

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of Meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Monday 9th January 2006 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairman – Councillor Mrs M Arnold
Vice Chairman – Councillor A Williams
Mayor – Councillor Mrs G Baty (arrived item 5)
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Mrs L Adams
Councillors - Mrs A Burges, R G Jones, and D W Morris.

In Attendance:
Town Clerk - Andrew Davies.

Item 1: Apologies for Absence.
Councillor H Ll Morgan

Item 2: Declarations of interests.
None.

Item 3: Matters arising from the Committee meeting held on 6th December 2005.
Councillor Mrs M Arnold referred to item 7 in respect of the Budget for the next financial year 2006/2007 and wished it to be recorded that she is strongly opposed to the budget proposed by the committee.

Item 4: Matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on 20th December 2005.
No matters arising.

Item 5: Playground Equipment Maintenance Report.
The report was circulated to members and all equipment is safe for use.
The Town Clerk referred to the safety surfacing beneath the flat swings and advised that he is due to meet Mr Leaworthy from Monmouth Council to discuss the possibility of an alternative carpet type covering which would be less expensive than replacing the existing safety surfacing.
Some members also thought it worthwhile to seek advice from Mr Leaworthy at the same time about the posts next to the strap swings and also mention it to Mr Wyndham Hughes, the Playground Inspector from the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

Item 6: Amenities Supervisor's Report.
Llanblethian Playing Fields - The Town Clerk gave the report and advised that Mr James has completed a repair to the bench at Llanblethian Playing Fields referred to in a previous report by the playground inspector Mr Wyndham Hughes.

Limes cemetery - Mr James has completed the construction of the new planters, which have been treated and planted with spring bulbs.

Item 7:
7.1

Rolling Programme 2005/2006

Limes Cemetery

Councillor Mrs M Arnold invited comments from the members of the committee about the state of the cemetery.

Councillor Mrs Arnold then voiced her concerns and opinions on several aspects in the cemetery as the result of a specific visit to the cemetery one Sunday.

- The number of stones on the surface of the bank next to the lock up.
- The amount of leaves that have collected around the water butt.
- Rather than recycling, the Chairman considered that the flowers removed from graves would be better placed in green bags purchased from the Vale of Glamorgan Council and arrangements made for them to be collected.
- A piece of furniture had been left in the cemetery.
- The box hedging has been cut back too far and it is doubtful that it will survive.
- The area where the cut grass is composting has become unsightly and appears to have caused the bank to slip.

i) Boundaries

(a) Letter received from Wales Fencing Specialists containing information on the style of fencing used at Waterton Cross by South Wales Police.

Members agreed that any decision on a fence should be considered once it was known what the school was going to do with their boundary.

ii) Sewer

The Town Clerk confirmed that he has written to the Vale of Glamorgan Council and spoken to Mr Colin Lewis at the engineering department to find out what is happening with regard to the sewer.

Members agreed that a site visit with Mr Lewis might be the best way to progress the matter.

iv) Extension to the Limes Cemetery.

Members discussed the need for the dividing fence in the cemetery to be moved once the existing plots have been used.

The Town Clerk advised members that a number of Town Councils no longer allow graves and cremation plots to be purchased in advance which gave greater control over the number being used.

Proposed by Councillor A Williams, seconded by Councillor D W Morris that the rules and regulations of the Limes Cemetery be amended to state that neither burial plots nor cremation plots may be purchased in advance and that this shall apply immediately upon ratification by Full Council and shall apply to the whole of the cemetery, including the extension.

Recommended as proposed.

The Town Clerk drew the Committee's attention to the area in the cemetery set aside for the scattering of ashes, which has never been used.

Proposed by Councillor D W Morris, seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams that this area is utilised for the provision of cremation plots and that this shall take effect immediately upon ratification and the rules and regulations be amended accordingly.

Recommended as proposed.

Item 7: Rolling Programme 2005/2006 (continued)

7.2 Holy Cross Church Yard.

Councillor Mrs L Adams advised that enquiries with Mr John Pavitt have been unsuccessful and it appears that he may have moved away from the area and therefore a local less expensive survey is unlikely.

After discussion, it was **proposed** by Councillor Mrs L Adams seconded by Councillor Mrs M Arnold that the Town Clerk write to each of the companies previously approached to confirm whether or not their quotations are still valid or if not, what are the revised costs likely to be. In addition, what the survey would consist of and whether they will offer to give material help in the matter of fund raising.

Recommended as proposed.

7.3 Twt Play Park.

Councillor Mrs Arnold referred to the chestnut paling that has been removed by the Amenities Supervisor and requested that the posts are removed as well and the hedge tidied up.

7.4 Emms Cottage.

Councillor A Williams referred to the slatted seat and suggested that a coat of wood preservative be applied in the Spring.

7.5 Llanblethian Playing Fields.

No matters arising.

7.6 Southgate Park.

No matters arising.

7.7 Cae Rex Allotments.

Members agreed that the fence either side of the footpath leading down from Cae Rex needs attention.

Item 8: The Limes Cemetery Cowbridge. (Memorial applications.)

8.1 Application received from Andrew M Halls for a memorial to be placed on Cremation Plot B13 (Kenneth Walter Palfrey).

Approved

Item 9: Correspondence.

9.1 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect of the concerns raised by the Town Council about the continued use of the toilets at the Butts despite their closure several years ago. The letter advised that the Vale Council has no plans to re-open the toilets. The concerns raised about the security of the building will be brought to the attention of the Council's estates department. Consideration will be given to the demolition of the building but because of the cost involved, this is only likely to happen if the land is sold or the structure becomes unsafe.

Noted

Members **recommend** that the letter should be acknowledged and a further plea made for the toilets to be re-opened on the basis that there are no public facilities available at that end of the town.

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Item 9: Correspondence. (continued)

9.2 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council in response to the enquiries made about the Lower Comprehensive School site. The letter referred to previous correspondence sent by Mr Maitland Evans in January 2005 and gave assurance that there will be full consultation with the local community and Town Council at the appropriate time.

Noted.

9.3 Association of Burial Authorities – December Quarterly Publication

Noted.

Item 10: Any Other Business

None.

Item 11: Date and time of next Meeting.

Monday 6th February 2006 at 7.00pm.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold
Chairman.