

**Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee**  
**held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,**  
**on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2005 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Chairman – Councillor Mrs M Arnold  
Vice Chairman – Councillor A Williams  
Mayor – Councillor Mrs S M Cox  
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Mrs G Baty  
Councillors - Mrs L Adams, Mrs A Burges, R G Jones H L Morgan and D W Morris

**In Attendance:**  
Town Clerk - Andrew Davies.

**Item 1: Apologies for Absence.**  
All members present.

**Item 2: Declarations of interests.**  
None.

**Item 3: Matters arising from the Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2005.**  
No matters arising.

**Item 4: Matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2005.**  
No matters arising.

**Item 5: Playground Equipment Maintenance Report.**  
The report was circulated to all members and indicated that all the equipment is safe to use.  
Members noted the reference on the report to the algae on the safety surface. The Town Clerk confirmed that part of it has already been cleared using the power-washer by the Amenities Supervisor as the moss treatment had failed to clear it. Algae in the areas, which have already been power-washed, has not reappeared so far.  
Members **recommend** that the Amenities Supervisor should attend a course in relation to the use of chemical herbicides. The Town Clerk will make enquiries at Pencoed College.  
Councillor R G Jones referred to the new spring rocker and stated that it was loose in the ground. The report from the playground inspector made no mention of the fact but the Town Clerk will draw it to his attention to find if there is a safety issue.  
The Chairman wished it to be recorded that she is strongly opposed to the position of the new rocker and suggested that Council should make a decision in the new financial year as to whether or not it should be moved.

**Item 6: Amenities Supervisor's Report.**  
The Town Clerk gave the report and advised of the following:

- Power-washing of the paths in the Cemetery should be completed by the end of the week, after which the Amenity Supervisor will concentrate on the safety surfaces in the Twt Park and Llanblethian Playing Fields, weather permitting. Some members of the Committee were concerned that damage might be caused to the safety surface using this method and that care should be taken.

**Item 6: Amenities Supervisor's Report. (continued)**

The Town Clerk confirmed that the portable generator, which it was agreed should be bought at the last meeting, has been purchased and is in use.

- The Parish Office had reported holes appearing in the ground by the tap in the Churchyard and these have been attended to by Mr James.

**Item 7: Grass Cutting**

Members considered five quotations received from grass cutting contractors and decided that prior to any decision being made, details of their insurance and machinery to be used is obtained.

**Item 8: Rolling Programme 2004/2005**

8.1 Limes Cemetery.

i) Boundaries.

No matters arising.

ii) Sewer.

No matters arising.

iii) Fence and extension.

No matters arising.

iv) Additional water supply.

No matters arising.

v) Trees.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold mentioned the corner of one of the paths at the top left-hand side of the Cemetery, which has been lifted by a root of one of the trees. The Town Clerk will ask the Amenities Supervisor to have a look at it with a view to removing any trip hazards.

The Chairman also made reference to the grass cuttings, which are being composted in the extension to the Cemetery and wondered if any screening might be possible.

8.2 Holy Cross Churchyard.

Discussions had taken place prior to the meeting with Revd Canon Belcher and Mr David Crompton, Parish Warden.

As a result Canon Belcher will investigate what funding, if any, might be forthcoming from Holy Cross Church towards a feasibility study of the graves and churchyard. He will bring the matter to the attention of the Parochial Church Council and suggested that if a 'brief' can be prepared and circulated prior to its next meeting, this would be advantageous of their appreciating the situation.

Canon Belcher will also investigate whether there may be any funds available from the Representative Body of the Church in Wales and also details of any endowments in existence for maintenance to graves in the churchyard.

Members **recommended** that a letter is sent to the Chief Executive at the Vale of Glamorgan Council to enquire whether a C.A.S.H. Grant could be applied for to enable a feasibility study to be carried out.

**Item 8: Rolling Programme 2004/2005 (Continued).**

8.3 Twt Park.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold referred to the beech trees by the Sputnik roundabout and the fact that lower limbs had been removed. The Town Clerk will investigate the matter but was positive that the Amenities Supervisor had not carried out the work. Reference was made to weeds at the entrance to the park, which require removal. The Town Clerk will draw the matter to the attention of the Amenities Supervisor.

8.4 Emms Cottage.

Councillor A Williams advised members of the Committee that he is no longer able to carry out any further work to the area because of his health.

8.5 Llanblethian Playing Fields

(a) Revised quotation received from Blades Landscapes to remove additional ash trees following a meeting with Mr Baker, the Tree Officer from the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Councillor Mrs M Arnold and Councillor A Williams. The extra work will cost £600 and includes a reduction of the overgrown weed areas.

Members of the Committee agreed that the work should be carried out at the same time as the other work is attended to and having regard to the letter received from Mr Baker. (See Below).

(b) Letter received from Mr E Baker, Tree Officer at the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect of the work to be carried out to the trees on Llanblethian Playing Fields. The letter confirmed that formal consent is not required to undertake the work to a line of ash trees situated on the boundary of Llanblethian Playing Fields, overhanging Aeolian House in the Llanblethian Conservation Area.

The felling/coppicing of the ash stems is considered necessary for safety. A number of split stems are evident and they have previously been reduced resulting in dense re-growth. The only way to ensure the safe long-term, retention of the trees is to retain them as coppiced hedgerow trees.

**Noted.**

8.6 Southgate Park

No matters arising.

8.7 Cae Rex Allotments

No matters arising.

8.8 Masonry Walls

Work has commenced to the wall at Llanblethian Playing Fields.

**Item 9: The Limes Cemetery Cowbridge. (Memorial applications.)**

9.1 Application received from M Harding & Sons, Monumental Sculptors for an additional inscription to be placed on the headstone of grave no. N113.

**Approved.**

**Item 10: Correspondence.**

- 10.1 Letter received from Mr J Maitland Evans, Chief Executive at the Vale of Glamorgan Council, regarding the Lower School of Cowbridge Comprehensive School. The writer is pleased that the Town Council supports the principle of re-locating the Lower School to the existing Middle School Site as part of a comprehensive re-development. The future of the Lower School and playing fields is a separate issue as there are outstanding matters concerning charitable status and planning policy to be resolved. Full consultation will be made with the local community at the appropriate time and it is premature to consider any transfer of interest.

**Noted.**

Members agreed that the letter should be acknowledged and it should point out that the Town Council's interest is centred around the Playing Fields only. A copy of the original letter should also be sent to the Charity Commission for their information.

- 10.2 Letter received from Western Power Distribution advising of safety measures to take where there are any items of their equipment sited on private or council property. An information leaflet was included with the letter.

**Noted.**

Members made reference to the conifer trees, which surround the sub-station in Poplars Park and wondered whether they owned by Western Power, as they require attention. It was **recommended** that the Town Clerk write and alert them to the matter.

**Item 11: Any Other Business**

- 11.1 Councillor A Williams referred to the drain into the Rugby Field, which leads from Westgate past the Police Station and which is currently filled with a large amount of rubbish.

**Recommended** that a letter be sent to the Highways Department advising of the problem.

- 11.2 Councillor Mrs A Burges referred to the sub-station on the Aberthin Road in and around which rubbish has accumulated and for the appropriate authority to be informed.

**Item 12: Date and time of next Meeting.**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2005 at 7.00pm.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold.

**Chairman**