

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Tuesday 21st March 2006 at 7.00pm.

Present: Mayor - Mrs G Baty
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Mrs L Adams
Councillors: Mrs A Burges, G A Cox (arrived item 6), Mrs S M Cox,
W H Evans, J R Harris, R G Jones, H Ll Morgan, L E Taylor,
A Thomas and A Williams.

In Attendance:
Town Clerk - Mr Andrew Davies
Administrative Assistant - Mrs Jackie Griffin
Inspector C Patterson.
Acting Sergeant Mark Allen

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
29/06 Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, D W Morris and Mrs M Y Williams M.B.E.

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
30/06 Councillor G A Cox – All planning items, Cowbridge Charter Trust, Museum Trust and Item 11 Welsh Language Draft Consultation Document and Item 13.1 (Car Park Concessions).
Councillor Mrs S M Cox – Any matters relating to Y Bont Faen School, Cowbridge Charter Trust, Cowbridge Charter Trust Ltd, the Valuation Service and the Museum Trust.

Item 3: **The Treasurer's Report.**
31/06 In the absence of the Treasurer the Report was presented by Councillor J R Harris. The Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April 2005 to 28th February 2006 and statement of bank balance as at 28th February 2006 had previously been circulated.

Balances as at the 28th February 2006.

Current Account:	£ 1,500.00
Investment Gold Account:	£ 43,413.25
Money Market	£ 50,000.00

Total	£ 94,913.25
Less Outstanding Cheques	£ 238.27

	£ 94,674.98

Proposed by Councillor R G Jones seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams that these reports be accepted and adopted.

Resolved: This report be adopted.

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- Item 4:** **To confirm the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on**
32/06 **21st February 2006.**
Proposed by Councillor H Ll Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams and **Resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 21st February 2006 are confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.
- Item 5:** **Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on**
33/06 **21st February 2006.**
Councillor J R Harris referred to Item 8b in relation to the renewal of the membership for One Voice Wales, which was deferred from the last meeting pending information from the Town Council representative, Councillor Mrs S M Cox.
Councillor Mrs S M Cox advised that she considered that it is worthwhile for the Town Council to continue its membership and that the staffing issues within the organisation are being addressed.
Proposed by Councillor Mrs S M Cox, seconded by Councillor J R Harris, that the Town Council continues membership of One Voice Wales and the subscription renewal of £412 is paid.
Resolved as proposed.
- Item 6:** **Community Police Matters.**
34/06 Inspector Patterson circulated figures for the month of February and gave a breakdown of some the crimes reported. The assault and public order offences arose out of a single incident after the England v Wales rugby international. The theft from motor vehicles involved removal of Satellite Navigation systems. Out of the 20 reported crimes, 12 have been detected and the crime rate in the Vale is 7.8% down compared to the same period last year.

Councillor J R Harris referred to an item discussed at the Community Liaison Committee Meeting on 15th March in respect of a new police initiative called 'PACT'. Inspector Patterson gave a brief outline of what will be taking place and how panels will be set up by the police before whom members of public can voice their concerns. The aim is then for the panels to select the most important problems raised with a view to solving them.
- Item 7:** **Road Safety.**
35/06 Inspector Patterson introduced Acting Sergeant Mark Allen who had been looking at various road safety issues, which were raised by this Council.
- Parking bay at the junction of Westgate and Llantwit Major Road – A report has been submitted to the Traffic Management Department and the Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding the dangers of the bay. A survey of the parking bay is to be carried out.
 - Builders skip in the double-parking bay outside Bar 44 – Acting Sergeant Allen confirmed that the skip is not sited in the disabled parking area of the bay.

Item 7: **Road Safety. (Continued)**
Councillor G A Cox did not take part in the debate on the following resolution.

7.1 Resolution moved by Councillor L E Taylor in respect of Traffic Congestion in Westgate.

“Recognising that the follow of traffic along Westgate is impeded every weekday between its junction with the High Street and the vicinity of the Police Station, the Town Council request the Vale of Glamorgan Council to initiate the statutory procedures necessary in order to prohibit parking on the North side of Westgate between Eagle Lane and Ramoth Church from 8.00 to 18.00 on weekdays”.

The resolution was not moved.

Proposed by Councillor H Ll Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams, that the pavement is narrowed on the South Side of Westgate between Eagle Lane and the Police Station in order to widen the carriageway for all vehicles and to prevent any reduction of on-street parking on the North Side of Westgate.

Resolved as proposed.

Councillor Mrs G Baty advised Inspector Patterson that bus drivers attempting to park in the bus bay are experiencing problems as a result of the limousines and other vehicles being parked on the site and causing an obstruction. Inspector Patterson recommended that the bus drivers should telephone the police at the time of these incidents to allow the police to respond, subject to their availability, and take appropriate action.

Councillor Mrs G Baty advised that she had received a letter from the Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding a proposed Traffic Regulation Order to extend the prohibited waiting at any time in Aubrey Terrace, near its junction with Broadway. It was agreed that this item should be placed on the agenda for the next Planning Meeting.

Item 8: **Nomination of Mayor and Deputy Mayor 2006/2007.**

36/06 Councillor Mrs G Baty invited members for nominations for Mayor for the ensuing year.

Councillor H Ll Morgan proposed Councillor Mrs L Adams.

Councillor Mrs L Adams accepted the proposal.

Councillor A Thomas seconded the proposal.

Councillor Mrs G Baty asked whether there were any other nominations for Mayor.

There were no other nominations.

Resolved as proposed.

Councillor Mrs G Baty invited members' nominations for Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.

Councillor J R Harris proposed Councillor H Ll Morgan.

Councillor H Ll Morgan accepted the proposal.

Councillor Mrs G Baty seconded the proposal.

- Item 8:** **Nomination of Mayor and Deputy Mayor 2006/2007. (Continued)**
Councillor Mrs G Baty asked whether there were any other nominations for Deputy Mayor.
There were no other nominations.
Resolved as proposed.

Item 9: **Reports**
37/06

a) Mayor

Monday 27th February - The Mayor gave a talk to the Rotary Club of Cowbridge on her recent visit to South Africa.

Saturday 4th March - The Mayor attended a ceremony at Llantwit Major when the Honorary Freedom of the town was conferred on the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards. Following the ceremony in the Precinct, a reception was held in Llantwit Major Rugby Club.

Monday 13th March - The Mayor attended the Annual Dinner of the Monday Club held at The Bear Hotel.

Tuesday 14th March - The Mayor and Guest attended the Junior Schools Music Festival, 'Celebration of Age Concert' at St David's Hall Cardiff, hosted by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff Councillor Freda Salway. The concert was followed by a buffet held in the 'St Asaph Room'

Wednesday 15th March - The Deputy Mayor and Guest attended the Cardiff County and Vale of Glamorgan Schools 'Spring Showcase Concert held at St David's Hall, Cardiff.

Thursday 16th March - The Mayor attended a ceremony to confer the Freedom of the County Borough on 1st Battalion Welsh Guards at the Civic Offices followed by an informal lunch at Barry Leisure Centre.

Councillor Mrs G Baty advised members that she has arranged with the Town Clerk for the Robing Room to be made available on Monday 8th May between 10.00am and 2.00pm to the Health Forum who will give free energy saving advice and two free energy saving light bulbs to members of the public over the age of 60.

b) Town Clerk's Report

Re-decoration of Office – The redecoration of the office will take place week commencing 27th March. Whilst the office will be open during the week, re-located in the Robing Room, service will be somewhat restricted and for a short period either side.

The Town Clerk advised that he had attended the exhibition/information evening at the Leisure Centre last Thursday by Laing O'Rourke who are undertaking the water refurbishment work in Cowbridge. It is proposed that work will start at Eastgate week commencing 27th March and it is anticipated that it will take approximately eight weeks to complete the whole length through to Westgate.

Councillor Mrs M Y Williams MBE has recently undergone a hip replacement operation and is hoping to be mobile by the next Town Council meeting.

Item 9:

Reports

b) Town Clerk's Report (Continued)

The Main Boiler in the Town Hall has broken down and the manufacturing company should be supplying and fitting replacement parts later this week. Temporary heating arrangements have been made for hirers without the necessity to bring in additional heaters.

Dates for your diary.

Thursday 30th March 2006 – ‘Big Screen’ is showing ‘Mrs Henderson presents’ (certificate 12A) in the Main Hall starting at 7.30 - £3.00 (*Please spread the word!*)

Tuesday 16th May – Mayor Making

Wednesday 17th May – Adjourned AGM

Payment of the accounts to be ratified

Expenses totalling £8,034.62 to be paid.

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

Resolved as proposed.

**Item 10:
38/06**

Reports of Committees.

Councillor Mrs S M Cox left the Chamber for the following report.

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor A Williams reported on the meeting held 6th March 2006.

Councillor J R Harris referred to Item 7.1 in respect of the meeting with Mr Bosley and Mr Lewis from the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the outcome. Councillor A Williams requested that the Town Clerk advise on the meeting.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the sewer is defective and repair work will have to be carried out however ownership matters have to be resolved and legal procedures applied before any work can be undertaken. The Town Council will not be responsible financially for any repairs carried out.

Councillor H Ll Morgan referred to the excellent new children's play park at Millfield Drive and how it was spoilt by the general untidiness of the boundary.

Proposed by Councillor H Ll Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs A Burges, that a letter is sent to the Vale of Glamorgan Council drawing the matter to their attention.

Resolved as proposed.

Proposed by Councillor H Ll Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

b. Planning.

Councillor G A Cox left the meeting whilst this report was discussed.

Councillor H Ll Morgan reported on the meeting held on 6th March 2006.

Councillor Ll Morgan drew member attention to item 5.9 in respect of the amended planning application submitted by Tesco. Councillor Mrs L Adams advised that the application has also come before the Conservation Group who after lengthy consideration and discussion agreed on refusal.

Item 10: Reports of Committees.

b. Planning.(continued)

Councillor J R Harris referred to item 3 in respect of the Downs Filling Station and expressed disappointment that no more can be done from a planning point of view.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor A Williams that a letter is sent to the Vale of Glamorgan Council expressing the concerns of this Council about the general untidy appearance of the Filling Station site, particularly because of it being so highly visible to anyone visiting the town and whether there is anything at all that can be done.

Resolved as proposed.

Proposed by Councillor R G Jones, seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

c. Finance and General Purposes Committee

Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held 7th March 2006 and referred to item the last sentence of item 8.2 which he requested member agreed to be amended to read 'reflected' instead of 'showed'.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs S M Cox seconded by Councillor W H Evans that the amended report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

d. Town Hall

Councillor W H Evans reported on the meeting held 7th March 2006.

Proposed by Councillor R G Jones seconded by Councillor J R Harris that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 11: The Vale of Glamorgan Council's Draft Welsh Language Scheme 2006 - 2009.

39/06

Noted.

Item 12: Reports of Representatives.

40/06

12.1

Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.

No meeting.

12.2

Evan Jenkins Charity.

No meeting.

12.3

Cowbridge Institute Charity.

No meeting.

12.4

One Voice Wales.

No meeting.

- Item 12: Reports of Representatives. (Continued)**
- 12.5 Conservation Area Advisory Sub-Group.**
Councillor Mrs Adams reported on the meeting of the group that she attended last Thursday. Besides considering the Tesco planning application(referred to in item 10b), the group also considered the Old Grammar School. Whilst there were no objections to the internal alterations, concerns were expressed about the parking provision and the proposed alteration to the entrance to Holy Cross Church although it was concluded that there appears to be little alternative. Councillor Mrs Adams advised the group that the Town Council are in ownership of the gates and the path leading into the churchyard although there has been no direct consultation by the developer. Mr Nick Lloyd understood that there has been consultation with the church but would make enquiries.
- 12.6 Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.**
No meeting.
- 12.7 Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.**
Councillor Mrs S M Cox advised that there have been a number of meetings and the AGM was held last Friday 17th March. A programme of events has been arranged and includes a ‘mystery’ trip in May.
- 12.8 Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.**
No representative.
- 12.9 Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.**
Minutes of the meeting held on 18 January are held by the Town Clerk.
- 12.10 Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.**
Councillor Mrs Adams reported on the last meeting and advised that work on the ‘all weather’ pitch is due to commence in April and will last 3 months. During this period, the access to Y Bont Faen School from Broadway will be closed.
- 12.11 Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**
No meeting.
- 12.12 Cowbridge in Bloom.**
Councillor A Williams advised that there was a meeting held last Thursday 16th March at which the summer planting was discussed.
- 12.13 Rural Vale Police/Community Consultative Group.**
Next meeting is in April.
- 12.14 Best Kept Village.**
No meeting.
- 12.15 Ystradowen Recreation Ground and Allotments Charity.**
Councillor W H Evans advised that there was a meeting held recently when Alf Charles retired as Secretary. The Chairman of the Trust, Mr A Childs, is currently investigating whether the original deeds of the Trust can be amended as they originally stipulate 2/3rds provision for those in need and 1/3 for recreational provision. This is allocation is no longer appropriate.

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- Item 12:** **Reports of Representatives. (Continued)**
12.16 **Community Liaison Committee.**
Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held on Wednesday 15th March. Various items were discussed and included an item on C.A.S.H. grants, which over the last ten years has resulted in grants of £710K being made. Information circulated with the agenda identified a wide variety of projects for which grants have been awarded and Councillor Harris suggested that the Leisure and Amenities and Town Hall Committees should consider these when discussing and identifying any C.A.S.H. grant applications.
- 12.17** **Walled Towns Friendship Circle.**
No meeting.
- 12.18** **Vale of Glamorgan Buildings Preservation Trust.**
No meeting.
- 12.19** **Age Concern ‘Good Neighbour Scheme’.**
No meeting.
- 12.20** **Vale of Glamorgan Safety Partnership.**
No meeting.
- 12.21** **Food and Drink Committee**
No representative.
- 12.22** **Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
Councillor Mrs S M Cox advised that at the AGM Alan Crossley was elected Chairman of the Trust and there are vacancies for Trustees although there is provision for the Trust to co-opt. Councillor Mrs Cox confirmed that the Food and Drink Festival is going ahead and that a Jazz Festival is being held at the end of June, beginning of July with the main day being on 1st July.
- Item 13:** **Correspondence.**
41/06
- 13.1 Letter received from The Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding Car Park Concessions. The Vale Council is currently considering letting new concessions for three additional car parks in the Vale including Cowbridge car park and the Town Council is invited to give their views on the proposal. Members discussed the matter and it was **proposed** by Councillor Mrs S M Cox, seconded by Councillor J R Harris and **resolved** that the proposal is firmly opposed and the Vale of Glamorgan Council notified accordingly on the following grounds:
- A loss of parking spaces would result.
 - An increase in pedestrians in the car park could prove hazardous.
 - There are already sufficient ‘take-away’ outlets in the town.
 - There is no perceived demand.
- 13.2 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council enclosing Environment Act 1995 – Local Air Quality Management – Review and Assessment Round 2 – Progress Report 2005.
Noted.
A copy of the report is available for any members wishing to read it.

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- Item 13: Correspondence (continued)**
- 13.3 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding the State of the Area Debates 2006. The debates are to be held at Llantwit Major (22nd March, Penarth (29th March) and Barry (6th April).
Noted.
Members queried why there was no venue in Cowbridge. It has been established that on the last occasion it was held here only 6 people bothered to attend.
- 13.4 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council from the Dog Wardens operating in the Vale offering to attend any forthcoming organised events. They already attend the Vale Show giving members of the public an opportunity to ask about any concerns or raise any issues they may have with their own or other people's dogs. The wardens have an extensive range of leaflets and information as well as display materials for a stall or stand.
Noted.
Problems are being experienced in the Twt Park and the Town Clerk is investigating the provision of additional signs from the Vale of Glamorgan Council.
- 13.5 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council giving notification of an Application to vary a Premises Licence at The Bear Hotel. The variation is the addition of a newly constructed function room to the licence with specified hours.
Noted.
- 13.6 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council giving notification of an Application for Premises Licence at The Chic Bistro, 1B Penny Lane, Cowbridge for the hours specified.
Noted.
- 13.7 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council giving details of the Rural Communities Grass Cutting Contract for 2006.
Noted.
Members of the Council agreed for the matter to be deferred to the Leisure and Amenities Committee.
- 13.8 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council notifying that a request has been made for a licence to trade on the adopted highway outside Oscars Bar and Grill, as shown on an attached plan which indicates a 5.5m x 2m area.
Noted.
- Item 14: Publications (All held by the Town Clerk)**
42/06
- 14.1 The Clerk Publication – March 2006.
Noted.
- 14.2 Clerks and Councils Direct – March 2006.
Noted.

Item 15: **Documents for sealing.**
43/06 None.

Item 14: **Date and time of next Meeting.**
44/06 Tuesday 18th April 2006 at 7.00pm.

Councillor Mrs G Baty
Mayor

Date minutes signed.