

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Tuesday 20th February 2007 at 7.00pm.

Present: Mayor – Councillor Mrs L Adams
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, A E Banks, Mrs G Baty,
J R Harris (*arrived Item 7*), D W Morris, L E Taylor, A Thomas, A Williams
and Mrs M Y Williams MBE.

In Attendance:

Town Clerk - Mr Andrew Davies
Administrative Assistant - Mrs Jackie Griffin
Reverend Canon D Belcher
PC Melanie Deere
PCSO Brian Froude

Reverend Canon Belcher opened the meeting with a prayer.

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
16/07 Councillors: Mrs A Burges, G A Cox, Mrs S M Cox, W H Evans
and H Ll Morgan.
Treasurer - Mrs J Tyre
Inspector Patterson

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
17/07 None declared.

Item 3: **The Treasurer's Report.**
18/07 The Report was presented by Councillor L E Taylor in the absence of the
Treasurer, Mrs J Tyre. The Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st
April 2006 to 31st January 2007 and statement of bank balance as at 31st
January 2007 had previously been circulated.

Balances as at the 31st January 2007.

Current Account:	£ 1,500.00
Investment Gold Account:	£ 51,953.26
Money Market	<u>£ 50,000.00</u>
Total	£103,453.26
Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 424.00</u>
	<u>£103,029.26</u>

Proposed by Councillor L E Taylor, seconded by Councillor A Williams,
that these reports be accepted and adopted.

Resolved: This report be adopted.

- Item 4:** **To confirm the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on**
19/07 **23rd January 2007.**
Proposed by Councillor A Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs G Baty,
and **Resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on
23rd January 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.
- Item 5:** **Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on**
20/07 **23rd January 2007.**
5.1 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect of the Cattle
Market advising that a number of legal issues are yet to be resolved and until
such time that they have it is difficult to specify when the site will be
available of disposal. The opportunity for consultation will be more
appropriate at the planning stage and the timing for the submission of the
development brief is dependent upon the legal issues being resolved.
Proposed by Councillor Mrs L Adams, seconded by Councillor L E Taylor,
that a letter is sent from the Town Council to request that it is consulted at the
'planning brief' stage.
Resolved as proposed.
- Item 6:** **Community Police Matters.**
21/07 The crime figures for January 2007 were circulated and PC Melanie Deere
gave background details.
 ▪ Signage for the alcohol-free zone in the Twt Park will probably not be
 installed until April
- Item 7:** **Road Safety.**
22/07 The following items were discussed:
 • Concerns regarding the advertising boards around the town –
 PCSO Froude advised that he is in the process of visiting retailers to alert
 them to the Health and Safety issues.
 • The number of vans parking on Church Road, Llanblethian, which are
 causing problems to road users.
 • Inspector Patterson is drafting a letter in support of the Town Council's
 request to remove the parking bay at the junction of Westgate and
 Llantwit Major Road
- Item 8:** **Reports**
23/07 **a) Mayor**
Thursday 25th January – The Mayor attended South Wales Police
'Schoolwatch' Presentation in the Town Hall.
Thursday 25th January – Councillor J R Harris represented the Mayor at a
meeting 'Spotlight on Police' at the Vale of Glamorgan Hotel.
Saturday 27th January – Councillor J R Harris and Mrs Harris represented
the Mayor at a Charity Concert held at Llandaff Cathedral in aid of Wallich
Clifford Community. The Concert featured the Welsh Sinfonia and Llandaff
Cathedral Choir.
Wednesday 31st January – Mayor attended a Vale-Wide Fairtrade
Committee Meeting in Barry.
Thursday 1st February – The Mayor hosted a Cowbridge Fairtrade
Committee Meeting in the Mayor's Parlour.

Item 8:
23/07

Reports

a) Mayor (continued)

Monday 12th February – The Mayor hosted a visit by the Monday Club to the Council Chamber and Museum with Pamela Robson.

Tuesday 13th February – The Mayor and Consort had Dinner with Wing Commander Taylor and Mrs Taylor at 2 Llantwit Road, St Athan.

Wednesday 14th February – The Mayor hosted a Cowbridge Fairtrade Committee Meeting in the Mayor's Parlour.

The Mayor thanked Councillor J R Harris for attending two engagements, which she was unable to attend.

Members discussed an invitation, which had been received from One Voice Wales in respect of a garden party at Buckingham Palace on 10th July 2007. Wales has been allocated a limited number of invitations and Councils are invited to nominate a member plus one guest whose names will be entered into a draw for selection. Anyone nominated must not have previously attended a garden party. It was agreed for Councillor A Williams to be nominated from the Town Council.

b) Town Clerk's Report

Members are reminded that nominations for Mayor and Deputy Mayor will take place at the next Full Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 20th March 2007.

Dates for your diaries

Saturday 3rd March: Fairtrade Market –Town Hall 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Saturday 3rd March Fairtrade Dinner 7.30 p.m. - Duke of Wellington

Thursday 22nd March 2007: Big Screen – 'The Queen' tickets cost £3.00 and are available from the Town Clerk's Office.

Tuesday 22nd May 2007 – Mayor Making

Wednesday 23rd May – Adjourned AGM

Monday 11th June 2007 – Vale of Glamorgan Council – 'State of Area Debate'

Payment of the accounts to be ratified
Expenses totalling £10,585.25 to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor D W Morris, seconded by Councillor A Thomas, that the payments of the accounts be ratified.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 9:
24/07

Reports of Committees.

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor A Williams reported on the meeting held 5th February 2007 and the following was discussed:

- Thanks were expressed to the Amenities Supervisor in relation to the current floral displays and painting in the Limes Cemetery.
- Item 8.2 – Light in the grounds of Holy Cross Church. The Town Clerk advised that the light is not the responsibility of the Town Council but enquiries are being made for its repair.
- Concerns were raised regarding the condition of the Twt Playpark as a result of the adjoining building works.

Item 9:
24/07

Reports of Committees.

a. Leisure & Amenities. (continues)

The Town Clerk confirmed that Mr Daniels has agreed to discuss matters with members of the Leisure and Amenities Committee prior to their next meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor Mr A Thomas, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

b. Planning.

Councillor Mrs G Baty reported on the meeting held 5th February 2007.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor D W Morris, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

c. Finance and General Purposes Committee

Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held on 6th February 2007 and referred to Item 9.2 in respect of the Physic Garden and advised that enquiries have revealed that whilst sponsorship for all of the seating has been taken up there is an opportunity to purchase an Information Lectern and plinth at a cost of £1,870 plus VAT.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor A Thomas, that a budget provision of £2,500 is made for the purchase of the lectern and plinth.

Resolved as proposed.

Proposed by Councillor D W Morris, seconded by Councillor L E Taylor, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

d. Town Hall

Councillor A Thomas reported on the meeting held 6th February 2007 and advised that the new curtains have been hung in the Lesser Hall.

Councillor L E Taylor referred to Item 9.2 in relation to Temporary Events Notices and **proposed**, seconded by Councillor D W Morris, that a further letter is sent to John Smith MP requesting him to continue to pursue the matter.

Resolved as proposed.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor A E Banks, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 10:
25/07

Reports of Representatives.

10.1

Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.

No meeting.

10.2

Evan Jenkins Charity.

No meeting.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives. (continued)**
- 10.3 Cowbridge Institute Charity.**
Councillor Mrs G Baty advised that a routine meeting was held on 14th February when a report was received on the Trust's investments.
- 10.4 One Voice Wales.**
Councillor Mrs M Y Williams MBE advised that she had attended the last meeting held on 29th January when Fire Risk Assessments were discussed.
- 10.5 Conservation Area Advisory Sub-Group.**
Next meeting 21st February.
- 10.6 Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.**
No representative.
- 10.7 Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.**
Councillor Mrs G Baty advised that the AGM was held on 17 February. The Association are concerned that grant allowances in Europe are drying up so more fund raising for exchange visits will be necessary. The AGM was followed by a quiz and cheese and wine event.
- 10.8 Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.**
No meeting.
- 10.9 Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.**
Last meeting was held on 1st February 2007.
- 10.10 Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.**
Meeting on January 30th at which the head announced he was taking early retirement at the end of this school year. On 15th of February there was a social meeting for governors to meet staff.
- 10.11 Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**
No meeting.
- 10.12 Cowbridge in Bloom.**
No meeting.
- 10.13 Rural Vale Police/Community Consultative Group.**
No meeting.
- 10.14 Best Kept Village.**
No meeting.
- 10.15 Ystradowen Recreation Ground and Allotments Charity.**
No representative.
- 10.16 Community Liaison Committee.**
Next meeting to be held 14th March 2007.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives (continued)**
- 10.17 Walled Towns Friendship Circle.**
No meeting.
- 10.18 Vale of Glamorgan Buildings Preservation Trust.**
No meeting.
- 10.19 Age Concern ‘Good Neighbour Scheme’.**
No representative.
- 10.20 Vale of Glamorgan Safety Partnership.**
No representative.
- 10.21 Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
No representative. AGM to be held on 28th February 2007.
- 10.22 Fair Trade Group**
Councillor Mrs L Adams reported that there has been a good take-up of stalls for the Market to be held on 3rd March in the Main Hall and later a Dinner is to be held at the Duke of Wellington and tickets are available.
Students from Cowbridge Comprehensive School have been very successful in canvassing traders in the use of Fair Trade products.
- Item 11: Consideration of ‘A Good Practice Guide for Community and Town Councils’.**
26/07
- It was agreed that an information evening should be pursued and that this should remain on the agenda in order for progress to be made.
 - Diary of Events – this would be an attempt to avoid clashes of events where possible and it was suggested that the Library might be a suitable venue, as it is understood that a similar facility previously existed.
 - To include a ten/fifteen minute period to allow members of the public to ask questions of the Town Council Members. It is suggested that the time allotted should be immediately after the police representative has left the meeting.
- Proposed** by Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor J R Harris that standing orders should be amended to allow an opportunity for members to address the Council during an adjourned period of the meeting after the police representative has left the meeting and that details of the exact wording be deferred to the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
Resolved as proposed.
- Item 12: Correspondence**
27/07
- 12.1 To consider Local Service Boards/Local Service Agreements – Consultation document. The document sets out how the Assembly Government, working with its public service partners, proposes to take this forward and are seeking views by 2 April 2007. The paper also asks for expressions of interest from Local Strategic Partnerships in becoming one of the development areas in which the design of the new model will be tested and expressions of interest in this are requested by 5th March.

Item 12: Correspondence (continued)

Proposed by Councillor Mrs L Adams, seconded by Councillor Mrs G Baty that the Town Council sends an expression of interest and advising that whilst the Town Council is not in a Local Strategy Partnership it would like to be involved in the composition of Local Service Boards and that this is in line with the campaign being made by 'One Voice Wales for Town and Community Councils to be involved in the process.

Resolved as proposed.

- 12.2 To consider a letter received from WAG attaching 'Fire and Rescue National Framework – Schedule of Revisions Comments on the revisions are to be made by 2nd March 2007.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs L Adams, seconded by Councillor A Williams that a response is sent from the Town Council stating that it welcomes: the widening of the remit of the Community Safety Committee beyond fire safety to include the formal inclusion of road traffic accidents; the targets in the Risk Reduction Plans of each Fire and Rescue Authority of reducing deaths and injuries and their social, commercial and economic impacts; the importance of safeguarding the built and natural environment and heritage; integrating the FRA in the wider social justice agenda; the investment in Firelink and the aim that it should be fully interoperable across all UK emergency services by 2009; the Service Standards expressed in response times; the regulatory reform of October 2006 and its emphasis on fire prevention at non-domestic premises; and the commitment of WAG to changing the workforce profile to better reflect the diversity of the communities served, which includes the recruitment of women as well as ethnic minorities.

Resolved as proposed.

- 12.3 To give consideration to the annual renewal of membership to 'One Voice Wales'

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor D W Morris that membership of 'One Voice Wales is renewed for a further year in the sum of £433.00 and that it is further reviewed on the next occasion that renewal falls due.

Resolved as proposed.

- 12.4 To note a letter received from VGC in respect of a variation of Premise Licence in respect of the Duke of Wellington Hotel. The amendment to the Licence conditions relates to the use of outside areas of the premises.
Noted.

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Item 12: Correspondence (continued)

- 12.5 To give consideration to a letter received from VGC in respect of Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. The letter advised that under the new act that the term 'litter authority' is redefined to include community councils. This includes the ability to issue fix penalties for litter and waste offences. Before considering this however, community notices must ensure that they have sufficient resources to pursue any unpaid penalties and any employees must undertake an approved course of training. The enforcement officer at the Vale of Glamorgan Council is willing to discuss the matter with the Town Council.
Noted.
Members agreed that resources are not adequate as far as this Council is concerned.
- 12.6 Letter received from Phil Chappell, Senior Rural Generation Officer of Creative Rural Communities, in respect of proposed 'Axis 3' Funding. The deadline for submitting expressions of interest forms is 30th March 2007. The writer has offered to come and discuss the development of any projects that the Town Council considers might benefit the community and economy of the town.
Members arranged a provisional date of Tuesday 13th March at 10.am.in the Council Chamber (subject to this being mutually convenient to Phil Chappell), which will allow for discussions to take place at committee level first.
- 12.7 To give consideration to a letter received from Cowbridge Charter Trust which encloses a 'draft' agreement in respect of the proposed floodlighting of the 'north west elevation of Holy Cross Church and addresses some of the concerns previously raised.
After consideration of representations by several members plus information received from 'One Voice Wales' it was concluded that the matter could not proceed. Further enquiries were required, particularly regarding that an 'easement' is a disposal of land in the widest sense and that the Town Council cannot do this without consent from the Secretary of State.
Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Arnold and **resolved** that further clarification is sought and the matter referred back to the Leisure and Amenities Committee.
- 12.8 To give consideration to a letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect of the renewal of the premises licence to provide regulated entertainment. The letter advises that the Licensing Department's interpretation of the Licensing Act 2003 (fees) Regulations and specifically the Miscellaneous Exemptions is that it does not consider a Town Hall to be a 'similar building' to a Community Centre or Village Hall. The letter further stated that there is no relevant case law on the subject but should there be in the future, then the authority reserves its right to amend its opinion. The Town Council does have the right to appeal the decision by way of Judicial Review.
The Town Clerk advised members that before any decision is made whether or not to make an appeal by way of a Judicial Review, that legal advice is sought.

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- Item 12: Correspondence (continued)**
Members agreed that advice should be obtained from 'One Voice Wales' in respect of this matter and that the renewal fee be paid to ensure that the licence continues in force but that it should be pointed out that its payment is 'without prejudice'
- 12.9 To note a letter received from Councillor Nic Hodges, Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan. The letter advised that arrangements have been made for a visit to HM Parc Prison, Bridgend to take place on Wednesday 18th April 2007. Anyone interested should contact the Mayor's secretary direct. Transport has been arranged from Barry.
Noted
- Item 13: Publications (All held by the Town Clerk unless stated).**
28/07
- 13.1 Summary from the main points of the 'One Voice Wales meeting held 29th January 2007. (copy circulated to members)
Noted
- 13.2 'The Voice' – January Edition of the publication produced by 'One Voice Wales' (circulated to members)
Noted
Members discussed the motion which Carmarthen Regional Committee intend to submit to the 2007 AGM, calling on the Welsh Assembly Government to develop the A470 into a North-South dual carriageway and for which they are asking for support from other areas and for a seconder to the motion.
Proposed by Councillor L E Taylor, seconded by Councillor Mrs G Baty, that a letter in support of the motion is sent from this Council.
Resolved as proposed.
- 13.3 Western Power Distribution – Quality of Supply report 2006.
Noted.
- Item 14: Documents for sealing.**
29/07
- 14.1 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for grave no N157 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Mr Bannister, 1 Pen y Bryn, Trehyngyll, Cowbridge.
- 14.2 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Cremation Plot No. D1 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Ms. C Mears, 14 Primrose Close, Cowbridge.
All documents sealed.
- Item 15: Date and time of next Meeting.**
30/07
Tuesday 20th March 2007 at 7.00pm.

Councillor Mrs L Adams
Mayor

Date minutes signed