

**Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee**  
**held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,**  
**on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Chairman – Councillor J R Harris.  
Vice Chair - Councillor L E Taylor.  
Mayor - Councillor Mrs L Adams.  
Councillors – G A Cox (arrived item 6.1), Mrs S M Cox, W H Evans, A Thomas  
and Mrs M Y Williams M.B.E.

**In Attendance:**  
Town Clerk – Mr Andrew Davies.

**Item 1: Apologies for Absence**  
Councillor H Ll Morgan

**Item 2: Declaration of Interests.**  
Councillor Mrs L Adams – item 8 - Big Screen.

**Item 3: Receipts & Payments Account/sundries/Accounts to be paid**  
Receipts and Payment Accounts for period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> December and  
the statements of bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 were circulated to  
members and read.  
**Recommended** that these accounts be approved.

A list of accounts to be settled from 20<sup>th</sup> December 2006 to 9<sup>th</sup> January 2007 was  
circulated to members and read.

**Item 4: Matters arising from the Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2006.**  
Item 9.1 – pollarding of trees in Westgate has taken place, but those where power  
lines are involved will require power to be shut off after negotiation between  
Western Power and the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

**Item 5: Matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2006.**  
No matters arising.

**Item 6: Grant Aid.**  
6.1 Letter received from Lift Self Help Group in response to the Town Council  
advising that they are unable to give financial assistance at this time but inviting  
them to re-apply at a later date. The writer requested that the application be  
reconsidered.  
**Recommended** that a letter is sent, advising that after reconsideration the views of  
the Council have not changed and that only a certain amount of public money is  
apportioned for grant allocation during each financial year.

6.2 Application received from Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod for a  
financial contribution towards the running costs of the event.  
**Noted.**

- Item 6:** **Grant Aid. (Continued)**  
6.3 Application received from Cymdeithas Alzheimers's Society for financial assistance towards the Cardiff Branch of the Society. The Cardiff Branch currently provides the following services: a Day Centre, telephone befriending service and carer groups, a younger people with dementia information and support project, information and dementia training for carers and professionals. The branch is about to launch a peripatetic information bus project and an advocacy service.  
**Noted.**
- Item 7:** **Budget 2007/2008.**  
The Chairman circulated members of the committee with details of current and proposed budget figures together with budget requirements of the Leisure and Amenities and Town Hall Committees. (Appendix I attached)  
Members discussed the budget proposals at length.  
**Proposed** by Councillor Mrs S M Cox , seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams and **recommended** that in order to achieve a balanced budget the precept be increased by 5.5%. (Appendix II attached)
- Item 8:** **Big Screen – To consider the forthcoming season.**  
**Recommended** that the existing arrangements be continued until the end of December this year, in that screenings are promoted jointly between 'Big Screen' and the Town Council and that the liability of hire of the film lies with the Town Council should there be insufficient attendance for the cost of £150 to be covered. Any surplus, once the hire charge of the hall has been deducted, shall be split equally between 'Big Screen' and the Town Council.
- Item 9:** Consideration of 'A Good Practice Guide for Community and Town Councils'. (item 11 Full Council 19/12/06 refers).  
Deferred to next meeting.
- Item 10:** **Correspondence.**  
10.1 Wales Audit Office – To note letter advising of change of arrangements for future external audits. The current auditor for the current financial year is to be replaced and the Town Council are requested to advise whether they have any objection to this. In a few months' time the Auditor General will enter into five-year contracts with three accountancy firms and will be the Council will be consulted at a later date as to which firm will be its appointed auditor.  
**Noted**  
The Committee recommend that the District Audit are requested to confirm whether any of the firms quoted in the letter are based in Wales and to advise that it has no objection to the appointment of the new auditor for the current financial year.
- Item 11:** **Matters to be discussed at the discretion of the Chairman**  
11.1 **Recommended** that, subject to a satisfactory interest rate, there is re-investment of monies on the 'Money Market' once the current period has expired on 29<sup>th</sup> January.
- Item 12:** **Date and Time of next Meeting.**  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2007 at 7.00pm.

Councillor J R Harris  
**Chairman.**