

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Tuesday 21st April 2009 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mayor – Councillor D W Morris
Deputy Mayor – Councillor J R Harris
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, A E Banks, Mrs G Baty, Mrs A Burges,
G A Cox (*arrived Item 10.12*), Mrs S M Cox, Mrs S Massey, L E Taylor and
A Williams.

In Attendance:

Town Clerk - Mr Andrew Davies
Administrative Assistant - Mrs Jackie Griffin
Mrs J Isaacs - Glamorgan Gem Newspaper.
Sergeant C Warner
Revd Julian Jenkins

Revd Julian Jenkins opened the meeting with a prayer.

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
49/09 Councillors D E Magnay, A Thomas and Mrs N C Thomas.
Mrs P Prowle, Treasurer

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
50/09 None.

Item 3: **The Treasurer's Report.**
51/09 The Report was presented by Councillor J R Harris in the absence of the
Treasurer. The Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April 2008
to 31st March 2009 and statement of bank balance as at 31st March 2009
was circulated.

Balances as at the 31st March 2009.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Current Account: | £ 1,500.00 |
| Investment Gold Account: | £ 49,172.92 |
| Money Market | <u>£ 60,000.00</u> |
| Total | £110,672.92 |
| Less Outstanding Cheques | <u>£ 9,794.61</u> |
| | <u>£100,878.31</u> |

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor Mrs S M Cox
that these reports be accepted and adopted.

Resolved: This report be adopted.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor Mrs S M Cox
and **resolved** that the money market funds should be reinvested for a further
three months.

Item 4: **To confirm the minutes of Town Council Meeting held on**
52/09 **17th March 2009.**

Proposed by Councillor A Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs G Baty, and **Resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 17th March 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.

Item 5: **Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on**
53/09 **17th March 2009.**

5.1

Letter received from Councillor G A Cox in response to the Town Council's communication regarding car parking issues in Cowbridge. Councillor Cox advised that he would be pleased to attend a public meeting on the matter subject to the following points being clarified:

- The objective of the meeting – to listen to the parking issues raised or to try to provide solutions/answers?
- How would the meeting be advertised and what wording would be used;
- The format of the meeting – named speakers or open to the floor?
- What is the Town Council view on parking issues in the town?

Councillor Cox added that any suggestions would be useful to know in advance so that they could be commented upon in more detail.

Members of the Town Council agreed that:

- The objective of the meeting is for the public or local bodies to be able to raise issues and concerns;
- Wording of the advertisement of the meeting would be left to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk;
- The format of the meeting would be for Councillor Cox plus any appropriate officers to be allowed to answer any car parking issues raised and for the meeting to be chaired by the Mayor;
- Town Councillors would express individual opinions.

Item 6: **Community Police Matters.**

54/09

Sergeant Warner reported on the crime figures for March, which showed a slight reduction on the same period last year.

Item 7: **Road Safety.**

55/09

Members raised the following points:

• Safety issues at the car boot sales held in the Town Hall Car Park; Councillor L E Taylor advised that Rotary are addressing the problem and will continue steward the event;

- Vehicles continually parking at the bus stops;
- Vehicles parking opposite Old Hall;
- Vehicles parking outside Llanblethian Church Hall.

Sergeant Warner advised the members of the Council that this is the last meeting that he would be attending due to him moving to work in the Barry Area. Sergeant Kilhberg will be returning to Cowbridge. The Mayor thanked Sergeant Warner on behalf of the Town Council for his attendance and help at the meetings.

Item 8:
56/09

Reports

a) Mayor

Friday 20th March – The Mayor and Mayoress hosted a Cheese and Wine Party with a private viewing of Cowbridge Museum in the Lesser Hall in aid of Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Society.

Thursday 26th March – The Mayor and Mayoress hosted a visit to the Town Hall and Museum by the Cowbridge Beavers.

The Mayor and Mayoress attended Bridgend Samaritans AGM with refreshments at Bridgend Civic Offices.

Friday 27th March - The Mayor and Mayoress attended Llantwit Major Town Council's Citizens Award Ceremony at Llantonian Hall.

Monday 30th March – The Mayor attended 'A Celebratory Concert' by the Cardiff County and Vale of Glamorgan Music Service's Youth Orchestra at University Hall, Corbett Road, Cardiff.

Tuesday 31st March – The Mayor attended the Launch Party of Bro Radio 98.1 for the Vale at YMCA Hub, Barry.

The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cowbridge Comprehensive School's Presentation Evening with last year's Year 13 receiving their A Level Certificates. The presentation was preceded by an informal reception.

Saturday 4th April - The Mayor and Mayoress hosted a Coffee Morning in the Mayor's Parlour in aid of Cancer Care Cymru in conjunction with the Museum official opening of Cell 3.

Wednesday 8th April – The Mayor and Mayoress attended the Opening of the New Bar at the Bear Hotel.

b) Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk reminded members of the annual Citizen of the Year Award and advised that a letter will be sent to the Gem during the next week and will request any nominations by the end of May.

Heritage Open Day (now named Open Doors 2009) in conjunction with the Civic Trust for Wales takes place during September. The Town Clerk advised that he had spoken to the Curator of the Museum and a date of 19th September has been agreed. Arrangements will now be made for advertising the event on the Open Doors web site.

Dates for your diaries

Mayor's Ball – 24th April 2009 (Bear Hotel).

Big Screen – Thursday 30th April – "Slumdog Millionaire"

Mayor Making – 19th May 2009.

Adjourned AGM – 20th May 2009.

Civic Sunday – 12th July, 2009

Open Doors – 19th September 2009.

Payment of the accounts to be ratified

Expenses totalling £23,212.03 to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs S M Cox, seconded by Councillor L E Taylor, that the payments of the accounts be ratified.

Resolved as proposed.

**Item 9:
57/09**

Reports of Committees:

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 6th April 2009. Item 9 – Councillor Mrs S M Cox advised that a new ‘Street Cleaner’ had been appointed, is due to start on Monday 27th April and will be made aware of specific areas where litter is a problem.

There were litterbins on Broadway but it is understood that they were removed by request.

Item 7.4 – Members discussed the reinstatement work at the Twt Park carried out by Centre Great and agreed that the Town Clerk should write to their representative, Mr D Daniels, to request a meeting in order that concerns about the work undertaken to date is discussed.

Proposed by Councillor A Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs S M Cox that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

b. Planning.

Councillor A Williams reported on the meeting held on 6th April 2009. Councillor Mrs S M Cox **proposed** that in respect of Item 5.7 (planning application No. 2009/00303/FUL), that an additional objection is made to the demolition of the stone boundary walls which are an important feature and characteristic of the village of Llanblethian and will fail to preserve or enhance the conservation area.

Proposed by Councillor L E Taylor, seconded by Councillor A E Banks, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

c. Finance & General Purposes.

Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held 7th April 2009 and referred to Item 10.1 regarding the possibility of providing a prize at future Cowbridge Comprehensive School Prize Giving Ceremonies. It was agreed that the matter should be placed on the agenda of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for further investigation but that any members not on that committee, who have any suggestions should make them be known before the next committee meeting.

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

Resolved as proposed.

d. Town Hall.

Councillor D W Morris reported on the meeting held 7th April 2009.

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

Resolved as proposed.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives.**
58/09
- 10.1 Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.**
No meeting.
- 10.2 Evan Jenkins Charity.**
Next meeting 23rd April.
- 10.3 Cowbridge Institute Charity.**
No meeting.
- 10.4 One Voice Wales.**
No meeting.
- 10.5 Conservation Area Advisory Sub-Group.**
Next meeting 23rd April.
- 10.6 Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.**
Councillor Mrs S M Cox confirmed that the last meeting held was the AGM and had taken place on 2nd April.
- 10.7 Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.**
No meeting.
Members of the Association are due to go to Clisson shortly and the Mayor is hosting a reception on 23rd April in the Parlour.
- 10.8 Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.**
No meeting.
Members considered a letter received from Mr Jones-Jenkins at the Vale of Glamorgan Council. Mr Jones-Jenkins advised that he is no longer Public Rights of Way Officer at the Council but will pass on the request for a meeting to the Chairman.
Members agreed that meetings should be re-started and a letter should be sent to the Vale of Glamorgan Council to establish if there is an 'acting' Public Rights of Way officer in the interim until such time a successor is appointed.
- 10.9 Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.**
In the absence of Councillor Mrs Thomas, the Town Clerk advised that a new head teacher, Mr Michael Griffiths, has been appointed and starts in September.
- 10.10 Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.**
No meeting.
- 10.11 Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**
Councillor A E Banks reported on the meeting held on Tuesday 7th April. Councillor Banks advised that the three Vale Councillors had attended the meeting upon invitation and it is hoped that their presence will be continued. Some of the items discussed were, the new web site, car parking issues, pavements, business rates and traffic management. Provision of training for eight people is to be given for a defibrillator that is to be given by Cowbridge Rotary Club.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives.**
- 10.12 Cowbridge in Bloom.**
Next meeting Thursday 23rd April at 6pm.
- 10.13 Rural Vale Police/Community Consultative Group.**
Next meeting Monday 27th April at 7.30pm
- 10.14 Best Kept Village.**
Next meeting June.
- 10.15 Ystradowen Recreation Ground and Allotments Charity.**
No meeting.
- 10.16 Community Liaison Committee.**
Councillor Mrs N Thomas will give a report at the next meeting.
- 10.17 Walled Towns Friendship Circle.**
No meeting.
- 10.18 Vale of Glamorgan Buildings Preservation Trust.**
No representative.
- 10.19 Age Concern 'Good Neighbour Scheme'.**
No meeting.
- 10.20 Vale of Glamorgan Community Safety Partnership.**
No meeting.
- 10.21 Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
No meeting.
- 10.22 Fair Trade Group**
No meeting.
- 10.23 Creative Rural Communities.**
Councillor Mrs G Baty reported on a meeting that she had recently attended. There was a talk about a initiative that has been set up by the Welsh Assembly Government to help farmers to diversify enabling their businesses to become more profitable although as yet there has not been a big take up in South East Wales.
Grants were discussed and how help can be given to organisations for various projects including the setting up of Websites. Grant monies have been allocated to tourism and include upgrading of 'bed and breakfast' facilities.
- Item 11: Youth Council.**
59/09 Councillor Mrs Burges advised that she has been approached by Tina Simmonds from the Youth Centre about the whether the Town Council has given any further consideration to the setting up of a Youth Council. It was agreed that Councillor Burges should make further enquires and report back to the Council at the next meeting,

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Item 12: Correspondence.

60/09

12.1

Copy letter sent by Cowbridge Charter Trust to the Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding the Cowbridge Town Walls and their future restoration. The letter outlined how the first phase of the restoration has been completed but that further progress cannot be made because of lack of access to any source of grant funding since the walls belong to the Vale of Glamorgan Council. The letter outlined the condition of the remaining un-restored walls and highlighted key points with a recent meeting held in March. The Trust is requesting funding of £60,000 from The Vale of Glamorgan Council in order to complete the essential restoration work.

Noted.

12.2

Letter received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council confirming that a new display map has been put in the display board by the Town Hall Car park and promotes an associated Valeways Walk Leaflet.

Noted.

The Town Clerk advised that a copy of the map is displayed in the foyer of the Town Clerk's Office.

Item 13: Publications (All held by the Town Clerk unless otherwise stated).

61/09

13.1

CADW – Heritage in Wales – Spring 2009 Edition

Noted.

13.2

Rural Wales – Spring 2009.

Noted.

Item 14: Documents for sealing.

62/09

None.

Item 15: Date and time of next Meeting.

63/09

Tuesday 19th May 2009 at 7.30pm – Mayor Making.

Wednesday 20th May 2009 at 7.00 – Adjourned AGM

Councillor J R Harris

Mayor

Date minutes signed.