

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Tuesday 17th June 2014 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mayor - Councillor P J Knapp
Deputy Mayor – Councillor D W Morris
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, Mrs F Blomeley, G A Cox (arrived item 7 – prior Vale Council meeting commitment), Mrs E George, J R Harris, D G Morgan, A T Trousdell and T L Williams MBE.

In Attendance:

Town Clerk – Mr Andrew Davies
Administrative Assistant - Mrs J Griffin
PC Stuart Elson

Revd Canon Belcher preceded the meeting with a prayer.

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
82/14 Councillors Mrs G Baty, Mrs A Burges, Mrs S M Cox and Mrs S Vaughan.

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
83/14 None.

Item 3: **The Financial Report.**
84/14 The Report was presented by Councillor J R Harris. The Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st May 2014 and statement of bank balance as at 31st May 2014 was circulated.

Balances as at 31st May 2014.

Current Account:	£ 8,336.00
Investment Gold Account:	£ 56,800.84
Money Market	<u>£ 60,000.00</u>
Total	£125,136.84
Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 1,323.08</u>
	<u>£123,813.76</u>

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris seconded by Councillor D W Morris and **resolved** that the Receipts and Payments Account and statement of bank balance be accepted and adopted.

Item 4: **To confirm the minutes of Town Council Meeting held on**
85/14 **21st and 20th May 2014.**
Proposed by Councillor J R Harris seconded by Councillor D W Morris and **resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 21st and 20th May 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.

Item 5: Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on 21st May 2014.
86/14

5.1

The Members considered an e-mail communication from the Post Office in respect of the closure of the post office service at Spar. The email advised that the Post Office shared the Town Council's urgency in reinstating a post office service but that a temporary mobile service suggested is not a viable option. Two retailers have shown an interest in taking on the Post Office and these options are currently being pursued with a view to resolving the matter as soon as possible. The email further advised that whilst there is a temporary loss of a post office service in Cowbridge, customers are free to use any convenient branch of their choice during this period. The writer offered a meeting to discuss the Post Office provision in Cowbridge.

Noted.

Item 6: Community Police Matters.
87/14

P C Stuart Elston introduced himself to the meeting and then proceeded to report on the crime figures for last month, giving background details.

Item 7: Road Safety.
88/14

The following matters were brought to the attention of PC Elston:

- Vehicles parking on the left-hand side of Church Road as you proceed up the hill and also opposite the entrance to Love Lane which obstructs the visibility of passing traffic.
- A request was made for the figures from the recent speed survey carried out at Aberthin village.
- Mention was made about the highway lighting on Primrose Hill but this is a Vale of Glamorgan Council's Highways issue.
- PC Elston will make enquiries about any 'community speed training' that might be available.

Item 8: Reports
89/14
a) Mayor

Thursday 22nd May – The Mayor and Mayoress attended a Rugby Academy Presentation Evening with a light buffet at Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

Thursday 29th May – The Mayor and Mayoress welcomed visitors from Clisson in the Main Hall of the Town Hall.

Friday 30th May – The Mayor attended a Reception in support of Valeways 'The 5th Vale of Glamorgan Walking Festival' hosted by Jane Hutt AM at Barry Island Railway Station.

Thursday 5th June – The Mayor attended Age Connect's Coffee Morning at Llantwit Major Rugby Club. Proceeds donated to the 'Good Neighbour' Scheme.

Friday 6th June – The Mayor and Mayoress attended a Private View of an Exhibition entitled 'A Retrospective' by Ray Howard-Jones 1903-1996, hosted by the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council and held at Art Central, Town Hall, Barry.

Thursday 12th June – The Mayor and Mayoress attended the 'Art and Design' Exhibition in conjunction with Design Technology of A Level and GCSE projects at Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

Item 8: Reports (continued)

b) Town Clerk

Good Citizen's Award – Update.

- The Town Clerk advised that two applications have been received and the committee would therefore be required to meet on a date to be arranged.
- Preparations for Civic Sunday are proceeding.

Dates for your Diaries:

Thursday 19th June 2014 – Big Screen presents the film ‘Saving Mr Banks’.

Sunday 13th July 2014 – Civic Sunday.

Sunday 3rd August 2014 (11am) – Cowbridge and District Royal British Legion – World War 1 Service of Commemoration at Holy Cross Church

Sunday 9th November 2014 – Remembrance Sunday.

Payment of the accounts to be ratified

Expenses totalling £9,629.33 to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor T L Williams seconded by Councillor D G Morgan that the payment of the accounts be ratified.

Resolved as proposed.

**Item 9:
90/14**

Reports of Committees.

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 2nd June 2014.

- The Town Clerk confirmed that he has sent a further email to Wicksteed concerning the problem with the ‘rocking rockette’.
- The Town Clerk explained about the bins at Llanblethian Playing Fields and the problems resulting with them being crammed with food packaging and food on top of ‘blue bags’

Proposed by Councillor Mrs M Arnold seconded by Councillor A T Trousdell, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

b. Planning.

Councillor P J Knapp reported on the meeting held on 2nd June 2014.

- Councillor D G Morgan indicated his acceptance of the nomination to become vice chairman of the Planning Committee.
- Councillor Cox updated Members on the matter referred to in item 9 and advised that he has written to the Operational Manager of Highways at the Vale of Glamorgan Council to suggest that a ‘Traffic Management Plan’ is put in place so that deliveries to and from the site by contractors involved in the development are controlled because of the restrictive access.

Proposed by Councillor D W Morris seconded by Councillor T L Williams that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 9: Reports of Committees (continued).

c. Finance and General Purposes.

Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held 3rd June 2014 and highlighted item 10 in respect of the request for Tom Clarke's name to be added to the war memorial.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris seconded by Councillor T L Williams that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

d. Town Hall

Councillor Mrs E George reported on the meeting held 3rd June 2014 and made reference to a number of items.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E George, seconded by Councillor A T Trousdell, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees.

91/14

10.1 Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.

No meeting.

10.2 Evan Jenkins Charity.

No meeting.

10.3 Cowbridge Institute Charity.

No meeting.

10.4 One Voice Wales.

No meeting.

10.5 Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.

No meeting.

10.6 Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.

No meeting.

10.7 Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold gave a comprehensive report on a successful meeting that was held on 29th May and included discussion regarding the possibility of a gate being provided along the footpath between Twt Park and Waitrose. Mr Gwyn Teague, the Public Rights of Way Officer at the Vale of Glamorgan Council will be investigating this. Other discussions included the footpath through the three fields and the diversion of a footpath at Llwynhelig Farm. Councillor Mrs Arnold was pleased to be able to report that the grass cutting along the footpath that dissects the allotments has been reinstated. Copies of the minutes from the meeting are held by the Town Clerk.

The Town Council discussed its representation on the Footpaths Committee and agreed that this should remain at six for the time being.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees (continued).**
- 10.8 **Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.**
Next meeting 3rd July.
- 10.9 **Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.**
Councillor T L Williams reported that a project to provide additional classrooms in the roof space of the school has been given the go ahead.
- 10.10 **Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**
No representative.
- 10.11 **Cowbridge in Bloom.**
Councillor T L Williams reported that the Summer Planting had taken place on 8th June by four of the volunteers. A recruitment drive for volunteers to assist with the watering of the hanging baskets and bedding through the Summer will be appearing in the Gem this week.
- 10.12 **Best Kept Village.**
Councillor Mrs E George reported that there is a meeting on 19th June to discuss whether this year's competition will take place with only three entries and it having previously been decided that there should be a minimum of four.
- 10.13 **Community Liaison Committee.**
Next meeting 7th July.
- 10.14 **Age Connect 'Good Neighbour Scheme'.**
No representative.
- 10.15 **Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
No representative.
- 10.16 **Food and Drink Festival Committee**
No representative.
- 10.17 **Vale Market Community Enterprise.**
No representative.
- 10.18 **Llanblethian Community Group.**
No information.
- 10.19 **Destination Management Group.**
No representative.
- Item 11: Approval of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for the 92/14 Financial Year 2013/2014.**
Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor T L Williams, that the Annual Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement for the year ending 31st March 2014 are approved.
Resolved as proposed.

Item 12: Towns Alive Benchmarking Report.
93/14

The Members of the Town Council had the 'Towns Alive' report presented to them prior to the meeting by Mari-Wyn Elias Jones who has recently been appointed to the post of Town Centres Development Officer at the Vale of Glamorgan Council. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mari-Wyn was very positive about the Town Council being involved in all aspects of her role in so far as it relates to Cowbridge.

Members were generally pleased with the 'positives' that were highlighted in the report and were not surprised to see that the problem of 'parking' was mentioned by a large majority of those taking part in the surveys carried out. The report did contain some 'weaknesses' and these were mainly to do with some of the statistics that were provided. The report has the merit of being produced by independent consultants and does provide for some focused interventions in the future.

The Town Clerk advised that Councillor Mrs S J Vaughan is the Town Council's representative on the Destination Management Group and will be able to keep Members updated with any developments at future Town Council meetings.

Item 13: Correspondence.
94/14

13.1 Letter received from Vale of Glamorgan Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) (Amendment) (No.1) Order 2014. The Order relates to a number of locations which includes Druids Green, Cowbridge proposed disabled persons parking places.

Noted.

13.2 Document from Welsh Government – Public Health White Paper – Listening to you: Your health matters. The document seeks views on the Welsh Government proposal to place a duty on each Local Authority (County Council) to develop a strategy on the provision of and access to toilets for public use in their area.

Noted.

Councillor G A Cox advised that the Vale of Glamorgan Council has a budget of £55,000 for the refurbishment of toilets in its area.

13.3 E-mail received from Mr C Street on behalf of Llanblethian Community Group regarding the replacement of the two old and damaged village entrance signs, one being located on Broadway and the second along the road passed the Cross-Inn. Once the new signs are in place the Llanblethian Community Group is prepared to plant appropriately around them at their own cost and will also commit to the maintenance of the planted areas. The Vale of Glamorgan Council is prepared and willing to organise the manufacture and erection of the signs at a cost of £595 per sign but the authority is unable to fund them. Accordingly, the Llanblethian Community Group is now requesting the total funding from the Town Council.

Proposed by Councillor G A Cox, seconded by Councillor T L Williams and **resolved** that a response is sent to the Llanblethian Community Group requesting details of their Accounts which is the 'norm' for any grant application and also to enquire what financial contribution the group is proposing to make towards the cost of the signs.

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- Item 13:** **Correspondence (Continued)**
13.4 E-mail communication from the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Licensing Department regarding a Premises Licence in respect of Downs Filling Station. The application relates to the sale of alcohol (off sales) between the hours of 08.00 to 23.00, 7 days a week. Any observations should be made before 11th July 2014 and the matter will be the subject of a Licensing Committee hearing on 8th August.
Noted.
- Item 14:** **Publications.** (All held by the Town Clerk unless otherwise stated).
95/14
14.1 Clerk and Councils Direct May 2014
14.2 'The Voice' – Spring 2014
- Item 15:** **Documents for sealing.**
96/14 None.
- Item 16:** **Date and time of next Meeting.**
97/14 Tuesday 22nd July 2014 at 7.00pm.

Councillor P J Knapp
Mayor.

Date minutes signed.