

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 8th July 2008 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairman – Councillor J R Harris
Vice Chairman – Councillor L E Taylor
Mayor – Councillor D W Morris
Councillors – G A Cox, Mrs S M Cox, Mr D E Magnay,
A Thomas and Mrs S Massey.

In Attendance:
Town Clerk – Mr Andrew Davies.

Item 1: Apologies for Absence
Councillor Mrs A E Harding

Item 2: Declaration of Interests.
Councillor D Magnay – Item 8.1
Councillors L E Taylor and A Thomas – Item 9.4

Item 3: Matters arising from the Committee Meeting held on 2nd June 2008
No matters arising.

Item 4: Matters arising from the Town Council Meeting held on 17th June 2008.
No matters arising.

Item 5: Receipts & Payments Account/sundries/Accounts to be paid
Receipts and Payment Accounts for period 1st April 2008 to 30th June 2008 and the statements of bank balances as at 30th June 2008 were circulated to members and read.
Recommended that these accounts be approved.

A list of accounts to be settled from 18th June – 8th July was circulated to members and read.

Item 6: Sewer at the Limes Cemetery.
The Chairman confirmed that the Town Clerk has researched and confirmed that Town Council has power to authorise a feasibility study. The Vale of Glamorgan Council is in the process of carrying out the study.

Item 7: Play Equipment at Aberthin.
7.1 The committee considered the letter received from Cowbridge Institute Educational Trust in which it was confirmed that a contribution towards the cost of providing play equipment would be made.
It was agreed that the letter should be acknowledged and the Trust advised that the Council is investigating further avenues of funding and would update it on the situation in due course. The Town Clerk informed members that funding from Creative Rural Communities might be available and this could be investigated.
Recommendation that a small sub-committee is formed from members of the Town Council to progress the project.

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Item 8: Grant Aid.

- 8.1 Letter received from Cowbridge Allotments Association advising that further quotations are being sought in respect of the application made. The letter confirmed that a grant application has been submitted to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for a different project at the allotments in relation to an extension and consequent improvement to the water supply.
Noted.
- 8.2 Application from Shelter Cymru for a contribution towards the running costs of the organisation, which covers the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan, including Cowbridge area.
Proposed by Councillor D W Morris, seconded by Councillor L E Taylor, that a payment of £75.00 be made to 'Shelter Cymru' towards their running costs.
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 £75.00 to 'Shelter Cymru'
- 8.3 Letter of acknowledgement and thanks received from 'The Samaritans' for the payment made by the Town Council towards their running costs.
Noted.
- 8.4 Letter of acknowledgement and thanks received from 'Cowbridge in Bloom' for the grant made by the Town Council towards the Summer planting displays.
Noted.

Item 9: Correspondence.

- 9.1 Letter received from Mr M Courtney in respect of the 'shed' at the Limes, which is in the ownership of the Town Council and whether the Town Council would give consideration to its sale or any part of the parking or amenity space.
The chairman reminded members that the Town Council rents out the shed and that it was ratified at the last Full Council Meeting that the valuation should be reviewed in December and that the rent continue at £700.00 for the current financial year.
The committee **recommend** that an independent valuation of the site is now obtained from the District Valuer and that the writer of the letter is advised that the Town Council has no intention of disposing of the site or any part of it at this time.
- 9.2 Copy of letter sent by Cowbridge Town AFC to the headmistress at Cowbridge Comprehensive School for confirmation that the club might be given the opportunity to use any new football pitches and suitable indoor facility that may be created, once the new school on the Aberthin Road site has been completed.
Noted.
- 9.3 Members considered a letter received Mr A Izzard in respect of the Award for Good Citizenship in which he advised that neither he or his wife are available to attend Civic Sunday for the presentation and that none of the scouts will attend the Parade and Service for the reasons stated.
Recommended that Mr and Mrs Izzard should be given the opportunity to attend a short presentation immediately before the Council meeting in September and that arrangements are made for a photographer to be in attendance.
- 9.4 Letter received from the Secretary of Cowbridge Rotary Club in respect of the hire of the Town Hall for the annual community carol singing, led by the choir Meibion Machlud. In view of the nature of the event, the Rotary Club is enquiring as to whether the hire fee can be waived.
Recommended to Full Council that no exception can be made in this case as the Town Hall has to be run as a 'commercial concern' in order that running costs are met.

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Item 10: Matters to be discussed at the discretion of the Chairman.

10.1 The period of investment for the £60,000 placed on the money market is due to expire at the end on July.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor Mrs S M Cox that reinvestment takes place with the proviso that a favourable rate is quoted from the bank.

Recommended as proposed.

10.2 **Proposed** by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor A Thomas and **recommended** that the fee payable to the Macebearers for their services at each Civic function be increased from £20.00 to £25.00 per function.

10.3 Members discussed the format of the Annual Mayor Making Ceremony in relation to the 'form of address' when speeches are made and **recommend** that it remains the same.

Item 11: Date and Time of next Meeting.

Tuesday, 2nd September 2008 at 7.00pm.

Councillor J R Harris
Chairman.