

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 5th September 2006 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairman – Councillor J R Harris
Vice Chair - Councillor L E Taylor
Mayor - Councillor Mrs L Adams
Deputy Mayor – Councillor H Ll Morgan
Councillors – G A Cox, Mrs S M Cox and W H Evans

In Attendance:

Town Clerk – Mr Andrew Davies.

Item 1: Apologies for Absence
Councillor A Thomas

Item 2: Declaration of Interests.
None.

Item 3: Receipts & Payments Account/sundries/Accounts to be paid
Receipts and Payment Accounts for period 1st April 2006 to 31st August 2006 and the statements of bank balances as at 31st August 2006 were circulated to members and read.

Recommended that these accounts be approved.

A list of accounts to be settled from 19th July – 5th September 2006 was circulated to members and read.

The Town Clerk advised members that a number of hirers have been lost in recent months, which may result in the projected income not being met. Members agreed that the situation should be monitored.

Item 4: Matters arising from the Committee meeting held on 4th July 2006.
No matters arising.

Item 5: Matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on 18th July 2006.
No matters arising relating to this committee.

Item 6: Grant Aid.

6.1 Application from Shelter Cymru for financial assistance towards the organisation, which provided help assistance to almost 13,000 homeless people in Wales last year.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs L Adams, seconded by Councillor H Ll Morgan, that a payment of £60.00 be made towards Shelter Cymru.

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 £60.00.

Item 6: Grant Aid.

6.2 Application received from the Rectorial Benefice of Cowbridge for financial support in respect of the Christmas Tree Festival, which is to be held at Holy Cross Church in November.

Proposed by Councillor W H Evans, seconded by Councillor G A Cox, that a payment of £50.00 be made to the Rectorial Benefice of Cowbridge towards the Christmas Tree Festival being held in Holy Cross Church.

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 £50.00.

6.3 Letter received from Childline Wales in acknowledging the Grant Aid support made by the Town Council towards the organisation.

Noted.

Item 7: To consider the Annual Report of the External Auditor for the Financial Year ending March 2005

Members considered the observation made by the External Auditor regarding the Standing Orders adopted by the Town Council in 1990 and the suggested review to ensure that they are up to date.

Recommended that a response is sent by the Town Clerk to advise that relevant sections of the Standing Orders have been amended as the need has arisen during the past fifteen years.

Item 8: Correspondence.

8.1 Letter received from Cardiff County Council regarding the Government's consultation for a new local government pension scheme from 1st April 2008. The aim is to produce a scheme, which is that it should be affordable to employers and taxpayers whilst being attractive to all scheme members. The Cardiff and Vale Pension Fund is planning to prepare its own response and employers within the fund are invited to make any comments.

Recommended to concur with the response prepared by the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund.

8.2 Letter received from The Wales Audit Office in respect of the 'Inquiry into Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust'. A number of Public hearings have been held around the country and written submissions have been made from senior officials in the health sector. The letter invites any matters to be brought to the auditors attention by 15th September.

Noted.

8.3 A copy of the review of the Vale of Glamorgan Council Corporate Plan invites comments by 15th September 2006.

Noted.

Time constraints do not allow for a response from the Town Council and it is **recommended** that the Vale of Glamorgan Council are notified accordingly.

8.4 Notification received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect the Rural Round of the Civic Trust Awards 2007. Closing date 13th September 2006

Noted.

Members thought that 'The Market Place' might be a suitable project.

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Item 9: Any Other Business.

9.1

Councillor J R Harris referred to the continuing water refurbishment works being carried out by Laing O'Rourke and the number of holes which are being re-dug in various parts of the town and the time taken to make good.

Councillor G A Cox advised that he is due to meet with Keith Jones and will raise the matter.

Item 10: Date and Time of next Meeting.

Tuesday 3rd October 2006 at 7.00pm.

Councillor J R Harris

Chairman.