

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Tuesday 20th January 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mayor – Councillor P J Knapp
Deputy Mayor – Councillor D W Morris
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, Mrs F Blomeley, G A Cox, Mrs E George,
J R Harris, D G Morgan, A T Trousdell and T L Williams MBE.

In Attendance:

Town Clerk – Mr Andrew Davies
Administrative Assistant - Mrs J Griffin
PS Mark John
Reverend Canon Derek Belcher

Reverend Canon Belcher preceded the meeting with a prayer and then advised Members that he is leaving the Parish and his final Service is on 8th March and all are welcome to attend. Reverend Canon Belcher is moving to Llancarfan on a part time basis and is due to be Licensed on 25th March.

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
1/15 Councillors Mrs G Baty, Mrs A Burges, Mrs S M Cox, Mrs N C Thomas
and Mrs S Vaughan.

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
2/15 None.

Item 3: **The Financial Report.**
3/15 The Report was presented by Councillor J R Harris. The Receipts and
Payments Account for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st December 2014 and
statement of bank balance as at 31st December 2014 was circulated.

Balances as at 31st December 2014.

Current Account:	£ 8,001.00
Investment Gold Account:	£ 59,342.19
Money Market	<u>£ 60,000.00</u>
Total	£127,343.19
Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 2,667.00</u>
	<u>£124,676.19</u>

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

Item 4: **To confirm the minutes of Town Council Meeting held on**
4/15 **16th December 2014.**
Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor T L Williams,
and **resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on
16th December 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.

**Item 5: Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on
5/15 16th December 2014.**

No matters arising.

Item 6: Community Police Matters.

6/15

Members were circulated with crime figures for December 2014 which showed a fall compared to the same period 12 months ago. Sergeant John advised that there had been an increase in burglaries of commercial premises involving substantial theft of goods and arrests have been made and are ongoing in respect of this. He advised that he had a meeting with the crime reduction tactical adviser regarding the benefits of CCTV in parts of the town to combat crime. Technical advances have been made in this area allowing the monitoring of such systems to be less centre based and Sergeant John will update the Town Council with any progress made.

Councillor Mrs E George drew the following complaint she had received from a local resident to the attention of Sergeant John which involves vehicles in the Town Hall Car Park late at night revving their engines. Sergeant John advised that any incidents of this should be reported at the time by ringing 101 and if there is a police patrol in the area it can be alerted and attend.

Item 7: Road Safety.

7/15

Councillor Mrs M Arnold voiced her concerns regarding traffic approaching the traffic calming 'chicane' in Broadway and the number of times she has encountered drivers failing to give way in accordance with the signs and 'rushing' through.

Item 8: Reports

8/15

a) Mayor

Wednesday 17th December – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cowbridge Comprehensive School's Christmas Concert in the Main Hall of the School.

Saturday 20th December – The Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress attended Cardiff County and Vale of Glamorgan Music Service' Youth Orchestra Concert entitled 'An American Evening' with Gail Pearson (Soprano) at Hoddinott Hall, Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff.

Sunday 21st December – The Mayor and Mayoress attended a Candlelight Carol Service at St Mary's Church, Holton Road, Barry followed by a Sherry Reception at Barry Town Council Offices.

Monday 22nd December – The Mayor and Mayoress visited Residents at Southway Residential Home.

Wednesday 14th January – The Mayor and Mayoress attended the 30th Anniversary Concert with The African Children's Choir at St David's Hall, Cardiff with 400 local Primary School Children also participating in the Concert. A pre concert reception was held in the St Asaph Room.

b) Town Clerk

The Town Clerk advised Members that there had been an extremely successful training event, on the use of a defibrillator, organised by the British Heart Foundation and hosted by the Town Council in the Lesser Hall on Saturday 17th January. Several sessions were held in the morning during which almost 60 individuals participated and the Town Clerk suggested that should a similar event be held in the future, as many people as possible should be encouraged to attend.

Item 8:

Reports

b) Town Clerk (Continued).

Dates for your diaries:

Thursday 22nd January – Big Screen presents ‘Pride’.

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

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

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 £13,965.01 to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor D G Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs E George that the payment of the accounts be ratified.

Resolved as proposed.

**Item 9:
9/15**

Reports of Committees.

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 5th January 2015 and referred to item 5 regarding the installation of the new play equipment by Sovereign Playgrounds.

The Town Clerk advised that the issue of the trip hazards and outstanding ground works have been brought to the company’s attention and they will be addressing them in due course.

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

Resolved as proposed.

b. Planning.

Councillor D G Morgan reported on the meeting held on 5th January 2015 and drew Members attention to a variety of matters. Councillor D G Morgan advised that a planning application has now been submitted to the Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding the Land North West of Cowbridge, adjacent to Darren Farm. The application is available in the Town Clerk’s Office and is sizeable and warrants a special meeting of the Planning Committee with a recommendation being made to Full Council. The response from the Town Council is required by 23rd February which will allow sufficient time for this to be done and Councillor Morgan urged all Members to look at the plans in order to be able to consider the effect, should the application be successful, on Cowbridge.

Councillor A T Trousdell advised that he had received a communication from Beattie Communications regarding a ‘stakeholders’ event in February.

Councillor J R Harris drew Members’ attention to the precept implications of any development that takes place outside the Town Council’s boundary which this currently application is an example.

Councillor G A Cox reminded Members that they can submit their own individual comments providing they make it clear that they are not representative of the Town Council’s views.

Proposed by Councillor D G Morgan, seconded by Councillor T L Williams that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

c. Finance and General Purposes.

Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held 6th January 2015 and drew members attention to Item 9 regarding the state of repair of the access road at Llandow leading to the waste and recycling centre and the recommendation of writing to the Vale of Glamorgan Council to put pressure on the land owner to improve the road.

Councillor J R Harris then referred to the budget for the next financial year 2015/2016 and the recommendation of the Committee for the precept to be increased by five percent in order to redress the forecast deficit during the current financial year and this will also maintain the Council's reserves. Five percent will represent an annual increase for a band 'd' property, upon which the precept is based, of £2.71.

Councillor Harris advised Members that increases during the past seven years had been kept to a minimum and had averaged out at 1.5% and which included 2 years when the precept was not increased at all.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor A T Trousdell, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

d. Town Hall

Councillor Mrs E George reported on the meeting held 6th January 2015 and referred to item 6 in respect of the Pantomime which was extremely successful and the Committee is recommending that the venture is repeated again this year in December. The Town Clerk advised that he has received confirmation of an 'early booking discount' which will result in the cost being £600 plus VAT.

Councillor Mrs E George referred to item 8 regarding a programme of works involving the refurbishment of external doors and windows of the Town Hall during the next financial year.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold referred to the decoration of the Town Council Chamber and Councillor Mrs E George advised that the cost will be met from the current financial year's Town Hall budget.

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

Resolved as proposed.

**Item 10:
10/15**

Reports of Representatives & Other Committees.

10.1

Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.

No meeting.

10.2

Evan Jenkins Charity.

Next meeting 22nd January.

10.3

Cowbridge Institute Charity.

No meeting.

10.4

One Voice Wales.

Next meeting 26th January.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees (Continued)**
- 10.5 **Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.**
No meeting.
- 10.6 **Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.**
No meeting.
- 10.7 **Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.**
Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 15th January which was attended by Mrs Sandra Thomas from the Vale of Glamorgan Council who deputised for Mr Gwyn Teague. A report was submitted by Mrs Thomas regarding the footpaths in the area and this is available in the Town Clerk's Office. Mr Peter Lane has taken over as Chairman of the Ramblers Association during Mr Fraser's absence and Valeways is being represented by Mrs Rebecca Exley. Councillor Mrs M Arnold thanked Councillor T L Williams for taking the Minutes of the meeting.
- 10.8 **Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.**
Councillor T L Williams advised that the next meeting is to be held on 29th January and the Estyn Inspector's Report is due on 23rd January.
- 10.9 **Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.**
Next meeting 5th February.
- 10.10 **Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**
No meeting.
- 10.11 **Cowbridge in Bloom.**
Councillor Mrs E George advised that Councillors Mrs N C Thomas and T L Williams are no longer members of the committee. Councillor Mrs E George volunteered to represent the Town Council at future meetings and report back which Members readily accepted.
- 10.12 **Best Kept Village.**
Next meeting 22nd January.
- 10.13 **Community Liaison Committee.**
No meeting.
- 10.14 **Age Connect 'Good Neighbour Scheme'.**
No representative.
- 10.15 **Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
No representative.
- 10.16 **Food and Drink Festival Committee**
No representative.
- 10.17 **Vale Market Community Enterprise.**
The Town Clerk advised that he has a copy of the minutes of the last meeting.

Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees (Continued)
10.18 Llanblethian Community Group.

No representative.

10.19 Cowbridge Town Team.

No representative.

10.20 Local Action Group (LAG).

No representative.

Item 11: To formulate a response to the Vale of Glamorgan Destination Action Plan.
11/15

The plan is to improve tourism in the Vale of Glamorgan and enhance visitors' experiences when visiting. It will also take account the needs of visitors, local businesses, residents and the environment.

The purpose of the plan for the Vale of Glamorgan is to clarify what is important to get right for the future, to shape policy and priorities, to steer resources and to form the basis for people, businesses and organisations to work together to achieve common goals. It is based on close consultation with key stakeholders and to ensure that there is a co-ordinated approach.

The document identifies the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the assessment of the Vale of Glamorgan Visitor. The document produces a 'Destination Framework' giving the vision and ambitions for the future and sets out the priorities to encourage partnership and growth. The Vale Destination Partnership will be Vale Council led supported by various sub groups, action groups, teams and stake holders.

It was agreed that the Mayor would formulate a corporate response to the document, with the Town Clerk.

Item 12: Vale of Glamorgan Local Transport Plan Consultation.

12/15

The Members noted that a new bus service (321) was introduced in January connecting Llantwit Major to Pontyclun with the bus stopping at the back of Town Hall Square en-route. The service also provides a link from Pontyclun through to Cardiff Central Bus Station (320).

Item 13: Correspondence.

13/15

13.1

Members considered a letter received from the Post Office concerning the resumption of a service in Cowbridge in the future. The letter confirmed that it is the intention to introduce a 'main style service' as part of a new model which is part of a three year investment and support programme. Whilst the vacancy has been advertised and some local interest shown, negotiations are at a very early stage.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk should reply and express the bitter disappointment of the Town Council that very little progress has been made since closure in April 2014 and to give an invitation to a representative from the post office to come to talk to the Members and explain more about the investment and support programme and give further reassurance that a post office service will be restored.

Page seven

- Item 13: Correspondence (continued).**
13.2 Letter received from Dr. M A K Duggan concerning Surgeon Major W.H.T. Sylvester V.C. who was decorated for his gallantry at the siege of Sebastopol in 1855 when attached to the Royal Welch Fusiliers. He was educated at Cowbridge Grammar School and his father, Dr Charles Sylvester practised in the town and resided at Woodstock House. Dr Duggan suggested that the Grammar School Old Boys might wish to commemorate this in some way possibly through some sort of memorial at Holy Cross Church or perhaps by way of an additional plaque on Woodstock House. Members of the Town Council agreed that the letter should be copied to both the Old Boys Association and the History Society who may wish to pursue the suggestions put forward.
- 13.3 E-mail received from One Voice Wales regarding the National Transport Plan Consultation Document (Welsh Government) 2015 which requires a response by 11th March 2015.
Members agreed to place this on the agenda for February's meeting in order to acquaint themselves with the document.
- Item 14: Publications.** (All held by the Town Clerk unless otherwise stated).
14/15
14.1 The Clerk Magazine – January 2015.
14.2 Clerks and Councils Direct – January 2015.
- Item 15: Documents for sealing.**
15/15
15.1 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Grave No. N185 in the Limes Cemetery, purchased by Mrs L Hill, 17 The Meadow, Ystradowen.
15.2 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Cremation Plot D50 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Mrs M B Roderick, 33 The Verlands, Cowbridge.
15.3 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Grave No. N186 in the Limes Cemetery, purchased by Ms L Lewis, 6 Heol yr Ysgol, St Brides Major.
15.4 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Cremation Plot D51 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Mr R Lewis, Flat 9 Torrington Court, North Road East, Plymouth PL4 6AX.
15.5 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Cremation Plot E1 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Mrs J Cousins, Flat 2 St Donats Court, Iltyd Avenue, Llantwit Major.
Documents sealed.
- Item 16: Date and time of next Meeting.**
16/15 Tuesday 17th February 2015 at 7.00pm.

Councillor P J Knapp
Mayor.

Date minutes signed.