

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

Present: Mayor – Councillor D W Morris
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Mrs E A George
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, Mrs G Baty, Mrs F Blomeley (*arrived item 3*),
Mrs A Burges, G A Cox (*arrived item 9c*), Mrs S M Cox, J R Harris,
D G Morgan (*arrived 3*), Mrs N C Thomas and T L Williams MBE.

In Attendance:

Town Clerk – Mr Andrew Davies
Administrative Assistant - Mrs Jackie Griffin
PCSO H O'Callaghan

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
103/15 Councillors P J Knapp, A T Trousdell and Mrs S Vaughan.
Rev Edward Dowland-Owen
PC Stuart Elson

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
104/15 Councillor Mrs S M Cox – Item 9c (Finance & General Purposes Report).

Item 3: **The Financial Report.**
105/15 The Report was presented by Councillor J R Harris. The Receipts and
Payments Account for the period 1st April 2014 to 30th June 2015 and
statement of bank balance as at 30th June 2015 was circulated.

Balances as at 30th June 2015.

Current Account:	£ 8,247.00
Investment Gold Account:	£ 44,015.20
Money Market	<u>£ 60,000.00</u>
Total	£112,262.20
Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 17.00</u>
	<u>£112,245.20</u>

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor
Mrs N C Thomas and **resolved** that the Receipts and Payments Account and
statement of bank balance be accepted and adopted.

Item 4: **To confirm the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on**
106/15 **16th June 2015.**
Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Arnold
and **resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on
16th June 2015 was confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.

Item 5: **Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on**
107/15 **16th June 2015.**
No matters arising.

**Item 6:
108/15**

Community Police Matters.

PCSO Hilary O'Callaghan circulated recent crime figures and gave some background information and then continued to give an update of matters brought up at the last meeting.

- Following discussions with the Head teacher of the Comprehensive School, a number of measures are to be put in place to tackle the problem of parking along the Aberthin Road. These include letters being sent to students and parents.
- Traffic lights at the junction of Aberthin Road and Primrose Hill, The site has been looked at by an officer from the Highways Department at the Vale of Glamorgan Council and in the short term the lines are to be repainted and when funding becomes available a more permanent solution will be considered.

Councillor Mrs N C Thomas referred to theft of farm equipment in the Rural Vale and it was agreed that this could be a topic for a future Community Liaison meeting.

**Item 7:
109/15**

Road Safety.

Reference was made to a vehicle parked along the 'narrow stretch' of Broadway, opposite the 'lay-by' area, which is causing problems with the flow of traffic. PCSO O'Callaghan advised that she is aware of the situation and will speak to the person concerned.

Councillor Mrs E A George advised she has been in touch with the Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding the vehicle activated speed signs that were fitted in Aberthin village on 5th June but are still not operational.

**Item 8:
110/15**

Reports

a) Mayor

Wednesday 17th June – The Mayor and Mayoress attended a 'Thanks Afternoon at Gorwelion' for those councils who have helped their appeal to modernise the holiday home used by Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Scouts, Schools and other organisations.

Thursday 18th June – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cowbridge Comprehensive School's Art and Design Exhibition in conjunction with Design Technology.

The Deputy Mayor, Deputy Consort and Immediate Past Mayor and Immediate Past Mayoress attended Ysgol Iolo Morganwg's 'Come Celebrate' Concert at Acapela Studio, Pentyrch at which the Choir's new CD was launched.

Monday 22nd June – The Mayor attended the Raising of the Armed Forces Flag at the Civic Office, Holton Road, Barry, hosted by the Mayor or the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Councillor Fred Johnson and followed by light refreshments.

The Mayor and Mayoress attended 'A Sparkling Summer Evening' event in aid of Llanblethian Church, at Glyndwr Vineyard, Llanblethian.

Tuesday 23rd June – The Mayor attended the 104th Regiment Royal Artillery Beating Retreat Ceremony and MPCT Newport Launch Event at Raglan Barracks, Newport.

Friday 26th June – The Mayor and Mayoress attended the Official Opening of an Exhibition by Professor Daniel Baker entitled 'Make Shifting: Structures of Mobility' at Art Central Gallery, Town Hall, Barry.

Item 8:

Reports

a) Mayor (Continued)

Tuesday 30th June – The Mayor and Mayoress attended a Bible Presentation by the Gideon's International Association followed by a buffet at the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Parlour.

Wednesday 1st July – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cowbridge Comprehensive Schools' 'Alun Lewis Centenary Celebrations' at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge.

The Mayor and Mayoress attended the Girl guiding Central Glamorgan's Annual Review at the Bear Hotel.

Friday 3rd July – The Mayor attended a 'Grand Coffee Morning' with a viewing of Cowbridge Art Society's gallery of art at Top Stack Restaurant and Gallery, Vale Business Park, Llandow, Cowbridge.

Saturday 4th July – The Mayor and Mayoress hosted a Coffee Morning in the Mayor's Parlour in aid of the Mayor's chosen charities 'Prostate Cymru' and 'Motivational Learning Trust' (MLT).

Sunday 5th July – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Dinas Powys Community Council's Civic Service at St Peter's Church, followed by refreshments in the Lee Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys.

Tuesday 7th July – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Churches Together in Cowbridge and District Leavers' Service at the Holy Cross Church with the Mayor and Mayoress giving out booklets to the students.

Wednesday 8th July The Mayor with the Chairman of Leisure and Amenities Committee, Councillor Mrs Andrea Burges accepted two memorial benches at the Limes Cemetery on behalf of the Town Council that were presented by Mr Nick John of Cowbridge. The benches are in memory of Mr John's late wife Jayne.

Thursday 9th July – The Mayor welcomed to Cowbridge, Rhys Meirion (Opera Singer) and 11 Welsh celebrities who are travelling through Wales using various forms of transport, to promote organ donation, in memory of Rhys' sister, Eleri Meirion.

Friday 10th July – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cowbridge Book Festival's 'Creative Writing Competition 2015 Presentation' at the Community College, Old Hall, Cowbridge.

Sunday 12th July – The Mayor, Mayoress, Fellow Councillors and invited dignitaries and guests attended the Mayor's Civic Parade and Service at the Holy Cross Church followed by refreshments at the Town Hall.

Tuesday 14th July – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cowbridge Comprehensive School's Performing Arts Production of 'Bugsy Malone', which was preceded by a Reception.

Friday 17th July – The Mayor attended the MPCT South Wales Awards Ceremony at Cardiff Metropolitan University.

The Mayor and Mayoress attended the MLT Charity's Summer Party at the Bear Hotel.

The Deputy Mayor and Deputy Consort attended Cowbridge Community Allotment's Official Opening, followed by a Barbecue.

Saturday 18th July – The Mayor and Mayoress hosted a 'Strawberry Tea' Event in the Lesser Hall in aid of the Mayor's chosen charities 'Prostate Cymru' and 'Motivational Learning Trust' (MLT).

The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cardiff Council and Vale of Glamorgan Music Service's Youth Orchestra's 40th Anniversary Concert at Wales Millennium Centre.

Item 8:

Reports

a) Mayor (Continued)

Sunday 19th July – The Mayor and Mayoress attended the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Councillor Fred Johnson's Civic Service at St Helen's Church, Barry followed by a sit-down meal at Dyffryn Gardens.

The Mayor thanked all the staff at the Town Hall for their efforts to make his Civic Sunday so successful, despite the weather.

b) Town Clerk

The Town Clerk advised that in order to secure the services of the band from Neath ATC for Civic Sunday next year it would be beneficial to arrange the date.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs G Baty, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Arnold and **resolved** that Civic Sunday should be held on 10th July 2016.

It was agreed that the committee to discuss the 'Good Citizen' award should meet in Early September.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 1st August – Mayor's Coffee Morning.

Saturday 22nd August – Mayor's Supper and 'Murder/Mystery' Evening.

Sunday 8th November 2015 – Remembrance Sunday.

Payment of the accounts to be ratified

Expenses totalling £10,846.91 to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs S M Cox, seconded by Councillor T L Williams that the payment of the accounts be ratified.

Resolved as proposed.

**Item 9:
111/15**

Reports of Committees.

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor Mrs A Burges reported on the meeting held 6th July 2015 and advised that in relation to item 5.2, Anstee Landscapes have attended to each of the areas for which they are responsible and they are looking much better.

Councillor J R Harris referred to item 6(ii) regarding the quotation from Sovereign Playground following a site meeting held on 5th June.

Councillor J R Harris queried whether this was additional work or should have been included within the original contract. As stated in the report, Members of the Leisure and Amenities Committee have differing views and these were expressed at length.

The Town Clerk explained that two inspection reports have been produced to advise that the installation of the equipment has been carried out correctly and highlighting a number of trip hazards around the wooden surrounds which Sovereign have acknowledged and will attend to. As far as the quotation for the additional safety surfacing, it is only following the completion of the installation that this has been considered. The split levels between the equipment is the result of the amount of rock in the ground and is no different than before the previous equipment was removed.

Councillor Mrs G Baty commented on the new memorial benches in the Limes Cemetery and how good they look.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs A Burges, seconded by Councillor Mrs N C Thomas, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 9: Reports of Committees (Continued)

b. Planning.

Councillor Mrs S M Cox reported on the meeting held on 6th July 2015.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs S M Cox, 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 7th July 2015, referred to item 9 and confirmed that the subcommittee had met and their recommendations will be discussed at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee in September.

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

Resolved as proposed.

d. Town Hall

Councillor D W Morris reported on the meeting held 7th July 2015.

Proposed by Councillor D W Morris, seconded by Councillor Mrs E A George, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees.

112/15

10.1

Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.

Councillor D W Morris reported on the meeting held 9th July, which included the AGM, and at which Mr H Llewellyn-Morgan was reappointed as Chair. Grants are to remain at the previous amount. Should any member of the Town Council be aware of anyone in need please would they pass names to any trustee. Three educational and one sporting grants were made, each for £250.

10.2

Evan Jenkins Charity.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold reported on the meeting held 16th July at which the stockbrokers gave reports on the Trust's finances.

10.3

Cowbridge Institute Charity.

Next meeting 5th August.

10.4

One Voice Wales.

In the absence of the representatives, the Town Clerk gave a verbal report that he had received from Councillor A T Trousdell, following the meeting held 20th July.

A copy is available at the Town Clerk's Office.

10.5

Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.

No meeting.

10.6

Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.

No meeting.

10.7

Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.

Next meeting 23rd July.

- Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees (Continued)**
- 10.8 **Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.**
Councillor T L Williams reported that the school had a very successful end of term including Sports Day and an event to mark the departure of the Head Teacher, Mr Meic Griffiths. The school has been advised that it has won first prize in an art competition at the Royal Welsh Show and it was **proposed** by Councillor Mrs S M Cox, seconded by Councillor Mrs G Baty and **resolved** that a letter of congratulations should be sent from the Mayor on behalf of the council.
- 10.9 **Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.**
Councillor T L Williams reported that the attempts to set up a 'breakfast club' have been unsuccessful, mainly because no one can be found to run it. The school had been successful at the end of term and came first in a 'Kwik Cricket' competition held at Whitmore Bay, Barry Island.
Councillor Mrs G Baty referred to the two harpists who performed at this year's Civic Service and **proposed** that a letter of congratulations should be sent to the school by the Mayor.
Resolved as proposed.
- 10.10 **Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**
Councillor D G Morgan advised that he had attended part of a meeting held immediately before the Town Council meeting, which despite not being an official Chamber of Trade meeting, was attended by a large number of representatives of businesses throughout the town, as well as a number of technical officers from the Vale of Glamorgan Council. They are particularly concerned about the drop in 'footfall' and highlighted the problem of parking in the town and the increase in rents and business rates.
Councillor G A Cox, in his capacity as a Vale Councillor, had stayed for the whole of the meeting and advised that concerns were also raised regarding the increase in charity shops in the town. He had stressed to the group that the lack of 'footfall' needs to be tackled as a 'united front' rather than separate from the Chamber of Trade. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was proposed that a 'steering' group be formed to examine in more depth the problems being faced by traders and businesses in the town.
Councillor J R Harris referred to the charity shops and the unfair advantage they have over other shops through reduced business rates.
- 10.11 **Cowbridge in Bloom.**
Councillor Mrs E A George reported that the baskets are now planted and up on the lampposts and the flyers requesting contributions from businesses have been circulated.
- 10.12 **Best Kept Village.**
Councillor Mrs E A George reported on the Awards Evening for Vale Village of the Year Competition, held at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club. Gileston won the 'special feature' category, whilst Llanmaes won 'village activities' category. Peterston Super Ely won the overall award and also the 'village appearance' category.
Four nursery schools in the Vale were successful in the schools competition.
- 10.13 **Community Liaison Committee.**
No meeting.

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- Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees (Continued)**
- 10.14 **Age Connect ‘Good Neighbour Scheme’.**
Councillor Mrs A Burges reported that whilst there had been no meeting, a coffee morning is to be arranged in the Lesser Hall in September.
- 10.15 **Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
Councillor Mrs S M Cox reported that a meeting was held on 15th June when a number of matters were discussed.
- 10.16 **Food and Drink Festival Committee**
Councillor Mrs S M Cox reported on a recent meeting at which a new chairman and treasurer were appointed.
- 10.17 **Vale Market Community Enterprise.**
No representative.
- 10.18 **Llanblethian Community Group.**
Councillor Mrs S M Cox reported that there had been a successful fundraising event for Nepal held in the church.
- 10.19 **Cowbridge Town Team.**
No representative.
- 10.20 **Local Action Group (LAG).**
No meeting.
- Item 11: Correspondence.**
- 113/15**
- 11.1 Email communication received from Mandy Davies of the Vale Market Communities Enterprise Committee, which updated the Town Council on the project that has been put forward for the future of the cattle market site and has now been given the ‘green light’ by the Vale of Glamorgan Council. As a result of this, the enterprise is required to raise £500k by the end of March 2016, in order to enable the build of the market hall. The Town Council previously gave a grant of £200 and the purpose of the e-mail is to request a further sum of £300 which will enable a simple website to be constructed and the production of leaflets in order to market the project and to make applications to funding organisations.
Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor D G Morgan, that a grant is made in the sum of £300 to Vale Market Community Enterprise (VMCE).
Resolved that in pursuance of the power conferred by section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, the Committee approves the payment of the sum of £300 to Vale Market Community Enterprise (VMCE).
- Item 12: Publications.**
- 114/15**
- 12.1 The ‘Clerk’ – July 2015
- 12.2 ‘Clerk and Councils Direct’ – July Edition
- 12.3 The ‘Voice’
- 12.4 ‘Public Services Ombudsman for Wales’ Annual Report 2014/2015
<http://www.ombudsman-wales.org.uk/en/publications/Annual-reports.aspx>

Item 13: Documents for sealing.

115/15

- 13.1 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Cremation Plot E8 in the Limes Cemetery purchased by Mrs J E Warburton, 10 Wolffe Close, Cowbridge.
- 13.2 Duplicate Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for Grave No. N41 in the Limes Cemetery issued to Mrs J Greenslade, Mr C Smith, Mrs H Fowler, Mr M Smith, Mrs S Hanson & Mrs G Llewellyn, who all reside in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Documents sealed.

Item 14: Date and time of next Meeting.

116/15

Tuesday 22nd September 2015 at 7.00pm.

Councillor D W Morris
Mayor.

Date minutes signed.