

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of Meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Monday 4th April 2005 at 7.00pm.

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

In Attendance:
Town Clerk - Andrew Davies.

Item 1: Apologies for Absence.
Councillor Mrs S M Cox

Item 2: Declarations of interests.
None.

Item 3: Matters arising from the Committee meeting held on 7th March 2005.
The Town Clerk reported on the following items:
Item 11.1 – trees behind Longmeadow Court.
Enquiries are being made by the Environment Agency about ownership of the land behind Longmeadow Court. The Agency also confirmed that they do not carry out aesthetic work to trees but concentrate on those which affect the river flow.
Item 11.1 – removal of post box
The Town Clerk advised that he wrote to the Post Office last December about the removal of the post box at the former sorting office. A follow up letter has been sent about the reports by some residents of the post box at Penny Lane being ‘overflowing’ at the end of the day.
Item 11.2 – pedestrian bridge between Poplars Park and the Twt.
This matter has been referred to the Engineering Department at the Vale of Glamorgan Council.
Item 4 - drainage ditch around the perimeter of the rugby field and leading from Westgate past the police station.
This has been confirmed as being the responsibility of the Highways Department who will be taking action on the matter.
Item 7 – The contractor awarded the grass-cutting contract has been advised.

Item 4: Matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on 22nd March 2005.
No matters arising.

Item 5: Playground Equipment Maintenance Report.
The report of the Playground Inspector was circulated to all members and confirmed that all play equipment is safe to use. The bearings on the sputnik roundabout have been replaced and a new cradle seat for the swing installed to replace the damaged one.
The Town Clerk confirmed that he met Mr Wyndham Hughes the Playground Inspector and discussed the missing boundary posts around the perimeter of the safety surfacing. The suggestion is for the missing posts to be replaced and secured to adjoining ones beneath ground level. This can be carried out by Mr Billy James and will be over a period on time.

Item 5: Playground Equipment Maintenance Report (continued).

The slide on the multi play unit has been re-installed with the newly fabricated platform and handrails. The work on the roller slide has been delayed until the correct sized bearings have been sourced.

- 5.1 Members discussed the problems caused by broken glass in the park and the amount of time it took the Amenities Supervisor to clear it up. It had been particularly bad on the morning of 1st April and the Town Clerk confirmed that he had been to the police station and spoken to Inspector Patterson on the matter. Members agreed that the matter should be brought up at Full Council and the police asked to increase their patrols.

Members also discussed the problem of the amount of litter in the park during weekends and bank holidays and discussed how this might be tackled. Insurance implications would restrict the use of anyone doing it on a casual basis.

Item 6: Amenities Supervisor's Report.

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

- (i) Security of the 'lock up' at the cemetery has been increased.
- (ii) The clearing of the northern boundary is continuing and will enable easier removal of any litter.
- (iii) The grassed area in front of Holy Cross Church was cut before Easter Sunday.

Item 7: Rolling Programme 2004/2005

7.1 Limes Cemetery.

i) Boundaries.

Members discussed the weeds along the western boundary of the cemetery and whether once they have been removed, the possibility of whips being purchased and planted.

The Town Clerk will discuss the matter with the Amenities Supervisor.

Members all agreed that the flowers in the cemetery are looking very attractive and agreed that more crocus are planted at the entrance in the autumn, to create a bigger splash of colour. It was also agreed to monitor the growth of the bush at the entrance of the cemetery, which has been cut back. The clematis planted last year is in bloom and Councillor Mrs M Arnold suggested the new Committee might consider additional ones being planted and increasing the trellis fencing.

ii) Sewer.

The Town Clerk that enquiries have been made with Mr Colin Lewis at the Vale of Glamorgan Council who confirmed that the matter is still in the process of being dealt with.

iii) Additional water supply.

No matters arising.

iv) Trees.

The Town Clerk will contact Tom Garbett-Davies of Blade Landscapes about carrying out the work previously discussed.

Item 7: Rolling Programme 2004/2005

7.2 Holy Cross Churchyard.

No matters arising.

Town Clerk has heard nothing from Revd Canon Belcher following the meeting of the Parochial Church Council. The Chairman advised that will be seeing Canon Belcher next week and will discuss it then.

7.3 Twt Park.

Members agreed that another letter should be sent to Mr Mathias about the overhanging trees from the Old Grammar School and the overhanging vegetation on the Town walls at the entrance of the Park from Town Mill Road and also about the barriers placed in the park, which need to be re-positioned.

7.4 Emms Cottage.

Members agreed that the area was looking tidy and the plants are beginning to grow including the Forsythia, which was thought to be dead.

Members agreed that it would be worthwhile for the committee to visit the various sites under the ownership of the Town Council, on a mutually convenient date in order to identify what specifically requires attention during the forthcoming year and can be considered by the new Committee.

7.5 Llanblethian Playing Fields

Councillor Mrs G Baty advised the Members that there was still an amount of brash on the top bank where the trees had been cut down. Councillor Williams will contact the contractor about the matter.

7.6 Southgate Park

The Town Clerk will contact the Landscape Contractor, Colin Anstee, to determine when he will next be visiting the park and to advise him that two plants at the entrance to the Twt have died.

7.7 Cae Rex Allotments

The Town Clerk advised that he has been in contact with the Vale of Glamorgan Council requesting that the work is carried out as soon as possible to enable payment to be covered within the 2004/2005 financial year. He has been assured that it will take place with the next two weeks.

Members **recommend** that if the work is not carried out within the promised time period, that a private contractor is engaged and that any additional cost passed to the Vale Council.

7.8 Masonry Walls

No matters arising.

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

None.

Item 9: Correspondence.

None.

Item 10: Any Other Business

10.1

Councillor Mrs G Baty referred to the bus shelter at the rear of the Town Hall and the accumulation of litter and cigarette ends which is becoming a daily problem. Councillor Mrs Baty also referred to the seats in the Poplars Park and the need for them to be cleaned up and treated with preservative.

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Item 10: Any Other Business (continued)

10.1 Councillor A Williams voiced his concerns about the trees which overhang the river Thaw from the bank of the Poplars Park and the opposite side by 'Birds' Recommended that a letter is sent to the local Vale Councillors to draw the matter to their attention.

10.2 Councillor Mrs Burgess referred to the accumulation of litter beneath the fly over of the by-pass and particularly around the sub-station.

Item 11: Date and time of next Meeting.

Tuesday 3rd May 2005 at 7.00pm.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold.

Chairman