

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Tuesday 17th February 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mayor – Councillor P J Knapp
Deputy Mayor – Councillor D W Morris
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, Mrs G Baty, Mrs F Blomeley, Mrs A Burges,
G A Cox, Mrs S M Cox, Mrs E George, D G Morgan, Mrs N C Thomas,
Mrs S Vaughan and T L Williams MBE.

In Attendance:

Town Clerk – Mr Andrew Davies
Administrative Assistant - Mrs Jackie Griffin
PC Stuart Elston
Reverend Canon Derek Belcher

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
17/15 Councillors J R Harris and A T Trousdell.

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
18/15 Councillor Mrs S Vaughan – Item 9b – Planning Report of 9th February 2015.

Item 3: **The Financial Report.**
19/15 The Report was presented by Councillor Mrs F Blomeley. The Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st January 2015 and statement of bank balance as at 31st January 2015 was circulated.

Balances as at 31st January 2015.

Current Account:	£ 8,031.25
Investment Gold Account:	£ 53,855.46
Money Market	<u>£ 60,000.00</u>
Total	£121,886.71
Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 1,530.63</u>
	<u>£120,356.08</u>

Proposed by Councillor Mrs F Blomeley, seconded by Councillor T L Williams and **resolved** that the Receipts and Payments Account and statement of bank balance be accepted and adopted.

3.1 The current investment of funds on Money Market is due to mature on 25th February 2015.
Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor D W Morris, that reinvestment is made on the Money Market for the same sum (£60,000) subject to enquiries being made with the Bank Manager at Lloyds Bank to ensure that no better interest rate can be achieved.
Resolved as proposed.

Item 4: **To confirm the minutes of Town Council Meeting held on**
20/15 **20th January 2015.**
Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor Mrs E George and **resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 20th January 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.

Page two

**Item 5: Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on
21/15 20th January 2015.**

No matters arising.

**Item 6: Community Police Matters.
22/15**

The crime figures for January were circulated to Members and PC Elston gave background details and highlighted the following:

- Two dwelling house burglaries at Aberthin and the Broad Shoard, which took place during daytime hours.
- Theft of a tractor and diesel from farm premises.
- Damage to two vehicles in Middlegate Court.
- Two incidents of anti social behaviour.

PC Elston advised Members that PCSO Carys Griffiths will be working in Cowbridge whilst PCSO O'Callaghan is off work.

PC Elston advised Members that shops at Birds Lane are investigating the installation of 'CCTV' as a deterrent to criminals. This has been brought about by a recent burglary at one of the shops. The system will comprise of three cameras each performing a specific function. PC Elston referred to the possibility of the Town Council considering a similar unit for the High Street. **Proposed** by Councillor G A Cox, seconded by Councillor D G Morgan and **resolved** that PC Elston sends details to the Town Clerk for consideration by the relevant committee.

PC Elston referred to a current issue involving taxis originating from Bridgend travelling into Cowbridge and picking up fares that had not been booked. This is being investigated by the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

**Item 7: Road Safety.
23/15**

Members drew PC Elston's attention to the following matters:

- Continuing problem with students parking in the Millfield Drive area causing an obstruction. PCSO Griffiths will be requested to investigate.
- Re-introduction of yellow lines on Town Mill Road. Councillor G A Cox advised that he will discuss with the Highways Department at the Vale of Glamorgan Council.
- Councillor Mrs E George referred to the 'Community Speed Awareness initiative' and enquired about the current position regarding training. PC Elston will make enquiries and advise on the situation.

**Item 8: Reports
24/15**

Reports

a) Mayor

Monday 26th January – The Mayor and Mayoress attended a Private Viewing of the Holocaust Memorial Exhibition entitled 'Keep the Memory Alive' at Art Central, Town Hall, Barry.

Friday 30th January – The Mayor and Mayoress attended the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's fundraising lunch at St Athan Golf Club, in aid of the Mayor's Chosen Charities, Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club and Wales Air Ambulance.

Friday 6th February – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cowbridge Comprehensive School's Performing Art Production of 'Chicago'.

Item 8: Reports

a) Mayor (Continued)

Saturday 7th February – The Mayor and Mayoress hosted a Coffee Morning in the Mayor's Parlour in aid of the Mayor's chosen charity 'Prostate Cymru'.

Tuesday 10th February – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Coffee Morning at the Corporate Suite, Civic Offices, Barry in aid of 'Coast Watch'.

The Mayor reminded Councillors about his concert which is to be held on Friday 13th March in the Main Hall and will feature the 'Rock Choir' with supporting acts.

b) Town Clerk

Members were reminded that nominations next year's Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be on the agenda for the Full Council Meeting on Tuesday 17th March.

The Town Clerk advised that Mr James has recently suffered a family bereavement and Members will be advised of funeral arrangements in due course.

A request has been received from a funeral director regarding the use of the Town Hall for a funeral 'service' to be held there. The Town Clerk has investigated and can find no statutory reason why this cannot happen.

The Town Clerk referred to the office computers and advised that the current operating system, 'Windows XP', is no longer supported. He is investigating the cost of upgrading through the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 26th February – Big Screen presents 'What we did on our holiday'.

Monday 9th March at 10am – Raising of the Commonwealth Flag.

Friday 13th March at 7.30pm – Mayor's Charity Concert at the Town Hall

Tuesday 17th March – Nominations for Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Thursday 26th March – Big Screen presents 'My Old Lady'.

Thursday 23rd April – Big Screen presents 'Mr. Turner'.

Tuesday 19th May – Mayor Making.

Wednesday 20th May – Adjourned AGM.

Sunday 12th July 2015 – Civic Sunday.

Sunday 8th November 2015 – Remembrance Sunday.

Payment of the accounts to be ratified

Expenses totalling £14,534.30 to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor T L Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs N C Thomas that the payment of the accounts be ratified.

Resolved as proposed.

**Item 9:
25/15**

Reports of Committees.

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 2nd February 2015 and made reference to the Twt Park with the muddy conditions around the play equipment.

The Town Clerk advised that current weather conditions were not helping and coupled with the popularity of the new equipment, which exacerbates the situation. A meeting has been arranged with Sovereign playgrounds in early May to discuss outstanding ground works. The Town Clerk further confirmed that he arranged for a company to give a quotation for fencing around some of the play equipment and will report back to Committee.

Councillor G A Cox made reference to item 7.4(i) regarding the 'gaps' in the boundary wall and the Town Clerk advised that a full explanation is contained in the Planning report relating to 2nd February 2015.

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

Resolved as proposed.

b. Planning.

Councillor D G Morgan reported on the meeting held on 2nd February 2015 and highlighted item 5.4 relating to planning application 2014/01493/FUL, erection of 2 detached dwellings at River Walk.

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

Resolved as proposed.

Councillor Mrs S Vaughan left the meeting for the duration of this item.

Councillor D G Morgan reported on the meeting held on 9th February 2015.

The Mayor thanked Councillor D G Morgan for his detailed work with regard to this planning application.

Councillor D G Morgan explained how the response to the planning application had been drawn up and split into five sections as demonstrated in the report.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor D W Morris, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

c. Finance and General Purposes.

Councillor Mrs F Blomeley reported on the meeting held 3rd February 2015 and highlighted item 7, in respect of the Town Hall hiring fees and item 9 in relation to a communication received from 'History Points' regarding a 'smart phone' tour for Cowbridge.

Councillor Mrs F Blomeley explained the Committee's recommendations in respect of the increased charges for the Town Hall which have remained static for the past four years. Councillor Mrs N C Thomas suggested that hirings for the year could be examined to discover whether any increase in fees had had an adverse effect.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs F Blomeley, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Vaughan, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

d. Town Hall

Councillor Mrs E George reported on the meeting held 3rd February 2015 and highlighted various items contained therein.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E George, seconded by Councillor T L Williams, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees.

26/15

10.1 Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.

No meeting.

10.2 Evan Jenkins Charity.

No meeting.

10.3 Cowbridge Institute Charity.

Councillor Mrs S M Cox reported that at the meeting held 28th January, a number of grants were awarded.

10.4 One Voice Wales.

Councillor Mrs E George reported on the meeting held 26th January at which Maria Battle from the University Health Board was the guest speaker. 'The Voice' has been replaced by 'Best Practice Case Studies'. A copy of the meeting's minutes will be available in the Town Clerk's Office once received. Next meeting, 26th April.

10.5 Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.

No meeting.

10.6 Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.

No meeting. Preparations are underway for a visit to Clisson in May.

10.7 Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.

No meeting.

10.8 Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.

Councillor T L Williams reported that two meetings have recently been held, one in respect of the 'Inspection Report' and the second about the 'Categorisation Report'. The school has reached the final of the Wales Marketing Competition

10.9 Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.

Councillor T L Williams reported that a succession of meetings to prepare for a new Chair of Governors. The school's choir has reached the last four of the Wales Schools Choir Competition.

10.10 Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.

No meeting.

10.11 Cowbridge in Bloom.

Councillor Mrs A Burges advised that she has been requested to become the co-ordinator for Cowbridge in Bloom.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees (Continued)**
- 10.12 **Best Kept Village.**
Councillor Mrs E George reported on the AGM held 22nd January and advised that the format of the competition is to change and will now comprise of three categories: activities, a particular feature and the village appearance.
- 10.13 **Community Liaison Committee.**
No representative.
- 10.14 **Age Connect ‘Good Neighbour Scheme’.**
Next meeting to be held 26th February.
- 10.15 **Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
Next meeting, being the AGM, will be held on 11th March 2015.
- 10.16 **Food and Drink Festival Committee**
No report.
- 10.17 **Vale Market Community Enterprise.**
Councillor Mrs S Vaughan advised that the meeting of 26th January was rearranged for 9th February. When available, the minutes will be held in the Town Clerk’s Office.
- 10.18 **Llanblethian Community Group.**
No meeting but a Summer Lunch is being organised.
- 10.19 **Cowbridge Town Team.**
No meeting. A number of information panels have been installed in the town.
- 10.20 **Local Action Group (LAG).**
A meeting to be held next week.
- Item 11: To consider paper from the Welsh Government ‘Reforming Local Government : Power to Local People’.**
27/15 **Resolved** that this item should be placed on the agenda of the next Full Town Council meeting for discussion. Members were reminded of the importance of the document and that they should read it thoroughly prior to the meeting.
- Item 12: To consider arrangements for ‘Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth’ on.**
28/15 **9th March 2015.**
Members were circulated with details of the protocol for the occasion of the raising of the Commonwealth Flag and the ‘Affirmation’ to be read out at the same time.
The Town Clerk advised that he is currently addressing the formality of raising the flag and the playing of the ‘Anthem’ at 10.00am.

Page seven

Item 13: Correspondence.

29/15

13.1 Consultation document received from the National Assembly regarding an inquiry into the consideration of extending the powers of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales and should the evidence support such an extension, the introduction of a Committee Bill. Consultation questions were circulated with the document and any response is required by 20th March 2015.
Noted.

13.2 Copy of a letter sent to Mr R Thomas, Director of Development Control at the Vale of Glamorgan Council, by Mrs Y Bringham regarding the obstruction of the Public Footpath (No. 6 Cowbridge) adjacent to Waitrose. The public footpath is being obstructed by trolleys which have been relocated along part of the footpath.
Noted.

The letter is to be acknowledged and a request made for the Town Council to be updated by Mrs Bringham on any progress.

13.3 Letter received from One Voice Wales regarding membership of the organisation for 2015/16.
Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor D G Morgan and **resolved** that the membership should be renewed for the next twelve months.

13.4 E-mail communication from One Voice Wales regarding a press release from the First Minister of Wales in respect of the Welsh Government's plans for the commemoration of the First World War in 2015.
Noted.

13.5 Letter received from Mr Miles Punter, Director of Visible Services and Housing at the Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding the Access Road to Llandow Recycling Centre. The letter advised that the Vale of Glamorgan Council is powerless in forcing the land owners to take responsibility for the neglect of the access road to the recycling centre however new agents have recently been appointed by them and they have already been approached with regard to undertaking the necessary highway repairs. Mr Punter suggested that the Town Council might wish to consider inviting the new agents to speak to them in order for them to outline exactly what they propose for the Llandow Trading Estate.
Proposed by Councillor Mrs N C Thomas, seconded by Councillor Mrs A Burges, that the agents are invited to attend prior to next month's meeting.
Resolved as proposed.

Item 14: Publications. (All held by the Town Clerk unless otherwise stated).
30/15 **None.**

Item 15: Documents for sealing.
31/15

15.1 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Cremation Plot E2 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Mrs G D Brook, 10 Court Close, Aberthin
Document sealed.

Item 16:
32/15

Date and time of next Meeting.
Tuesday 17th March 2015 at 7.00pm.

Councillor P J Knapp
Mayor.

Date minutes signed.