

**Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council**  
**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting**  
**held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,**  
**on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2004 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Mayor - Councillor H W Field  
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Mrs S M Cox  
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, G A Cox, V W Eveleigh,  
J R Harris, J L Jones, H L Morgan and A Williams

**In Attendance:**  
Town Clerk - Mr Andrew Davies  
Administrative Assistant - Mrs Jackie Griffin  
Treasurer – Mrs Jane Tyre  
Police Inspector - Chris Patterson

The Meeting was opened with a prayer from Councillor G A Cox.

**Item 1:**           **Apologies for Absence.**  
**49/04**           Councillors: Mrs L Adams, Mrs G Baty, W H Evans,  
and Mrs J Williams.  
Revd Canon D Belcher.

**Item 2:**           **Declarations of Interest.**  
**50/04**           Councillor J L Jones, agenda item 12.2.  
Councillor H W Field, planning minutes (5.13).  
Councillor Mrs S M Cox, any matters relating to Cowbridge Charter Trust  
Ltd and Y Bont Faen School and Iolo Morganwg.  
Councillor G A Cox, all planning matters.

**Item 3:**           **The Treasurer's Report.**  
**51/04**           The Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2003 to 29<sup>th</sup>  
February 2004 and statement of bank balances as at 29<sup>th</sup> February 2004 had  
previously been circulated.

Balances as at the 29<sup>th</sup> February 2004.

Current Account:	£ 1,500.00
Investment Gold Account:	£ 76,434.45
	-----
Total	£ 77,934.45
Less Outstanding Cheques	£ 618.43
	-----
	£ 77,316.02
	-----

**Page two**

**Item 3: The Treasurer's Report. (Continued)**

The Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2003 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2004 and statement of bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2004 had previously been circulated.

Balances as at the 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2004	
Current Account:	£ 1,500.00
Investment Gold Account:	£ 71,667.77
	-----
Total	£ 73,167.77
Less Outstanding Cheques	£ 12,008.21
	-----
	£ 61,159.56
	-----

**Proposed** by Councillor H L Morgan, seconded by Councillor G A Cox, that these reports be accepted and adopted.

**Resolved:** This report be adopted.

The Treasurer circulated information relating to interest rates available on some alternative bank accounts.

**Proposed** by Councillor Mrs S M Cox, seconded by Councillor J L Jones, that the matter be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee and that it be given delegated powers to act in the best interests of the Town Council.

**Resolved** as proposed.

**Item 4: To confirm the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held  
52/04 16<sup>th</sup> March 2004.**

**Proposed** by Councillor Mrs M Arnold, seconded by Councillor H L Morgan and **Resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2004 was confirmed as a correct record and was duly signed.

**Item 5: Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2004.  
53/04**

No matters arising.

**Item 6: Community Police Matters.  
54/04**

The crime figures for March were circulated to members and the details explained by Inspector Patterson. Eight crimes have been detected and cautions issued for a further three out of a total of twenty-two.

**Item 7: Road Safety.  
55/04**

7.1

Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council in response to the matters raised by this Council relating to flooding issues.

1. The Aberthin Road - when the area was visited no flooding was apparent although arrangements will be made to clear the channel that guides highway surface water to the roadside drain.

2. The flooding at the Butts - the cause appears to be as a result of waste from the 'wash downs' at the end of market day. The capacity of the surface water gully will be investigated with a view to increasing its size.

3. Ponding water at the junction of Town Mill Road and the Butts appears to be caused by a low spot in the carriageway, as no highway drainage is present at this location. The proximity of any existing highway surface water drainage will be investigated and the construction of a gully considered.

**Noted.**

**Item 7: Road Safety.**

Inspector Patterson advised members that he is now having regular meetings with Keith Jones, Operational Manager of the Highways Department at the Vale of Glamorgan Council and will be happy to discuss any problems raised by the Town Council. He has already discussed the problems of the flooding on the Aberthin Road and the causes are being investigated.

Members drew the following matters to the attention of Inspector Patterson:

- Erosion of the verge between the top of Constitution Hill and St Quentins Castle.
- Increased volume of Heavy Goods Vehicles through the town.
- The Limes – vehicles parking at the Limes and mannequins being placed outside a retail outlet causing an obstruction.

Members also expressed their thanks for:

- The policing of Charter weekend.
- Action taken with regard to Penlan Hill.
- Repairs to the highway on the approach to the Cross Inn.

**Item 8:  
56/04**

**Reports:**

**a) Mayors Report :**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March** - The Mayor and Mayoress attended a The High Schools Spring Festival Concert hosted by Cardiff City Government at St Davids Hall, Cardiff followed by a Reception in the St Asaph Room.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March** - The Mayor and Mayoress attended the Opening Night of Cowbridge Comprehensive School's Production of 'Confusion' by Alan Ayckbourn at the St Donats Art Centre.

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** - The Mayor attended the 'School Watch' Presentation in the Main Hall, Cowbridge Town Hall and sat on the panel of judges.

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** - The Mayor and Mayoress attended a Dinner hosted by Councillor A Powell, Chairman of Vale of Glamorgan Council in honour of the Vale of Glamorgan Town Mayors in the Chairman's Suite, Civic Offices, Barry.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March** - The Mayor and Mayoress attended 'The Good Neighbours (S.W.E.D.) Housing Association Celebratory Luncheon for 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Geoffrey Ashe Court 1994 at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge. The Mayor and Mayoress then attended a German Glass Blowing Exhibition at the Old Hall.

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March** - The Mayor attended Cowbridge Comprehensive School's Year 11 Progress File Presentation and Certificate Ceremony at Cowbridge Leisure Centre with Guests of Honour, Mr Alex Meredith and Baroness Ilora Findlay. The event was followed by Tea.

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April** - The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cardiff County and Vale of Glamorgan Youth Orchestra Concert featuring 'Music from Stage and Screen' at City Hall, Cardiff.

**Item 8: Reports (Continued)**  
**b) Town Clerk's Report**  
**Dates for Your Diary**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May - Mayor's Ball  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July - Civic Sunday

Payment of the accounts to be ratified.  
Expenses totalling £16,572.57 to be paid.

Councillor J R Harris referred to the final figures of the Receipts and payment statement for the end of the financial year and drew members attention to the increased income as a result of Town Hall bookings.

**Proposed** by Councillor J L Jones, seconded by Councillor A Williams, that the payments of the accounts be ratified.

**Resolved** as proposed.

**Item 9:**  
**57/04 Reports of Committees.**  
**a. Leisure & Amenities.**

Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> April 2004. Members discussed the content of a letter in the Gem Newspaper (edition 15<sup>th</sup> April), referring to the re-pointing of the boundary wall at Southgate Park. The writer was under the impression that this is in the ownership of the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

**Proposed** by Mrs M Arnold, seconded by Councillor G A Cox, that a response should be sent for publication in the Gem Newspaper by the Town Clerk, confirming, ownership, the work was a fixed price contract and that lime mortar was used which is dependent upon weather conditions.

**Resolved** as proposed.

Councillor Mrs S M Cox referred to item 11.1 and requested that it be amended to state that whilst Cowbridge 750 was not funding the Walled Garden project, it was fully supporting it.

Members discussed item 8.3 with regard to the vaulted cremations plot and agreed that the fee chargeable should be proportionate to that of a vaulted grave.

**Proposed** by Councillor A Williams, seconded by Councillor V W Eveleigh, that the amended report be accepted and adopted.

**Resolved** as proposed.

**b. Planning.**

Councillor Mrs S M Cox reported on the meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> April 2004.

**Proposed** by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor H L Morgan, 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 6<sup>th</sup> April 2004 .

**Proposed** by Councillor G A Cox, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Arnold, that the report be accepted and adopted.

**Resolved** as proposed.

**d. Town Hall**

Councillor J L Jones reported on the meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> April 2004 and referred to item 5a with regard to the crack in the ceiling, which is to be investigated to determine the exact seriousness of the problem.

**Proposed** by Councillor H L Morgan, seconded by Councillor A Williams that the report be accepted and adopted.

**Resolved** as proposed.

**Item 10:  
58/04**

**Creative Rural Communities (Article 33 Funding)**

Councillor H W Field gave a report of the meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> March.

The following proposals were discussed at the meeting: New signage for the Town perimeters, and finger posts within the Town.

- New playground equipment for Druids Green.
- Refurbishment of Holy Cross cemetery (gravestones)
- Feasibility study for a swimming pool in Cowbridge
- Drop in centre for those in need throughout the area.

After discussion, it was decided to submit initial applications for all but the swimming pool feasibility study.

The swimming pool feasibility study was declined because a prerequisite of the applications for feasibility studies was the intention to carry out the development if the funding was made available for the study. It was felt by the committee that even if a study supported the concept, funding would not be made available to construct and support a swimming pool in Cowbridge.

Minutes of the meeting will be prepared by the Mayor and circulated

**Item 11:  
59/04**

**Reports of Representatives.**

**11.1**

**Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.**

No meeting.

**11.2**

**Evan Jenkins Charity.**

Councillor Mrs M Arnold advised that a meeting was held on 15 March 2004 when the new chairman (Mr Roger Howells) and vice chairman (Mr David Pugh) were elected and thanks given to the outgoing chair.

**11.3**

**Cowbridge Institute Charity.**

No meeting.

**11.4**

**One Voice Wales..**

Councillor J L Jones confirmed that he was attending the inaugural meeting on Saturday 24 April at Llandrindod Wells.

**11.5**

**Conservation Area Advisory Sub-Group.**

No representative.

**11.6**

**Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.**

Councillor J L Jones confirmed that the new volunteers have been retained but that the museum is still without a curator and the assistant curator will cover for the time being. Councillor Jones emphasised that the museum will remain open.

- Item 11: Reports of Representatives (continued).**
- 11.7 Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.**  
Councillor Mrs S M Cox confirmed that the AGM is to be held on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The visit from Clisson will take place between 20/23 May.
- 11.8 Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.**  
No meeting.
- 11.9 Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.**  
The Town Clerk holds minutes of the meeting held 18 March 2004
- 11.10 Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.**  
No representative
- 11.11 Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**  
No meeting.
- 11.12 Cowbridge in Bloom.**  
Councillor Mrs M Arnold confirmed that a meeting was held recently. Monies are due to be collected in the next few weeks towards the costs of the summer plants and volunteers are needed for watering.
- 11.13 Rural Vale Police/Community Consultative Group.**  
Next meeting Monday 26 April, 2004
- 11.14 Best Kept Village.**  
No meeting.
- 11.15 Ystradowen Recreation Ground and Allotments Charity.**  
No representative.
- 11.16 Community Liaison Committee.**  
Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> March 2004. Mr R Skinner gave a presentation about the 'Best Village Competition'. Councillor Harris has since been notified that the following villages participated last year (2003): -  
Colwinston, Flemingston, Gileston, Llanmaes, Llysworney, Michaelston-le-Pit, Pendoylan, Troes, Wenvoe, Leckwith, Wick and Ystradowen.
- Concern was also expressed at the meeting by smaller community councils about them being overwhelmed with the volume of paperwork evolving out of 'One Voice Wales'.  
Councillor J L Jones advised that Councillor David Street has volunteered as a contact for any community council in the area should they require help or assistance with any information requiring explanation.
- 11.17 Walled Towns Friendship Circle.**  
No meeting.
- 11.18 Vale of Glamorgan Buildings Preservation Trust.**  
No meeting.

**Item 11: Reports of Representatives (continued).**  
**11.19 Cowbridge Charter Trust.**

Councillor Mrs S M Cox advised that the following events are now being planned and prepared for the forthcoming months:

- Weekend of 6 November – Food and Wine Festival.
- Series of short walks being organised by the Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers.
- Cowbridge Comprehensive School (after school club) is to stage a production at the Town Hall in June.
- Flower Festival at Holy Cross Church – 30 June – 4 July (Sponsorship for displays to be arranged)

Councillor Mrs M Arnold enquired if there is any progress with the floodlighting of Holy Cross Church and what insurance arrangements will be put in place; Councillor Mrs Arnold also raised concerns about safety of the graveyard should the rear of the building be lit.

Councillor Mrs Cox confirmed that so far, a faculty has been obtained from the Church in Wales for the installation and wiring of the lights all of which will be at ground level and that it will be the responsibility of the Trust to provide the necessary insurance cover. There will be full consultation with the Town Council once exact details of the lighting are known. It is planned for the church to be floodlit at set hours so as not to be intrusive to neighbouring properties.

Councillor G A Cox advised that similar projects undertaken by other churches had not required any increase in public liability cover.

**Item 12: Correspondence.**  
**60/04**

- 12.1 Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council enclosing the Draft Municipal Waste Strategy and a questionnaire.  
**Noted.**  
Members were each circulated with a copy of the questionnaire and it was agreed that they should respond individually.
- 12.2 Letter received from Wenallt Licensing Services enclosing notice of the application for the Transfer of Justices Licence in respect of the Masons Arms listed for hearing at the Barry Magistrates' Court on 6 May 2004.  
**Noted.**
- 12.3 Letter received from the Welsh Assembly Government – Draft Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales Consultation Document.  
**Noted.**
- 12.4 Letter received from the National Joint Council for Local Government Services setting out the car allowance rates effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004.  
**Noted.**

**Item 13: Publications Received (All held by Town Clerk unless stated).**  
**61/04**

- 13.1 'Tathan' – Quarterly Publication produced by R.A.F. St Athan  
**Noted**

**Page eight**

**Item 14:**        **Documents for sealing.**  
**62/04**        Certificate of Purchase for exclusive right of burial for Cremation Plot B1,  
purchased by Mrs Reta Thomas, Cusop, 71 Broadway, Cowbridge.  
**Document Sealed**

**Item 15:**        **Date and time of next Meeting.**  
**63/04**        Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2004 at 7.30pm.

Councillor H W Field  
**Mayor**

Date minutes signed  
20<sup>th</sup> April 2004