

**Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee**  
**held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,**  
**on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2005 at 7.00pm.**

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

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

**Item 1: Apologies for Absence.**  
Councillor A Williams

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

**Item 3: Matters arising from the Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2005.**  
No matters arising.

**Item 4: Matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2005.**  
The Town referred to item 5 of the Town Council Minutes and confirmed that he had written to Mr Sloman requesting him to come and discuss the local grasscutting before tonight's meeting. Unfortunately, both Mr Sloman and Mr Beaman had other commitments and were unable to come. However, they were willing to address any concerns Councillors had regarding the matter.  
Members agreed that the following points should be raised:

- When is the date for the final cut for this season planned?
- Can the cutting season be extended?
- Concerns over the amount of grass lying on the verges as the result of the grass being so long when it was cut.

**Item 5: Playground Equipment Maintenance Report.**  
There is no report available for distribution, due to a computer problem, although the Town Clerk has spoken to Mr Wyndham Hughes who informed him of the following:

- The Amenities Supervisor has installed a replacement seat on the 'Sputnik' roundabout.
- Temporary Duck Tape fitted around the knuckle joint of the tyre swing whilst a replacement gaiter is sourced. Worn shackle connections have been replaced.
- Worn connection shackles have been replaced. on the strap swing.

Members agreed that the remaining seats on the 'Sputnik' roundabout are wearing and will require replacement in the spring. The Town Clerk confirmed that the cost of each seat would be £19.00 plus carriage.

**Item 5: Playground Equipment Maintenance Report (continued).**

- The Town Clerk advised Members that he had written to 'Quality Play' in respect of the safety surfacing beneath the two bay flat swing which has become spongy. He has been given a budget figure, which involved the replacement of existing tiles with 'wet pour' and includes the harder wearing 'red' surface beneath the swings themselves. The Town Clerk has also discussed the matter with Mr Wyndham Hughes the playground inspector, who advised of an alternative method, which may be available and which involves the existing tiles remaining in place and being covered by a hardwearing carpet style material. The Town Clerk will make further enquiries once he has received contact details and also try and establish where else in the Vale a similar covering has been used.
- Annual Independent Safety Inspection – The Town Clerk confirmed that it is due to take place this week.

**Item 6: Amenities Supervisor's Report.**

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

- Limes Cemetery:- Seasonal cutting of the hedges has commenced. Spring Bulbs have been purchased ready for planting.
- Twt Park – power washing of various items has been undertaken, Work to the junior slide has started and the weeds have been cleared along the entrance path from Town Mill Road.
- Llanblethian – Piccadilly – the overhanging branches from the tree have been dealt with.

Councillor Mrs Arnold suggested that further whips should be planted in a 'zig zag' manner on the western boundary. It was also agreed that the hedge on the same boundary should be trimmed.

**Item 7: Rolling Programme 2005/2006**

7.1

Limes Cemetery

i) Boundaries

Members discussed the need to secure the boundaries of the cemetery and to establish the exact line of each boundary especially the ones with the school and the eastern one with the former 'council houses'.

The Town Clerk advised that the deeds of the cemetery specified the acreage rather than the boundaries but reference was made to the Ordnance survey map of 1919. Further details will be pursued.

ii) Sewer

Members agreed that the line of the sewer needs clearly defining and marked.

iii) Letter received from Mr Phil Beaman, Operational Manager the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect of damage, which has been caused to trees on the boundary of the extension to the cemetery with the school. The damage appears to be intentional and not caused by wild animals. The damage will ultimately result in the tree dying with the consequential loss of amenity and cost associated with felling and replanting trees. Similar damage has been caused to trees in Poplars Park and this is to be reported to the Police as Criminal Damage.

Members agreed that the damage to the trees in the extension of the cemetery should likewise be reported to the police although until exact ownership of the trees is established cost of the damage will be unknown.

**Item 7: Rolling Programme 2005/2006 (continued)**

iv) Extension to the Limes Cemetery.

a) Letter received from Mrs J Williams, Chair of Governors Y Bont Faen School. The letter advised that the school is to be refurbished and as part of this, it is intended to secure the school's boundaries and will result in the gateway between the school grounds and extension of the cemetery being removed.

Members discussed the content of the letter, which will in effect prevent any grass cutting machinery being able to access the extension of the cemetery through the school grounds in the future. If the refurbishment takes place as indicated an alternative method of accessing the area will have to be investigated. Members agreed that discussions with the head teacher and Chair of Governors she be pursued in order to try and resolve the matter.

**Proposed** by Councillor H Ll Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams that the head teacher, Chair of Governors and a member of the Vale of Glamorgan Education Department be invited to meet with members of the leisure and Amenities Committee to discuss the problem and the implications the proposal will have of the grass cutting next year. **Recommended** as proposed.

In the meantime, enquiries would be made with Edenvale, the current grass-cutting contractor, to establish whether he had machinery able to access the extension field via the cemetery itself.

7.2 Holy Cross Church Yard.

(a) Consideration of the presentation by Canon Belcher and Holy Cross Church.

Members discussed the presentation given by the Rector and members of Holy Cross Church. It was agreed that a small working group is formed from members of the Leisure and Amenities Committee to liaise with the church to look at ways that the needs of the Town Council in relation to the improvement of the churchyard and the Church in relation to the new roof be progressed with a view to raising public awareness of the situation as it currently stood.

Members also discussed that the surveyors needed to be contacted in order to establish if they were still interested in carrying out a survey.

**Proposed** by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor Mrs L Adams that such a group be formed and that with the consensus of the committee shall comprise of Councillors Mrs M Arnold, Councillor Mrs L Adams, Councillor Mrs G Baty and Councillor R G Jones.

**Recommended** as proposed.

7.3 Twt Play Park.

No matters arising.

7.4 Emms Cottage.

Members considered a letter received from Anstee Landscape Contractors Ltd which contained two quotations for work to be carried out. The first quotation was in the sum of £497.00 and involved work at Emms cottage to cut back overhanging branches, re-shaping existing shrubs and planting of 20 new shrubs of different varieties to give more colour and foliage variation.

The second quotation of £164.00 is for work to be carried out at the Limes Cemetery involving the removal of three tree stumps left from previous felling. These form a potential 'trip hazard' and each stump will be 'ground' and the area made good.

**Proposed** by R G Jones seconded, by Councillor D W Morris that both quotations are accepted and an order be placed with Antee Landscape contractors for the work to be carried out at each location. In addition to the quotation, members were keen for the contractor to add this area into his maintenance schedule for the areas which he already looks after for this Council. **Recommended** as proposed.

**Item 7: Rolling Programme 2005/2006 (continued)**

7.5 Llanblethian Playing Fields.  
No matters arising.

7.6 Southgate Park.  
No matters arising.

7.7 Cae Rex Allotments.

(i) Cowbridge Allotments Association.

Members considered an application received from the allotment association to increase the number sheds used by the allotment owners from nine to ten. This in effect would in effect, as shown on the sketch plan provided, fill in the current gap at the corner of the rectangle. Each allotment holder has the use of a shed but there is no allowance for additional equipment for the overall maintenance of the allotment area. Members have no objections to the proposal put forward.

The letter included the possibility of funding towards the additional shed and the Town Clerk confirmed that this will be discussed at the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

**Item 8 Presentation by Birch Grove Wood Conservation Group**

Members discussed the presentation given by the Group who had taken over the maintenance of a section of woodland in Barry. The group have a small hardcore of workers but an initial membership of over 100 was achieved. Work is carried out by volunteers and contactors are brought in to deal with any specialist or large projects. Members discussed the presentation and Councillor Mrs Arnold advised that she was not aware of any residents in the proximity of the footpath leading from Poplars Park to Constitution Hill who would be interested in forming such a group. Councillor Mrs Baty suggested that placing notices in the Town Council Notice Board might raise awareness of the existence of the group and anyone interested can make contact.

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

9.1 Application received from Andrew M Halls Monumental Sculptor to place a Memorial on Cremation Plot B9 (C W Blick)

**Approved.**

9.2 Application received from 'The Slate Sign Company' to place a Memorial on grave No.N141 (W R Rich).

The Town Clerk advised members that there were outstanding issues in respect of the application and advised for the matter to be adjourned until the next meeting.

Members agreed that the application be adjourned.

**Item 10: Correspondence.**

10.1 'ABA info' – Quarterly Publication from the Association of Burial Authorities.

**Noted.**

**Item 11. Budget 2006/2007**

Members were requested to give thought to this matter in time for the next meeting.

**Item 12: Any Other Business**

Councillor R G Jones mentioned the Lower Comprehensive School site and 'playing field' sites and after a brief discussion, Members **recommended** that a letter should be sent to the Vale of Glamorgan Council to establish the current position of them all and also to suggest that a 'planning brief' be prepared for the Lower School site.

**Item 13:**

**Date and time of next Meeting.**

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

Councillor Mrs M Arnold.

**Chairman.**