



Be kind



Byddwch yn garedig

## COWBRIDGE WITH LLANBLETHIAN TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 7:00pm – The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.**

**Present:** Mayor, Councillor S Vaughan  
Deputy Mayor, Councillor J Andrew  
Councillor A Trousdell  
Councillor M Arnold  
Councillor Gwen Baty  
Councillor Gus Baty  
Councillor A Pritchard  
Councillor R Watkins  
Councillor N Thomas  
Councillor H Weddell

Ms C Kennedy - Town Clerk  
Mr A Davies - Assistant Town Clerk

### **ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor S Vaughan informed the meeting that a resignation had been received from Councillor V Ellis and the Casual Vacancy inviting residents to call an election would be live until 12 o' clock on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

Rev Weddell opened the meeting with a Prayer.

**RESOLVED:** Apologies received and accepted from Councillors M Wilson and S Cox.

### **ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Personal or Prejudicial Declarations of Interest received from Members in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

### **ITEM 3 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the Annual General and Ordinary Town Council Meeting held at 7:00pm on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were approved.

### **ITEM 4 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the Annual and Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

**ITEM 5      PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from members of the public.

**ITEM 6      COMMUNITY POLICE MATTERS**

No update received.

**ITEM 7      ROAD SAFETY**

Cllr Pritchard confirmed that a 20mph speed limit was soon to be enforced in Aberthin.

Cllr Andrew referred to a scheme arranged by Cllr Pritchard with the local Police to recruit volunteers for the purpose of carrying out speed checks in Cowbridge. He informed the meeting that Cllr Gwen Baty is in the process of arranging a similar scheme in Llanblethian, Cllr Pritchard confirmed that a minimum of 3 volunteers were required to carry out a street speed watch scheme.

Cllr J Cox confirmed that information had that very day been published on the Vale of Glamorgan Council website confirming the areas where a 20mph speed limit is to be enforced.

**ITEM 8      AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS**

**RESOLVED**

The draft amendments to Standing Orders were approved.

**ITEM 9      MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Cllr Andrew proposed a maintenance plan for outside areas and the Town Hall.

**RESOLVED**

Preparation of a live maintenance and town hall improvement plan to be reviewed monthly at the Town Hall and Leisure & Amenities Committees.

**ITEM 10     PAVEMENT LICENCES**

Cllr Watkins update the meeting that the Vale of Glamorgan Council have proposed to start charging from July 2021 for tables/chairs and A boards outside properties.

**RESOLVED**

The Town Clerk to write a letter to the Vale of Glamorgan Council advising that Members disagree with charging payment licences for tables and chairs due to the likely detrimental effect on Cowbridge businesses.

## **ITEM 11      REPORTS**

### **a) Mayors Report**

The Chair of the Governors of Y Bont Faen School has thanked the Town Council for listening to and supporting local concerns over the Vales consultation plan to expand primary provision in Cowbridge.

I was invited to visit the art exhibition of the marine artist Nick John Rees on Saturday 12th June 2021 at 23b High Street Cowbridge. The exhibition is open from Tuesday to Sunday (inclusive) until the 27th June. The exhibition consists of around 70 original seascape paintings of all sizes and prices as well as a large selection of signed limited edition prints in the show.

The Deputy Mayor Cllr John Andrew is going to attend a discussion forum organised by the Vale Council which is looking to strengthen the links between the Vale Public Services Board and Town and Community Councils on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June. The meeting will be chaired by Mark Brace Assistant Commissioner to the Police and Crime Commissioner, South Wales who is the Vice Chair of the Vale Public Service Board. Officers from the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Cardiff and Vale UHB, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service and Natural Resources Wales will also be in attendance.

### **b) Town Clerks Report**

Many thanks to Adam (the Assistant Clerk) and Cllr Alec Trousdell (the Chair of F&G) for their support with collating the required audit documents which were submitted to the internal auditor in good time.

It is also appreciated how much work the previous Assistant Clerk and Clerk did to leave all documents in good order, which enabled us to be able to locate and provide all the necessary information required.

The Auditor's Report' has been received and is included with the meeting papers along with the annual return.

Once the annual return has been approved by Full Council and signed off by the Mayor, it will be sent to the external auditors along with all supporting documents.

## **ITEM 12      THE FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **RESOLVED**

- a) The payments and receipts and bank reconciliation for April and May were approved.
- b) The Annual Return for the financial year 2020/21 was approved.

## **ITEM 13      REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **a) Planning**

Cllr Andrew reported that no Chair or Deputy Chair had been elected due to the absence of Cllr S Cox who is a long-standing Chair of the Committee.

Cllr Andrew went on to say that the Council had received a pre-application consultation regarding the proposals for a new primary school in the grounds of Cowbridge Comprehensive School which had been forwarded to all Members. Responses were required by the 5th July 2021, however, the Town Clerk has managed to secure an extension to the 16<sup>th</sup> July to enable Members to consider at the next Planning Committee meeting. Cllr Andrew went on to say that he would encourage all Councillors to make their own personal submissions and to send copies to the Town Clerk.

Cllr Vaughan reminded Members that this is a pre-application and will come back to full planning at a later date.

**RESOLVED:** Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were approved.

### **b) Leisure and Amenities**

Cllr Thomas updated members regarding the installation of the new play equipment at Llanblethian Playing Fields.

Cllr Vaughan informed members that extra collections of the Biffa bins would be arranged as and when required.

Cllr Rhys Watkins raised the issue of unauthorised dumping in the council bins, he suggested getting in touch with the Vale of Glamorgan Council to request support with litter enforcement.

The Town Clerk informed members that she will be meeting soon with the householders adjacent to Southgate Park to discuss the boundary.

**RESOLVED:** Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were approved.

### **c) Town Hall**

In the absence of Cllr Wilson (Chair of the Committee), the Deputy Mayor gave a brief update regarding safety and evacuation procedures in place.

Circulate the Town Hall risk assessments to all Members.

**RESOLVED:** Minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021 were approved.

### **d) Finance and Governance**

Cllr Trousdell briefly updated Members regarding the new Cemetery Package and the imminent transfer of information.

He went on to say that the current financial reports as presented by the accounting package Scribe were not user friendly and do not currently fit with council requirements. Steps are, therefore, being taken to reformat the reports.

**RESOLVED:** Minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021 were approved.

**ITEM 14      REPORTS FROM BODIES/COMMITTEES**

- a) Cllr Vaughan reported that she had attended the United Charity meeting as a Trustee on the 9th June, the usual grants were approved and a presentation for the London Stockbroker took place.
- b) Cllr Andrew reported that he attended a meeting of the Chamber of Trade and were informed that the Retail Impact Assessment for the livestock market proposals has now been completed and a report would follow in due course.
- c) Cllr Trousdell reported that Iolo Morgannwg are carrying out an update on the school development plan, the next meeting is planned for the end of July 2021.
- d) Cllr Gwen Baty reported that a meeting of the Cowbridge Institute Charity took place, however, she and Cllr Cox were unable to attend are waiting for the minutes.

**ITEM 15      CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr Vaughan reported that the Vale of Glamorgan Council Economic Development had written to the Town Council regarding the Stronger Communities Grant Fund. The grant is open until the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021, any ideas can be emailed to the Vale to see if they are eligible for the fund.

- a) Cllr Weddell suggest a permanent Pavilion or Band Stand for outdoor performances, plus a History trail in partnership with the History society.

Both suggestions were supported by Cllrs Trousdell and Thomas.

- b) Cllr Vaughan suggested refurbishment of the town pumps to be included in the History Trail.
- c) Cllr Geoff Cox suggested prior to work in the gardens that Cowbridge Charter Trust should be consulted.
- d) Cllr N Thomas suggested rejuvenating the old Roman Road.

**RESOLVED**

The Town Clerk to email ideas to the VOG Council Economic Development Fund.

**ITEM 16      DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING**

There were no documents for sealing.

**ITEM 17      CONFIDENTIAL SECTION OF THE MEETING**

The confidential minutes from 20<sup>th</sup> April had previously been approved at the last meeting of the Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

**ITEM 18      DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and time of the next Ordinary meeting of the Town Council was confirmed for 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7:00pm.

***The meeting ended at 8:45pm***