

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of Meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Monday 6th February 2006 at 7.00pm.

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

In Attendance:
Town Clerk - Andrew Davies.

Item 1: Apologies for Absence.
Councillor Mrs A Burges.

Item 2: Declarations of interests.
None.

Item 3: Matters arising from the Committee meeting held on 9th January 2006.
No matters arising.

Item 4: Matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on 24th January 2006.
Councillor Mrs Arnold advised members that she did not vote on the precept for 2006/2007 and that she was concerned that the contingencies have been retained.

Item 5: Playground Equipment Maintenance Report.
The report was circulated to members and all equipment is safe for use. However, there is a problem with the ‘roller slide’. The Town Clerk advised that a temporary repair has been carried out and arrangements are being made for replacement parts. The litterbin next to the path leading from the Twt to the High Street has been damaged and will have to be replaced as the result of corrosion to its base.

i) Members considered a quotation of £856 received from Monmouth County Council in relation to replacement of the safety surfacing beneath the 2 Flat swings using Notts Sport Childsplay synthetic grass. Similar surfaces have been used at Llandow and the new play park at Millfield Drive and the surface has been used as a preference to ‘wet pour’ The cost is more favourable to replacement ‘like for like’ with ‘wet pour’, which would cost in the region of £2000.

Proposed by Councillor A Williams, seconded by Councillor D W Morris that an order is placed with Monmouthshire County Council as per the quotation, to replace the safety surfacing and that the carpeting should be green.

Resolved as proposed.

The Town Clerk advised members that he sought the opinion of Mr Leaworthy about the posts, which separated the strap swings from the rest of the play area. He suggested that cutting the posts down to a uniform height would be the simplest solution

Item 6: Amenities Supervisor's Report.

The Town Clerk gave the report and advised on the following:

- Twt Park – the posts to which the chestnut palling was attached have been removed and initial tidying up along the hedge line has been started. Attention to a trip hazard leading from the Twt Park.
- Limes Cemetery – continued clearing around the boundaries.
- Repairs carried out to the bench in Llanblethian.

Item 7: Rolling Programme 2005/2006

7.1 Limes Cemetery

i) *Boundaries*

Enquiries are on going with the Vale of Glamorgan Council

ii) *Sewer*

The Town Clerk advised that he is in the process of arranging a meeting with Mr Colin Lewis from the Vale of Glamorgan Council. It was agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman should attend.

iii) *Extension to the Limes Cemetery.*

No matters arising.

The Town Clerk confirmed that he is waiting for the outcome of enquiries being made with the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect of the boundaries with the school and the properties on the boundary with Borough Close.

iv) *'Lock-Up'.*

The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Town Clerk went, on the invitation of Mr Deaves, to look at the 'lockup' and how he considers it is affecting his property. The Town Clerk advised that he is waiting for details from the Vale of Glamorgan Council but it appears that this will require the involvement of the Planning Department at the Vale of Glamorgan Council to resolve the problem.

7.2 Holy Cross Church Yard.

- (i) Response received from Davies Sutton, Chartered Architects in respect of the Feasibility Study and Condition Survey for Holy Cross Churchyard.

The letter advised that the company is still interested in being considered and there will be a 5% uplift of the original quotation of £8,000.00. In relation to grants, the letter suggested that it is possible that the Heritage Lottery Fund could assist.

Noted.

- (ii) Letter received from Page and Dean Consulting (previously Dean and Cheason Associates), in respect of the Feasibility Study and Condition Survey for Holy Cross Churchyard.

The letter advised that the company is still interested in being considered for the project and are prepared to hold their original quotation for a further six months after which there would be a 5% uplift. The letter stated that the company have recently been successful in securing funding for other projects of this nature.

Noted.

Proposed by Councillor D W Morris, seconded by Councillor H L Morgan that Page and Dean are requested to carry out a study and condition survey of Holy Cross Churchyard and that the cost of £8,200 is met by the balance of this year's Leisure and Amenities budget and any shortfall is met from reserves.

Recommended as proposed.

Item 7:

Rolling Programme 2005/2006

7.2

Holy Cross Church Yard.(continued)

Before the Committee meeting, members of the Council received a presentation from Mr Harry Hailes of the Charter Trust in respect of the proposal to floodlight Holy Cross Church.

Mr Hailes circulated a plan of the positioning of the lights and gave details of what areas of the church are to be lit.

The front of the church is the main area to be lit, however, two of the proposed lights will involve floodlighting part of the back of the church, one to illuminate the tower and one to illuminate a stained glass window. The cost of running the lights will be met by the church who will also maintain them.

Enquiries have been made with the Town Council's insurance company who confirmed that the lights would be covered under public liability section of the policy. The company did however recommend that the church also confirms the lights will be covered by their insurance.

Members discussed the matter at length and the following recommendations are made to Full Council:

- That there is no objection to the front of the church being floodlight but there is objection to the rear of the building being lit (this would involve light nos.2 and five)
- That a legal easement is drawn up for the installation of the cabling and any future maintenance.
- That investigation is carried out to establish whether or not there are any species of bat in the churchyard and how the floodlights might affect them

Members agreed that the Town Clerk seeks clarification from the Society of Local Council Clerks in respect of a document of easement and how this might best be drawn up and with whom responsibility lies for it to be drawn up.

7.3

Twt Play Park.

No matters arising.

7.4

Llanblethian Playing Fields.

The Town Clerk referred to the dip in the ground in front of the goal posts on the football field and suggested that rather than move the posts and fill and re-seed the area it may be more cost effective to leave the posts in situ and fill in the dip and turf the area.

Members agreed that they should look at the area in time for the next meeting.

7.5

Cae Rex Allotments.

No matters arising.

Item 8:

The Limes Cemetery Cowbridge. (Memorial applications.)

None.

Item 9:

Correspondence.

9.1

Letter received from Mr S Sloman, Parks and Open Spaces Officer at the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect of Rural Communities Grass Cutting. The letter advised that the grass cutting will be reviewed when actual budgets for 2006/2007 are known. (The original enquiry related to the verge leading into Middlegate Court.)

Noted.

Item 9: Correspondence.

9.2 Play for Wales – Winter Publication 2005.

Noted.

9.3 Letter received from Country Pine Furniture in Church Street in respect of the Yew tree in the churchyard whose branches overhang their roof and driveway. As the result of this the letter requests the Town Council take action because the roof guttering becomes blocked and causes flooding in the premises.

Noted.

Members query whether the Yew tree is the responsibility of the church as it may stand on church owned land. The Country Pine Furniture shop should be advised that enquires are being carried out.

Item 10: Any Other Business

10.1 Councillor A Williams remarked on the amount of stone, which is located on the bank of the cemetery between Borough Close properties. The Town Clerk advised that the Amenities Supervisor is aware of the situation.

10.2 Councillor Mrs G Baty referred to the boundary wall of the Old Grammar School and the vertical cracks, which appear to be larger since clearance work has been carried out. Councillor Mrs Baty has concerns about the stability of the wall and its proximity to the path and play park.

Members agreed that the Town Clerk should contact Mr Daniels from Centregreat to advise him of the concern raised.

Item 11: Date and time of next Meeting.

Monday 6th March 2006 at 7.00pm.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold
Chairman.