

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Wednesday 4th May 2006 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairman – Councillor J R Harris
Mayor - Councillor Mrs G Baty
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Mrs L Adams
Councillors –A Thomas and Mrs M Y Williams M.B.E.

In Attendance:
Town Clerk – Mr Andrew Davies.

Item 1: Apologies for Absence
Councillors: G A Cox, Mrs S M Cox, W H Evans and L E Taylor

Item 2: Declaration of Interests.
Councillor Mrs G Baty Item 6.2 – Grant Aid Application in respect of WRVS.

Item 3: Receipts & Payments Account/sundries/Accounts to be paid
Receipts and Payment Accounts for period 1st April 2006 to 30th April 2006 and the statements of bank balances as at 30th April 2006 were circulated to members and read.

Recommended that these accounts be approved.

A list of accounts to be settled from 19th April – 3rd May 2006 was circulated to members and read.

The chairman advised that £50,000 has been re-invested on the money market at an improved rate of 3.503%.

Item 4: Matters arising from the Committee meeting held on 4th April 2006.
Councillor Mrs Baty referred to item 6.1 and confirmed that the coffee morning held on 29th April raised £122.00 towards Wales Air Ambulance.

The Town Clerk confirmed that he has written to the Monitoring Officer at the Vale of Glamorgan Council inviting him to speak to members about Declarations of Interest.

The Town Clerk has also made enquires with the Welsh Assembly Government about the review of the Code of Conduct which started last summer. It is anticipated that a revised code will be in place in the autumn

Item 5: Matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on 18th April 2006.
5.1 Item 9(b) Town Clerk's Report - Mayor's Chain - members agreed that a temporary repair is carried out pending advice from Toye Kenning and Spencer in London.

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Item 6: Grant Aid.

- 6.1 Application received from Harry Jones, Committee co-ordinator for 'Cowbridge in Bloom' for financial assistance towards the summer planting for 2006.
Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor Mrs G Baty, that a payment of £225.00 be made towards the costs of 'Cowbridge in Bloom'
Resolved that in pursuance of the power conferred by section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, the Committee approves the payment of the sum of £225.00 in respect of 'Cowbridge in Bloom'.
- 6.2 Application for financial assistance towards the running costs of the WRVS who provide two projects in the area, The Vale of Glamorgan Emergency Services and the Cowbridge Luncheon Club.
Noted.

Item 7: Correspondence.

- 7.1 Letter received from Mr Martin Jenkins advising that he will no longer be able to perform his duties as Macebearer for the Town Council.
Noted.
Members of the committee agreed that a letter should be sent to Mr Jenkins from the Mayor on behalf of the Town Council in acknowledgement of his services. And **recommends** that Full Council should consider placing an advertisement for a replacement.
- 7.2 Letter received from Zurich Municipal Insurance Company giving details of the Local Council Advisory Service (LCAS) which is a Health and Safety Service provision dedicated to Town and Parish Council. The service may be subscribed to at a cost of £195 per year and £135 per year thereafter.
Noted.
- 7.3 Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust – South East Wales Regional Plan and the Programme for Health Service Improvement in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. Views are invited on priorities for improving health services and the issues set out.
Members were circulated with part of the documentation, which also contains a questionnaire for completion.

The committee agreed that the document should be circulated to all Members with a **recommendation** to Full Council that individual responses to the document are made.

Item 8: Any Other Business.

- 8.1 The Chairman informed members that the Town Clerk has advised him that under the Local Government Act 1972 there is no power for the Town Council to make provision for any allowance to the Deputy Mayor. The Act only provides for an allowance for the Mayor.
Recommended by members of the Committee that in light of this information that no direct payment is made to the Deputy Mayor from the Council in relation to any duties carried out on behalf of the Mayor in his or her absence and that Mayoral Allowance for the current financial year is set at £2,000.

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Item 8: Any Other Business (continued).

8.2 The Town Clerk advised the committee that he has received notification that a new 7th edition of Arnold-Baker – “Local Council Administration” is due out this month at a cost of £60.00 and the publication provides a very useful source of information and reference.

Recommended that the Town Clerk places an order for the new edition.

Councillor J R Harris thanked the members of the Committee for their support during the last 12 months.

Item 9: Date and Time of next Meeting.

Tuesday 6th June 2006 at 7.00pm.

Chairman.