

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Tuesday 18th November 2008 at 7.00pm.

Present: Mayor – Councillor D W Morris
Deputy Mayor – Councillor J R Harris
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, A E Banks, Mrs A Burges (arrived item 4),
Mrs G Baty, G A Cox (arrived item 9c), Mrs A E Harding, D E Magnay,
Mrs S Massey, L E Taylor, A Thomas, Mrs N C Thomas and A Williams.

In Attendance:

Town Clerk - Mr Andrew Davies

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
163/08 Councillor Mrs S M Cox.
Administrative Assistant - Mrs Jackie Griffin
Treasurer Mr J Rixon

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
164/08 None.

Item 3: **The Treasurer's Report.**
165/08 The Report was presented by Councillor J R Harris in the absence of the
Treasurer.
The Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April 2008 to
31st October 2008 and statement of bank balance as at
31st October 2008 was circulated.

Balances as at the 31st October 2008.

Current Account:	£ 1,656.75
Investment Gold Account:	£ 60,847.67
Money Market	<u>£ 60,000.00</u>
Total	£122,504.42
Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 314.37</u>
	<u>£122,190.05</u>

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris seconded by Councillor A Thomas
that these reports be accepted and adopted.

Resolved: This report be adopted.

Item 4: **To confirm the minutes of Town Council Meeting held on**
166/08 **21st October 2008.**

Proposed by Councillor L E Taylor seconded by Councillor A Williams
and **Resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on
21st October 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.

**Item 5: Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on
167/08 21st October 2008.**

Councillor Mrs N Thomas referred to item 7.3 and reported that she had attended the Vale of Glamorgan Planning Committee meeting on 13th November 2008 at which the site for the proposed pelican crossing was approved despite the objections put forward by the Town Council.

Councillor Mrs Thomas advised that whilst the Town Council objections were considered, other objections, including those from the Chamber of Trade appear not to have been. All three of the local Vale Councillors were in support of the proposal for the crossing.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs N Thomas, seconded by Councillor Mrs G Baty that a letter is written to the Vale of Glamorgan Planning Committee asking for an explanation as to why they appear to have disregarded local opposition to the proposed site for the pelican crossing and that copies of the letter are sent to the three local Vale of Glamorgan Councillors.

Resolved as proposed.

Councillor J R Harris referred to item 9c and advised that due to intervention by the Vale of Glamorgan Council in providing the necessary funding, an extra meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was not required.

**Item 6: Community Police Matters.
168/08**

No police representation.

**Item 7: Road Safety.
169/08**

No police presence.

7.1 To note the letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect of the proposed pelican crossing in which it confirmed that the Town Council's objections would be taken into consideration when the Planning Committee met on 13th November.

Noted.

Councillor D W Morris advised Members that he has been contacted again by local residents about parking problems near the Horse and Groom Public House and had advised that they should contact the police at the time the offences occurred.

**Item 8: Reports
170/08**

a) Mayor

Saturday 25th October – The Mayor and Mayoress attended the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival.

Sunday 26th October – The Mayor and Mayoress attended the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival. The Mayor judged the Children's Cake Decorating Competition.

Tuesday 28th October – The Deputy Mayor had Afternoon Tea with Nicole Cooke which was hosted by the Mayor of Llantwit Major and held at Bethel Baptist Church Rooms, Llantwit Major.

Saturday 1st November – The Mayor and Mayoress held a Coffee Morning in the Mayor's Parlour in aid of Cancer Care Cymru.

Item 8:
170/08

Reports

a) Mayor (continued)

Wednesday 5th November – The Mayor and Mayoress attended the launch of a new book entitled ‘The Great War : Memorials in Cowbridge and Llanblethian, by Cowbridge Record Society. The launch took place in the Lesser Hall and included light refreshments.

Thursday 6th November - The Mayor and Mayoress attended a ‘Thank You’ Reception hosted by The Samaritans at Bridgend County Borough Council Offices.

Sunday 9th November – The Mayor, Mayoress and fellow Councillors attended the Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service at the Holy Cross Church, then returned to the Town Hall with invited guests for refreshments.

Tuesday 11th November – The Mayor attended a short service of Remembrance at the War Memorial in front of the Town Hall.

Wednesday 12th November – The Mayor attended a Discussion on Flooding Issues at the Welsh Assembly Building in Cardiff Bay.

Thanks were given to the Town Clerk and all of the Town Council staff for their organisation and assistance on Remembrance Sunday. However, concern was expressed about the extent of the involvement of the staff in the catering provided on the day and it was agreed that at future functions, caterers should be requested to provide a full service including staff.

Item 8b

Town Clerk’s Report

The Town Clerk advised members that Mr Stan Hayward had spoken to him on Remembrance Sunday and was extremely pleased that the name of Stoker Hayward had been added in time for the service and was grateful to the Town Council for their efforts.

Members of the Town Council have been circulated with details of the Annual 293 squadron Christmas Carol Service, which is to be held on 18th December 2008 at 7pm for 7.15pm. The RSVP is 30th November and Members are requested to respond direct if it is their intention to attend.

Dates for your diaries:

Thursday 27th November – ‘Big Screen’ – ‘The Edge of Love’.

Father Christmas Parade Sunday 30th November

Thursday 11th December – ‘Big Screen’

Mayor’s Ball – 24th April 2009 (Bear Hotel)

Payment of the accounts to be ratified

Expenses totalling £13,722.66 to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor Mrs G Baty, that the payments of the accounts be ratified.

Resolved as proposed.

**Item 9:
171/08**

Reports of Committees:

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 3rd November 2008
Proposed by Councillor A Williams seconded by Councillor Mrs A Burges
that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

b. Planning.

Councillor A Williams reported on the meeting held on 3rd November 2008.
Proposed by Councillor A Thomas seconded by Councillor Mrs N Thomas
that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

c. Finance & General Purposes.

Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held 4th November 2008 and
confirmed that he had no further information on item 6 relating to the sewer.
Councillor Harris referred to item 8 and the powers that could be conferred to
Town and Community Councils under the Clean Neighbourhood and
Environment Act, which the committee considered to have excessive finance
and resource implications.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor L E Taylor
that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

d. Town Hall.

Councillor A Thomas reported on the meeting held 4th November 2008 and
advised that two quotations have now been received in respect of item 7b the
toilet adjacent to the Town Clerk's office and these will be reported to the
next committee meeting.

Councillor Mrs G Baty referred to item 8 (Lesser Hall Kitchen) and
Councillor Thomas advised that arrangements are being made for a carpenter
to provide a quotation for replacement cupboards for the WRVS. Councillor
Mrs Baty suggested that replacement worktops as well as cupboards might be
considered.

Councillor A Banks reported on an event he had recently attended at the
Town Hall and of the concerns he had about the lack of disabled access to the
first floor and the lack of the provision of a lift to transport items from one
floor to another. There was also need to provide high visibility tape on the
front of the treads of the steps leading onto the stage.

Councillor Thomas together with a number of Councillors responded and
advised Councillor Banks that the Town Council had previously investigated
the question of disabled access, which was concluded with a feasibility study
and these had proved unfavourable. The question of high visibility tape on
the steps leading to the stage will be addressed.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs S Massey seconded by Councillor A Williams
that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives.**
172/08
- 10.1 Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.**
Members considered the appointment of a new representative from the Town Council to sit as a Trustee.
Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Arnold that Councillor Mrs A Burges be appointed Trustee to Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.
Resolved as proposed.
- Councillor D W Morris reported on the meeting held on 13th November 2008, at which the Trustees confirmed the level of the grants awarded would remain the same for the time being though may require review in the New Year. The usual distribution of grants was made.
- 10.2 Evan Jenkins Charity.**
No meeting.
- 10.3 Cowbridge Institute Charity.**
Councillor Mrs G Baty reported on the meeting held on 12th November at which grants were distributed to youngsters and additional grants were considered.
- 10.4 One Voice Wales.**
No representative.
- 10.5 Conservation Area Advisory Sub-Group.**
No representative.
- 10.6 Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.**
No representative.
- 10.7 Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.**
Councillor Mrs G Baty confirmed that a Christmas social event is to be held at the Town Hall on Saturday 29th November 2008.
- 10.8 Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.**
No meeting.
- 10.9 Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.**
No report.
- 10.10 Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.**
Councillor Mrs G Baty reported that she was now the representative on the Governing Body and is due to meet with the headmaster of the school.
- 10.11 Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**
Councillor A Banks reported on the meeting, which he attended on 3rd November 2008. The next major events are the reindeer parade on 30th November and a Christmas shopping evening on 4th December.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives. (continued)**
- 10.12 Cowbridge in Bloom.**
No meeting.
- 10.13 Rural Vale Police/Community Consultative Group.**
Councillor A Williams reported on the last meeting and referred to correspondence between the Chair of the Group and the Police Authority, that was circulated to members prior to this meeting, and related to the question of police station closures. This topic and the possible closure of Cowbridge Police Station dominated the meeting.
- 10.14 Best Kept Village.**
Next meeting January 2009
- 10.15 Ystradowen Recreation Ground and Allotments Charity.**
No report.
- 10.16 Community Liaison Committee.**
Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held on 22nd October 2008 at which Inspector Clark reported in an overall drop in reported crime but a marked increase in fraud and drug trafficking offences. Attendance of PACT meetings were discussed and how it varied from place to place and the possibility of local councils might consider having a rota in place for members to attend. Attendance in Cowbridge has been consistently poor.
- 10.17 Walled Towns Friendship Circle.**
No meeting.
- 10.18 Vale of Glamorgan Buildings Preservation Trust.**
No meeting.
- 10.19 Age Concern 'Good Neighbour Scheme'.**
Councillor Mrs A Burges reported on the meeting held on 5th October at which the 'client' Christmas dinner on 4th December and 'helpers' Christmas lunch were discussed.
- 10.20 Vale of Glamorgan Community Safety Partnership.**
No representative.
- 10.21 Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
No representative.
- 10.22 Fair Trade Group**
Councillor Mrs A Burges reported that there had been a table organised for the Food and drink Festival and there will be one at the Farmers market on 6th December. Fair Trade fortnight is to be held in February next year.
- 10.23 Creative Rural Communities.**
Next meeting 10th December.

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- Item 11:** **Report from Sub Committee – Play Equipment, Aberthin.**
173/08 Minutes of the sub-committee meeting held on Tuesday 4th November 2008 were circulated to members. Councillor D W Morris reported on the progress since the meeting and the next steps that are to be taken. These will comprise of ‘pictorial’ representations of play equipment on the site being provided by three play equipment companies, after which, an exhibition will be held at Aberthin Village Hall on a date to be arranged.
- Item 12:** **Correspondence.**
174/08
- 12.1 Letter received from the Local Government Boundary Commission to share details with all interested bodies of a ‘Review of Community Council Election Results 2008’. The purpose of the exercise was to collate details and identify the number of uncontested seats and additionally the number of seats that remained vacant immediately after the election. This is a follow up exercise to the one carried out in 2004. The information has been presented to the Minister for Local Government and the Electoral Commission will share it. No further work is intended on the issue in the immediate future, as a major review of Principal Authorities is due to start.
Noted.
- 12.2 Letter received from the Local Government Boundary Commission giving details of workshops to be held on 1st December (Abergavenny) and 10th December (Carmarthen) 2008. The workshops will focus four questions, Councillor numbers to voters; clearer communications; boundaries and improvements.

Councillor Mrs N Thomas confirmed that she would be pleased to attend the workshop on behalf of the Town Council at Carmarthen on 10th December.
- 12.3 To consider a copy letter sent to the Vale of Glamorgan Council by Mrs V Pearce of Waterway Cottage at The Limes Cowbridge. The letter is concerned with the deterioration of the entrance into Poplars Park that passes in front of her cottage. A great many people besides residents in the immediate vicinity use the path in order to travel to and from the High Street from Llanblethian and The Verlands and also schoolchildren and parents to gain access to Y Bont Faen Primary School. Mrs Pearce advised that previous re-surfacing work carried out has not lasted and requests that further re-surfacing work is carried out.
Noted.
- 12.4 To consider a letter received from Vale of Glamorgan Council in which it is advised of the intention by the Vale Council to make Poplars Park an area in which it would be an offence to consume alcohol if requested by a police officer not to do so. The legislation is provided by the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001, ‘The Local Authorities (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Places) Regulations 2007. A response is required by 12th December, 2008.
Noted.
The general consensus was that the proposal was welcomed though concerns were raised about enforcement.

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- Item 12:** **Correspondence (continued).**
12.5 To note a letter received from Metrix advising that workshops are to be held in December covering community facilities (4th December at RAF ST Athan Golf Club) and Transport (9th December at The Gathering Place Flemingston Road St Athan.) The workshops are intended to provide attendees with more detailed information about each subject and allow the St Athan project team to seek the community's views on specific elements of the draft plan.
Noted.
It was agreed that any Members wishing to attend the workshops should reply direct by the requested date of 1st December.
- Item 13:** **Publications** (All held by the Town Clerk unless otherwise stated).
175/08
- 13.1 CPRW – Rural Wales – Autumn 2008.
Noted.
- 13.2 The Clerk – November 2008.
Noted.
- 13.3 Clerks & Councils Direct – November 2008.
Noted.
- 13.4 WAG – Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales – 2008/2011.
Noted.
- 13.5 The Vale of Glamorgan Council Improvement Plan 2008/9.
Noted.
- Item 14:** **Documents for sealing.**
176/08 None.
- Item 15:** **Date and time of next Meeting.**
177/08 Tuesday 16th December 2008 at 7.00pm

Councillor D W Morris
Mayor

Date minutes signed.