."

He added that he did not intend reporting the incident to the police. "I don't think it's worth it," he said.