

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Tuesday 22nd December 2015 at 7.00pm.

Present: **Mayor** – Councillor D W Morris
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Mrs E A George
Councillors: Mrs M Arnold, Mrs G Baty, Ms F Blomeley (*arrived item 5*),
G A Cox, Mrs S M Cox, J R Harris, P J Knapp, D G Morgan, A T Trousdell,
Mrs S Vaughan and T L Williams MBE.

In Attendance:

Town Clerk – David B Morris
Administrative Assistant - Mrs Jackie Griffin
PC Stuart Elson
Revd Edward Dowland Owen.

Item 1: **Apologies for Absence.**
164/15 Councillors Mrs A Burges and Mrs N C Thomas

Item 2: **Declarations of Interest.**
165/15 Councillor Mrs M Arnold – Item 9a (Leisure and Amenities Report - Item 7.6(i).
Councillor Mrs S M Cox – Item 9c (Finance and General Purposes Report – Item 6.1) and Item 11.1.
Councillor Mrs S Vaughan – Item 9b (Planning Report – Item 3.1 (Land at North West, Cowbridge).
Councillor G A Cox – Item 11.1.

Item 3: **The Financial Report.**
166/15 The Report was presented by Councillor J R Harris. The Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April 2015 to 30th November 2015 and statement of bank balance as at 30th November 2015 was circulated.

Balances as at 30th November 2015.

Current Account:	£ 8,063.75
Investment Gold Account:	£ 46,931.93
Money Market	<u>£ 60,000.00</u>
Total	£114,995.68
Less Outstanding Cheques	<u>£ 1,080.37</u>
	<u>£113,915.31</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 the Town Council Meeting held on**
167/15 **17th November 2015.**

Proposed by Councillor P J Knapp, seconded by Councillor Mrs S M Cox and **resolved** that the minutes of the Town Council Meetings held on 17th November 2015 was confirmed as a correct record and duly signed.

Cont...

Item 5: Matters arising from Town Council Meeting held on 168/15 17th November 2015.

Councillor Mrs S M Cox advised that she had seen Mr P Beaman who was recently made redundant at the Vale of Glamorgan Council. He was very pleased to have received a letter from Cowbridge Town Council thanking him for his services and wishing him the best for the future.

Item 6: Community Police Matters. 169/15

Councillor D W Morris expressed the thanks of the Town Council to PC Elson and his colleagues for their support at the Reindeer Parade especially during such adverse weather conditions.

PC Elson circulated recent crime figures for the Cowbridge area, which showed a reduction on the same time in the previous year, and gave some background information.

Item 7: Road Safety. 170/15

Councillor Mrs S Vaughan thanked PC Elson for arranging the placement of the police 'bollards' at the junction of Westgate and the Llantwit Major Road on the day of the Reindeer Parade. This measure had significantly reduced the congestion experienced in previous years and was most successful.

7.1

Part of the Minutes of the Vale of Glamorgan Council meeting held on 28th September was circulated to Members. These minutes contained a petition which was submitted to the Vale Council opposing proposals to introduce short term car parking charges in Barry and Cowbridge. In addition the minutes contained a debate concerning two motions. An original motion – 'This Council disagrees with charging for town centre car park places in the Vale of Glamorgan and will not introduce them'. Plus an amended motion – 'This Council disagrees with charging for town centre car park places in the Vale of Glamorgan and will not introduce them. It will however, investigate means of restricting long term parking by the use of Civil Enforcement Officers and limited waiting times'. Both Motions were put to the vote and were lost.

Councillor G A Cox advised that at this stage the question of charging for car parking in the Vale was still under consideration and consultation was continuing to take place. A report was to be submitted to the Vale Council Cabinet in February/March 2016.

Item 8: Reports 171/15

Reports

a) Mayor

Thursday 26th November - The Mayor and Mayoress attended the Christmas Tree Festival Preview Evening at the Holy Cross Church.

Sunday 29th November – The Mayor and Mayoress welcomed Father Christmas and his Reindeer at the Town Hall.

Wednesday 9th December – The Mayor Mayoress attended the Cardiff County and Vale of Glamorgan Music Service' Christmas Showcase at St David's Hall, Cardiff with pre-concert drinks and post- concert buffet.

Friday 11th December – The Deputy Mayor and Deputy Consort attended Cor Bro Ogwr's Concert at All Saints' Church, Porthcawl.

Item 8:

Reports

a) Mayor (Continued)

Monday 14th December – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Royal Voluntary Service' Luncheon Club's Christmas Lunch in the Lesser Hall. The Mayor and Mayoress attended 293 ATC Squadron's Christmas Carol Service at Holy Cross Church.

Tuesday 15th December – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Cowbridge Comprehensive School's Annual Christmas Concert. The Concert was preceded by a wine and mince pie reception hosted by Mrs Thomas, the Headteacher.

Sunday 20th December – The Mayor and Mayoress attended Barry Town Council's Candlelight Carol Service, St Mary's Church, Barry followed by a Sherry Reception in the Mayor's Parlour.

Item 8:

Reports

b) Town Clerk

Dates for your diary:

Office Closed to the Public – From Midday 24th December 2015 - Reopening Monday 4th January 2016

Saturday 9th January – Mayor's Coffee Morning.

Thursday 21st January – Big Screen presents 'Suffragette'.

Friday 29th January – Mayor's Charity Evening/Supper – Fawley Towers

Thursday 25th February – Big Screen presents 'Under Milk Wood'.

Tuesday 22nd March – Nominations for Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2016/17.

Thursday 24th March – Big Screen presents 'The Lady in the Van'.

Thursday 21st April - Big Screen presents 'Brooklyn'.

Planning Training Workshop by Planning Aid Wales

The Town Clerk advised that he seeks support from Town Council to attend a Planning Aid Wales workshop at Maesteg Town Council Offices on Monday, 29th January 2016 at 6.30pm. The cost of the course is £25.00.

Payment of the accounts to be ratified

Expenses totalling £18,493.00 to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor T L Williams, seconded by Councillor A T Trousdell, that the payment of the accounts be ratified.

Resolved as proposed.

Prior to the start of Item 9, Councillor D W Morris advised the Town Council that Councillor Mrs A Burges had resigned as Chair of the Leisure and Amenities Committee. The election of a Chair and Vice Chair will take place at the start of the next meeting of this Committee on 4th January 2016.

**Item 9:
172/15**

Reports of Committees.

a. Leisure & Amenities.

Councillor A T Trousdell reported on the meeting held on 7th December 2015 and highlighted a number of items.

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

Resolved as proposed.

Item 9: Reports of Committees (Continued)

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

b. Planning.

Councillor D G Morgan reported on the meeting held on 7th December 2015. Councillor D G Morgan referred to item 3.1, planning application for Land at North West Cowbridge (Darren Farm). A letter for the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Planning Department and a press release for the Gem Newspaper had been prepared by the Town Clerk, with input from Councillor D G Morgan referring to the objections made by the Town Council in February to the original planning application and expressing the Town Council's continued objections to the amendments made to the application. Councillor D G Morgan stressed the importance of sending the letters as soon as possible as the planning application is to be considered by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Planning Committee at its January meeting and the Press Release needed to be published in the next edition of the Gem. The Members were circulated with a copy of the Press Release and a number of amendments to the document were agreed.

Councillor Mrs M Arnold referred to Item 7.2 and stressed her concern that the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Planning Department will discontinue to post out paper copies of plans to Town and Community Councils with effect from 1st January 2016 and that paper copies can only be individually requested for 'larger and more complicated proposals'. The Planning Committee had agreed to purchase a laptop, projector and screen in order to project Plans at future Committee meetings to save costs in relation to printing paper copies. In addition, if a member of the public wished to see the plans they would be facilitated by the Clerk's office using the projector. Councillor Mrs M Arnold was concerned that these arrangements would not suffice since it was dependant on staff being available to show members of the public the plans and that paper copies should be made available. It was **resolved** that the item should be placed on the agenda of the next Committee meeting for further discussion.

Councillor Mrs S M Cox referred to Item 6.1, the Local Development Plan Examination and advised that she had confirmed that she had attended one meeting and will attend all other meetings relating to Cowbridge. However, she had not been listed to attend the session on transport and her request to attend had been denied, although she could sit in the public gallery at that particular meeting. She stated that she would be appealing against this decision.

Proposed by Councillor D G Morgan, seconded by Councillor J R Harris, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

Item 9: Reports of Committees (Continued)

c. Finance and General Purposes.

Councillor J R Harris reported on the meeting held 8th December 2015 and highlighted a number of items including –

Item 6.2 the request by the Air Training Corps for grant aid to set up a band. Although sympathetic to their request the ATC were asked if they had sought funding and sponsorship from other agencies/organisations.

Item 9 that the photocopier would not be replaced until the current contract had finished in July 2016.

Item 10 that the Town Guide was being published and would be circulated at a cost of £300 which had been previously agreed.

Proposed by Councillor J R Harris, seconded by Councillor P J Knapp, that the report be accepted and adopted.

Resolved as proposed.

d. Town Hall

Councillor Mrs S Vaughan reported on the meeting held 8th December 2015 and updated Members on a number of items including -

Item 5.1, Town Hall maintenance and the current exterior works.

Painting is to be done and consent from the Conservation Officer for the replacing of the Town Clerk's Office window is to be followed up.

Item 9 – The Pantomime was cancelled due to the van transporting the actors, scenery and costumes having broken down in Southend, Essex and requiring new brakes. Although the Pantomime Company was prepared to make the journey once the van was repaired there would be a delay of several hours by the show started, which was considered to be far too late for young children. Therefore the Pantomime was cancelled with notices placed on the Council Website and outside Town hall. In the evening Councillors and Staff attended the Town Hall, explained the circumstances to ticket holders on their arrival and a full refund on their tickets was given and offered a viewing of a free film of 'Beauty and the Beast'. This proved to be very successful with a tuck shop and the sale of ice-creams at half-time. Councillor Mrs S Vaughan expressed her thanks to the Council staff and in particular Mr. Andrew Davies for operating the 'Big Screen' equipment to show the film.

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

Resolved as proposed.

Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees.

173/15

10.1

Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charities.

Councillor D W Morris reported on the meeting held 26th November at which the Trustees approved grants to the elderly and needy; a payment of £10 to each resident of Southways Residential Home and two educational grants of £250 each.

10.2

Evan Jenkins Charity.

No meeting.

- 10.3 **Cowbridge Institute Charity.**
No meeting.
- Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees (Continued)**
- 10.4 **One Voice Wales.**
No meeting.
- 10.5 **Cowbridge and District Museum Trust.**
No meeting.
- 10.6 **Cowbridge Town Twinning Association.**
Councillor Mrs G Baty reported on a successful Christmas Party and AGM which had been preceded by a ‘Bretton’ evening and consequently attendance had been lower than usual.
- 10.7 **Joint Liaison Association on Footpaths.**
No meeting.
- 10.8 **Governing Body of Y Bont Faen Primary School.**
No meeting.
- 10.9 **Governing Body of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.**
Councillor A T Trousdell reported that a presentation had been given by the Vale of Glamorgan Council on the prospective ‘new school’ at the proposed ‘Darren Farm’ development and the possibility of Y Bont Faen moving to this new site while Ysgol Iolo Morganwg moved to the current Y Bont Faen premises.
- 10.10 **Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.**
No meeting.
- 10.11 **Cowbridge in Bloom.**
No meeting.
- 10.12 **Best Kept Village.**
Councillor Mrs E A George reported on the meeting held 10th December at which the continuation of the competition was discussed. At this meeting the Secretary of the committee resigned. The next meeting will be held on 25th January in the Council Chamber. On the agenda will be consideration for the future of the competition. Prior to that meeting, a notice will be placed in the Gem seeking persons to attend especially from the outlying villages to discuss the future of the competition and to appoint new committee members.
- 10.13 **Community Liaison Committee.**
No meeting.
- 10.14 **Age Connect ‘Good Neighbour Scheme’.**
No representative.
- 10.15 **Cowbridge Charter Trust.**
No meeting.

- 10.16 **Food and Drink Festival Committee**
Next meeting to be held in 9th January 2016.
- 10.17 **Vale Market Community Enterprise – The Exchange Cowbridge Ltd.’**
Councillor Mrs S Vaughan reported that two meetings had taken place on the 19th October and 25th November. The minutes are held by the Town Clerk. Work was continuing to obtain charitable status and three trustees had been appointed; Mandy Davies, David Harris and Roger Bolter
- Item 10: Reports of Representatives & Other Committees (Continued)**
- 10.18 **Llanblethian Community Group.**
Councillor Mrs G Baty reported that a meeting and AGM had taken place. Monthly quiz nights are being held in the Cross Inn and encouraged Councillors to attend.
- 10.19 **Cowbridge Town Team.**
No meeting.
- 10.20 **Local Action Group (LAG).**
No meeting.
- Item 11: Correspondence.**
- 174/15**
- 11.1 E-Mail Notification of an Application for a Premises Licence received for Glyndwr Vineyard, Church Road, Cowbridge CF1 7JF.
Application to sell alcohol (on and off sales) Monday to Saturday 08.00 to 23.00 and Sunday 10.30 to 22.30. Any observations by the Town Council to be submitted in writing to Vale of Glamorgan Council by 4th January 2016.
Noted with no objections.
- 11.2 E-mail received from Ms Kathryn Bunston regarding an initiative to set up a ‘Big Tree Library’ which Ms Bunston had seen in Ireland.
This item to be referred to Leisure and Amenities Committee.
- 11.3 To note e-mail from Ms Jane Hydon, Cowbridge Town Twinning Association inviting Arts Council of Wales, Welsh Assembly Government and Creative Rural Communities to become involved in a Photographic Exhibition at Old Hall involving Clisson during their visit in May 2016, Cowbridge Food Festival.
Noted.
- 11.4 Consultation document received from Welsh Government entitled ‘Devolution, Democracy and Delivery – Reforming Local Government’. The Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill sets out the Welsh Government’s detailed proposals for the reform of local government. Responses are required by 15 February 2016. Particular attention should be paid to Part 6 – Community Councils. The full document can be viewed at:
[http://gov.wales/consultations/localgovernment/draft-local-government-\(wales\)-bill-consultation/?lang=en](http://gov.wales/consultations/localgovernment/draft-local-government-(wales)-bill-consultation/?lang=en)

In meantime an invitation to attend a Welsh Government Engagement Event on the Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea on 2nd February, 2016 has been received.

Resolved that Councillor J R Harris, Councillor Mrs E A George and the Town Clerk should attend the event.

The item should be placed on the agenda of the next Council meeting on 19th January for discussion and to prepare a response.

Item 11: Correspondence (Continued)

11.5 Consultation document received from Welsh Government entitled ‘How do we measure the Health of a Nation’; Proposals for a Public Health Outcomes Framework Wales. Responses are required by 28 January 2016. Full Document can be viewed at:

<http://gov.wales/consultations/people-and-communities/future-generations-act-how-do-you-measure-a-nations-progress/?status=open&lang=en>

Resolved that Members should respond on an individual basis.

11.6 Written statement by Welsh Government entitled ‘Transparency of Senior Remuneration in the Devolved Welsh Public Sector’.
The Statement publishes a set of three principles in support of the Recommendations from the N.A.W. Public Accounts Committee on Senior Management Pay. The principles are aimed at remuneration for Senior Managers engaged in devolved Public Services. The Principles are - Consistency – in that rewards must be commensurate with responsibility and role, which require effective job evaluation. Transparency - clear accountability for pay arrangements within the organisation; Accessibility – decisions relating to senior remuneration to be published on the organisations website. In addition devolved Welsh public sector bodies should publish an annual Pay Policy Statement in an easily accessible and prominent place on its website.

Noted.

11.7 New Year 2017 Honours Nominations

Letter received from Welsh Government seeking nominations by 29th January 2016 for the New Year 2017 Honours List.

Councillors were asked if they had any persons they would like to nominate for the 2017 New Year Honours List or know of anybody who would like to nominate an individual. If they had any nominations or knowledge of persons who would like to nominate could they inform the Clerk and he will arrange for the application to be sent out or facilitate their completion and submission.

11.8 Appointment of Independent Member to Board of Community Health Councils (CHCs)

Letter received from Welsh Government seeking applications to appoint an Independent Member to the Board of CHCs.

Noted.

- Item 12:** **‘Clean for the Queen’ – Initiative to Recognise the Queen’s 90th Birthday.**
175/15
Councillor G A Cox advised that he has contacted Mr Clifford Parish of the Vale of Glamorgan Council with regard to obtaining equipment to enable the Town Council to carry out a ‘litter pick’ and he is prepared to meet with the Council. The ‘litter pick’ is to take place between 4th and 6th March 2016.
- Proposed** by Councillor G A Cox, seconded by Councillor T L Williams and **resolved** that the initiative is taken up and arrangements made for Mr Clifford Parish to meet with the Town Council to discuss how to take this initiative forward.
- Item 13:** **Seminars and Conferences.**
176/15
On Thursday 28th January 2016 there is a Capita Conference in Cardiff on Devolution Wales – The conference brings together speakers to discuss devolution in Wales. Of particular reference is a discussion on the implications of Welsh local government reorganisation, to assess the potential models being considered and operational consequences. However the cost of attendance is £359.00 for the first delegate. There is a 20% discount for two delegates. Alternatively a delegate pack only can be purchased for £95.00 either a PDF Electronic Version or Hard Copy Paper.
Noted.
- Item 14:** **Vale of Glamorgan Council – Reshaping Services Programme, Town & Community Councils.**
177/15
As a follow up from the Reshaping Services Programme the Vale of Glamorgan Council Clustering Seminar on the 30 September 2015, the project manager, Mrs Karen Bowen has asked if Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council would be interested in a follow up meeting. It would be an informal meeting to discuss the area of interest response from the Council in relation to the Town Hall car park and any other areas/services the Council would be interested in providing e.g. additional play parks, open spaces etc.
It would also be good to establish from the Vale of Glamorgan Council what areas/services they are considering should be devolved to Community/Town Councils, financial and resource arrangements etc.
Resolved that Councillors D W Morris, A T Trousdell, Mrs E A George and the Town Clerk should attend the meeting.
- Item 15:** **Documents for sealing.**
178/15
15.1 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial for a Cremation Plot E10 in the Limes Cemetery, purchased by Mr K Britton, 7 Bowmans Way, Cowbridge.
Documents sealed.
- Item 16:** **Date and time of next Meeting.**
179/15
Tuesday 19th January 2016 at 7.00pm.

Councillor D W Morris
Mayor.
Date minutes signed.