

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 3rd October 2006 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairman – Councillor J R Harris
Vice Chair - Councillor L E Taylor
Mayor - Councillor Mrs L Adams
Councillors - Mrs S M Cox, G A Cox (arrived item 8), 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 S M Cox Item 6.2 (Cowbridge Charter Trust)
Councillor Mrs L Adams Item 7 ('Big Screen')

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

A list of accounts to be settled from 18th September – 3rd October 2006 was circulated to members and read.

Proposed by J R Harris, seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams that investment on the money market is continued when the current period expires, subject to a favourable rate of interest.
Recommended as proposed.

Item 4: Matters arising from the Committee meeting held on 5th September 2006.
No matters arising.

Item 5: Matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on 19th September 2006.
No matters arising.

Item 6: Grant Aid.
6.1 Application received from Urdd Gobaith Cymru, towards the running costs of the Urdd National Eisteddfod 2007 to be held in Carmarthen. The event attracts 15,000 competitors from all over Wales and is recognised as Europe's largest youth arts festival.
Proposed by Councillor Mrs L Adams, seconded by Councillor A Thomas, that a payment of £50.00 be made to Urdd Gobaith Cymru for the Eisteddfod.
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.

Item 6:

Grant Aid.

6.2

Application from Cowbridge Charter Trust in relation to Cowbridge Town Walls Restoration, to request financial assistance in the funding of an archaeological survey of the walls which will cost £1940.00. This is a necessary precursor of the restoration works and of major grant claims, and is required by CADW before work can begin.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor A Thomas, that a payment of £250.00 be made to Cowbridge Charter Trust towards the cost of the survey.

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 £250.00

6.3

Application received from British Red Cross in South East Wales towards the costs of providing services such as medical equipment, Intermediate care, carers respite, day care and emergency response at public events.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams, that a payment of £50.00 be made to British Red Cross towards the cost of providing services.

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

Item 7.

The Future of 'Big Screen'.

Members considered options given to them regarding the future of 'Big Screen' by Phil Chappell of Creative Rural Communities. Since its inception two years ago, 'Big Screen' has been touring the Rural Vale, reliant upon a small core of volunteers. During that period, Cowbridge Town Hall is by far the best venue of all those currently used by 'Big Screen' in the Rural Vale and it is the intention, subject to approval by the Town Council, to base the cinema here permanently and have regular monthly screenings. There would be certain exceptions involving a small number of other venues where audiences are reasonable. Storage for the equipment at the Town Hall will be required and this will have to be investigated. Insurance cover will continue to be provided under the Vale of Glamorgan Council's insurance policy.

The current arrangement between 'Big Screen' and the Town Council is for the cost of screenings (£150) to be guaranteed by this council and anything over that and the hire cost of the main hall to be divided equally.

Recommended that 'Big Screen' is now based at the Town Hall with storage facilities to be investigated and for the present arrangements to remain until the end of the current season when they should be reviewed. In addition, there should be greater promotion/advertisement of the 'partnership' between the Town Council and 'Big Screen' to provide the cinema facility for the benefit of the local communities. The purchase for 100 cushions for use at screenings £0.69 per unit is also recommended.

Item 8

To consider the current format of Committees

Members agreed to adjourn this item until the next committee meeting for further consideration and discussion.

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Item 9: Correspondence.

9.1 Letter received from Welsh Assembly Government enclosing a copy of the 'Local Government Partnership Scheme Report 2005- 2006' (*copy held by the Town Clerk*).

Noted.

9.2 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council referring to the 'Making the Connections' requirement of the Welsh Assembly Government where investigation is made to establish whether there is any scope for collaborative working arrangements with the private, public and voluntary sectors. One area that has been identified is the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Print unit, which can offer a range of photocopying and graphic design services. The writer, Mr J Wyatt, enquires whether there may be any possible opportunity for a working arrangement for these services with the Town Council.

Noted.

Item 9: Any Other Business.

None.

Item 10: Date and Time of next Meeting.

Tuesday 7th November 2006 at 7.00pm.

Councillor J R Harris
Chairman.