

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Tuesday 21st April 2015 at 7.00pm.

Present: Mayor – Councillor P J Knapp
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, Mrs G Baty, Mrs F Blomeley, Mrs A Burges,
Mrs E George, J R Harris, D G Morgan, Mrs S Vaughan and T L Williams
MBE.

In Attendance:

Town Clerk – Mr Andrew Davies
Administrative Assistant - Mrs Jackie Griffin
Reverend Edward Dowland Owen.

The Reverend Edward Dowland Owen preceded the meeting with a prayer.

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
49/15 Councillors: G A Cox, Mrs S M Cox, D W Morris, Mrs N C Thomas
and A T Trousdell.

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
50/15 None.

Item 3: **The Financial Report.**
51/15 The Report was presented by Councillor J R Harris. The Receipts and
Payments Account for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 and
statement of bank balance as at 31st March 2015 was circulated.

Balances as at 31st March 2015.

Current Account:	£ 8,001.00
Investment Gold Account:	£ 29,678.40
Money Market	<u>£ 60,000.00</u>
Total	£ 97,679.40
Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 7,147.20</u>
	<u>£ 90,532.20</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**
52/15 **17th March 2015.**
Proposed by Councillor T L Williams, seconded by Councillor D G Morgan,
and **resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on
17th March 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.

Item 5: **Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on**
53/15 **17th March 2015.**
No matters arising.

Item 6: **Community Police Matters.**
54/15 No police presence.

Item 7: **Road Safety.**
55/15 In the absence of a police presence, the Members discussed the following items:

- The junction at Westgate and Llantwit Major Road – a temporary diversion is in force relating to the work being carried out at St Brides Major.
- Primrose Hill and Eastgate – it is understood that the Vale of Glamorgan Council’s Highways Department will be carrying out a survey during the month of June.
- Concerns were raised about forthcoming work to be carried out in Druids Green and how this might impact on parking.
- Parking on Aberthin Road – it is understood that the Vale of Glamorgan Council is in negotiation with the Headteacher of the Comprehensive School to allow more students to park their vehicles on the school premises.

Item 8: **Reports**
56/15

a) Mayor

Wednesday 18th March – The Mayor opened the new ‘Emmaus South Wales’ shop in Cowbridge.

Wednesday 25th March – The Mayor and Mayoress, together with some other Community Councillors, visited the Palace of Westminster and 10 Downing Street at the invitation of Alun Cairns MP.

Monday 30th March – The Mayor attended a Consultation Event regarding the White Paper ‘Reforming Local Government – Power to Local People’ hosted by One Voice Wales at Taffs Well RFC Clubhouse.

Saturday 4th April – The Mayor and Mayoress hosted a Coffee Morning in the Mayor’s Parlour in aid of the Mayor’s chosen charity ‘Prostate Cymru’.
The Mayor and Mayoress hosted a Reception for members of Clisson Veterans Rugby Team ‘Vin d’honneur’ and with members of Cowbridge Town Twinning Association in the Mayor’s Parlour.

Saturday 11th April – Councillor Mrs G Baty represented the Mayor at the Unveiling of a Plaque on a slate plinth, in Old Hall Gardens, relating to the start of the ‘Iolo Morganwg Trail’.

Friday 17th April – The Mayor and Mayoress visited, by invitation, the Coastwatch Station in Barry. Later the Mayor and Mayoress attended a lunch hosted by ‘Emmaus South Wales’ at the Heronston Hotel in Bridgend. The guest of honour was Mr Terry Waite.

The Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress attended Barry Mayor’s Roaring Twenties Retro Flapper Charity Dinner Dance at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club.

b) Town Clerk

- Citizen of the Year Award 2015 – The Members of the Town Council confirmed that the Town Clerk should proceed as in previous years.

- Citizens Advice Bureau – e-mail request for the use of the Robing room to hold ‘one to one’ meetings for pre-arranged appointments in relation to providing free specialist pension guidance, following recent legislation, to those in Cowbridge and the surrounding community.

Proposed by Councillor T L Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs E George, that the Town Council provides the Robing Room, free of charge, to the Citizens Advice Bureau for the purposes outlined.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 8: Reports

b) Town Clerk (Continued)

- Permission has been granted to the Trustees of the Physic Garden Trust to allow them to cone of an area from 6am to allow the unloading of plants for the sale being held in Old Hall Gardens this Saturday.

Noted.

- Confirmation received from the Post Office that there is an interested party who is considering operating a post office in Cowbridge and that party already has a number of larger post offices within South Wales and is an experienced retailer. A scoping exercise will be carried out on the potential premises in early May and, if suitable, the application stage will then take place.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 23rd April – Big Screen presents ‘Mr. Turner’.

Saturday 25th April – Mayor’s Charity Dinner at the Bear Hotel.

Tuesday 19th May – Mayor Making.

Wednesday 20th May – Adjourned AGM.

Thursday 21st May – Big Screen presents ‘The Theory of Everything’.

Thursday 18th June – Big Screen presents ‘The Imitation Game’.

Sunday 12th July 2015 – Civic Sunday.

Sunday 8th November 2015 – Remembrance Sunday.

Payment of the accounts to be ratified

Expenses totalling £23,838.98 to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor D G Morgan, seconded by Councillor T L Williams, that the payment of the accounts be ratified.

Resolved as proposed.

**Item 9:
57/15**

Reports of Committees.

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 7th April 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 7th April 2015 and highlighted a number of items.

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 8th April 2015 and highlighted a number of items contained within it including Item 7, the Shed at the Limes.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Vaughan, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 9: Reports of Committees (Continued)

d. Town Hall

Councillor Mrs E George reported on the meeting held 8th April 2015.

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.

58/15

10.1 Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.

No meeting.

10.2 Evan Jenkins Charity.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 16th April and advised that at that meeting Mr M Lewis was appointed as Chair and Councillor Mrs M Arnold was appointed as Vice Chair. The Trustees are to meet with the Stockbroker at their next meeting in July.

10.3 Cowbridge Institute Charity.

No meeting.

10.4 One Voice Wales.

Councillor Mrs S Vaughan reported on the meeting held 20th April at which there was a guest speaker from Tidal Lagoon (Swansea) plc who gave a presentation on their proposal for Swansea Bay. More tidal lagoons are being considered for Cardiff and Newport. Planning applications will be considered at the UK Government level.

Further items included training for councillors and 'Code of Conduct' information which will include a flowchart to assist Members on when it could be necessary to declare an interest on an item.

10.5 Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.

No representative.

10.6 Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.

No representative.

10.7 Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.

Next meeting 23rd April 2015.

10.8 Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.

Councillor T L Williams reported that an advertisement for position of Head Teacher has been placed with closing date for applications being 30th April.

10.9 Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.

Councillor T L Williams reported that a Curriculum meeting was held on 20th April and the next Full Governor meeting is scheduled for 13th May. Councillor T L Williams was delighted to announce that the School Choir has won the Primary School Choir of the Year and then went on to win the 'Choir of the Year' competition.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs M Arnold, seconded by Councillor T L Williams and **resolved** that a letter of congratulations is sent to the school.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees (Continued).**
- 10.10 **Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**
No meeting.
- 10.11 **Cowbridge in Bloom.**
No meeting.
- 10.12 **Best Kept Village.**
No meeting.
- 10.13 **Community Liaison Committee.**
Councillor Mrs E George reported on the meeting held 18th March and at which the following items were discussed:
- The White Paper – Town and Community Councils very concerned at the proposals and particularly the loss of identity by smaller councils. Minutes of the meeting were going to be presented at Cabinet.
 - Waste management and the sale of products for waste collection. It was stated that none of the Vale’s waste goes to ‘land fill’ sites.
 - ‘Pride in the Vale’ scheme which has 50 information points across the Vale of Glamorgan and there are ‘Family Activity Tracker Packs’ available to be downloaded on-line.
- 10.14 **Age Connect ‘Good Neighbour Scheme’.**
No meeting.
- 10.15 **Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
No representative.
- 10.16 **Food and Drink Festival Committee**
No representative.
- 10.17 **Vale Market Community Enterprise.**
No meeting.
Councillor Mrs S Vaughan reported that a Report and Vale Market Community Enterprise Master Plan has been approved by Cabinet on 23rd March and is available on the Vale Council’s website. A 12 month licence has been granted to the Market Operators and the Vale Market Community Enterprise Group has been given 12 months to raise the required capital.
- 10.18 **Llanblethian Community Group.**
Councillor Mrs G Baty reported that the Group are planning to hold a Village Fair in Llanblethian Playing Fields in June and also one of their very successful Curry and Quiz nights shortly.
- 10.19 **Cowbridge Town Team.**
No meeting.
- 10.20 **Local Action Group (LAG).**
Next meeting 5th May.

Item 11: 59/15 To consider paper from the Welsh Government ‘Reforming Local Government: ‘Power to Local People’.

- Members were circulated with a ‘draft’ response from One Voice Wales to the White Paper.
- Councillor P J Knapp reported that he had attended a meeting at Taffs Well for the Chairmen of Community and Town Councils for South East Wales but only 14 were in attendance. Great concern was expressed regarding the loss of identity of communities through the possible abolition of their respective community councils through merger.
- The Town Clerk reported that he had attended a meeting at Pencoed organised by the Society of Local Council Clerks at which there were in excess of 50 attendees. There was a clear indication given that unitary authorities would be reduced from 22 to a single figure number. Concerns were raised about ‘competent’ councils and the qualifying criteria, in particular the £200k threshold, which was deemed to be unfair and penalise councils with smaller budgets. Also, the process of merging Community and Town Councils is to be given to the newly created County Councils who will have come into being in 2020. The deadline for this exercise is 2 years with completion expected by 2022 and this is considered to be unrealistic.
- Councillor Mrs S Vaughan advised that the White Paper was mentioned at the previous night’s meeting of One Voice Wales and there was mixed opinion in relation to ‘twin hatted’ councillors.

Members of the Council agreed that a response should be formulated by the Town Clerk and the Mayor on the basis of the points already raised concerning the preservation of historical identity, a move away from the democratic process and the creation of an extra tier in the form of Area Boards between ‘County Councils’ and Community and Town Councils.

Item 12: 60/15 Correspondence.
None.

Item 13: 61/15 Publications.
None.

Item 14: 62/15 Documents for sealing.

- 14.1 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Grave No. N189 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Dr R Delpak, 3 Cae Rex, Llanblethian, Cowbridge.
- 14.2 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Cremation Plot E5 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Mr T J Williams, Conwy, Windmill Lane, Llanblethian, Cowbridge.
- 14.3 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Cremation Plot E6 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Mr A S D Erasmus, 137 Portsmouth Road, Cobham, Surrey KT11 1JN

All documents sealed.

Item 15: 63/15 Date and time of next Meeting.

Mayor Making - Tuesday 19th May 2015 at 7.30pm,
Adjourned AGM – Wednesday 20th May 2015 at 7.00pm.

Councillor D W Morris
Mayor.

Date minutes signed.