

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Minutes of Meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Cowbridge Town Hall,
on Monday 7th October 2019 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairperson _ Councillor H Wright
Mayor – Councillor A Trousdell
Councillors: Cllr S Vaughan, Cllr Spencer-Downe, Cllr G Baty, Cllr A Burges
Cllr M Arnold

In Attendance: Town Clerk – Ceri John

Cllr H Wright welcomed Cllr Arnold and Cllr Burges back to the Leisure and Amenities Committee.

Item 1: Apologies for Absence.

Cllr N Thomas- Personal

Item 2: Declarations of Interest.

None.

Item 3: Matters arising from the Committee Meeting held on the Monday 2nd September 2019, which are not already on the agenda.

Page 3, Item 9 – Southgate Park

The Clerk confirmed that an Email had been received from Mr. Bird confirming that he was progressing the matter of making repair to the wall backing on to Southgate Park.

Item4: Appointment of Deputy Chair

Unanimously Resolved: That Cllr Spencer-Downe is appointed as Deputy Chair for the Leisure and Amenities Committee.

Item 5: Leisure and Amenities Budget 2018/19

Members were presented with the accounts for September 2019. It was noted that the Figures included projected committed spend to the end of the financial year.

The Clerk advised that no monies had been received with regards the Limes Shed and she would be reporting this matter to the next meeting of the Full Council to decide how to instruct the Town Councils Solicitors going forward.

The Committee was further advised that the re-surfacing of the path at Southgate Park at a cost of £3995.00 was an unexpected spend that was agreed by the Full Council on the grounds of health and safety.

Following consideration:-

Resolved to Recommend: **That a request is made to Full Council via the Finance and Governance Committee that the £3995.00 cost for resurfacing of the path at Southgate Park is taken out of Council reserves**

Resolved to Recommend: **That the September 2019 budget as presented is accepted.**

Item 6: Sensory Play Equipment, Twt Park

Members were presented with costs associated to the removal and re-siting of the Sensory Play Equipment, along with costs to repair damaged post in the Twt Park.

Discussion took place about the need to liaise with the community of Llanblethian if the Tiger Glockenspiel was to be re-sited to the playing fields.

Cllr Arnold asked how the Clerk had details of the contractor used to make repair and re-site play equipment as she was concerned that he had carried out work in the past for the Town Council on a number of occasions. The Clerk confirmed that the Town Council had provided her with details of the contractor as he had expertise in this field and was local.

It was noted that whilst the report from the Environmental Health Department had stated the Glockenspiel did not constitute an unacceptable level of noise/nuisance, the Town Council had agreed to try their best to accommodate Mr. Morgan who resided close to the park and seek to move the item of play equipment. Mr. Morgan had indicated that he was prepared to contribute towards the re-siting of the equipment.

Resolved to Recommend: **That Cllr H Wright speaks to Mr. Morgan to establish what contribution he was prepared to make towards re-siting the play equipment and report back to the next meeting of the Town Council.**

Item 7: Benches – Funding Update

The Clerk advised the Committee that following the recent discussions with regards to possible funding for projects in the Town, by the Town Council the submission for new benches in the ownership of the Town Council had been submitted to the relevant officers at the Vale of Glamorgan Council for consideration.

Cllr Arnold asked who funded the refurbishment of the bench outside the Town Hall as she thought it was awful and preferred the old one. Cllr Arnold was informed that a donation was received from regular users of the bench who had indicated that they were delighted with the refurbishment. The refurbishment was done in-house.

Following discussion:

Resolved to Recommend: That if the necessary funding is received, all the remaining benches in the ownership of the Town Council that had not already been updated would be upgraded to match the newly purchase ones.

Resolved to Recommend: That if the funding is received, the benches in Southgate Park are refurbished and re-sited at a location chosen by the Town Council.

Resolved to Recommend: That the Town Council writes to the Vale of Glamorgan Council expressing their concerns about the condition of the benches in Cowbridge in their ownership.

Item 8: **Limes Cemetery – update**

The Clerk advised that she was liaising closely with Memsafe with regards progress in making safe the head stones in the Limes Cemetery. The Committee was informed that a brief statement had been placed in the Gem and on the Town Council website advising of the Town Council's decision to employ an expert contractor. Relevant signage had now been ordered and once received the next appropriate step of the process would take place.

Discussion also took place about the work of the Memorial Stone Masons and it was agreed that once the remedial works had been carried out by Memsafe, a review of the Town Council procedures with regards to Memorial Masons procedures should be reviewed alongside consideration of the staffing implications associated to ensuring a member of staff is on site when memorials are being installed

The Committee also expressed concerns about the disposal/storage of earth following burials and the existing compounds in the Limes Cemetery

Resolved to Recommend: That a site visit takes place on Tuesday 15th October 2019 to enable members to assess what would be the best way forward regards the disposal/storage of earth at the Limes Cemetery

Cllr Arnold stated she did not wish to attend.

Item 9: **Southgate Park-update various matters**

Members were reminded that it had been agreed at the last meeting of the Town Council that the new path surface at Southgate Park would tarmac.

Cllr H Wright said that he believed it would be a good idea to pursue the formation of a Friends of Southgate Park as residents in neighbouring properties had expressed an interest. It was noted that any works/planting should be monitored by the Town Council.

Cllr Arnold said she did not believe this was the best course of action and said she believed that there was a need to revisit the planting of Southgate Park and start again from scratch.

Following discussion:

Resolved to Recommend: **That as Chair of the Leisure and Amenities Committee Cllr Wright would arrange a meeting with interested parties to discuss the setting up of a Friends of Southgate Park group and report back to the next meeting on this item.**

Cllr Arnold asked that her previous statement indicating that she no longer wanted to participate in discussions relating to Southgate Park is reinforced.

Item 10: Holy Cross Church

The Clerk confirmed that she would be meeting with Mr David-Lloyd Jones to take part in site visit at Holy Cross Church to highlight and make note of works needed to be carried out. The Clerk would provide an update at the next meeting.

Item 11: Christmas Lights

Item deferred.

Item 12: Llanblethian Playing Fields – play equipment

Members were reminded that they had previously agreed that a meeting should take place with Llanblethian Community to discuss their play equipment requirements before grant funding application is submitted.

The Committee were presented with an email indicating that the cost to hire the Llanblethian Church Hall was £25.

Resolved to Recommend: **That the Clerk sends the Committee a choice of dates for the meeting and then send round robin to members to ascertain preferred day.**

Item 13: Vale of Glamorgan Playground Inspection Report

Members considered the report as presented.

It was agreed that the clearance of the moss and refurbishment of the activity house is carried out in-house by the Town Council Maintenance Person.

Agreed that the Clerk should monitor the situation with regards the broken timber post and report back accordingly.

The Committee agreed that they had been generally disappointed with the equipment and Service provided by the Sovereign and should consider this when looking to purchase play equipment in the future.

Item 14: Date and Time of next meeting:

Monday 4th November 2019 at 7.00pm