

Dear Dana,

I must first stress that this is a personal reply and is not made on behalf of Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council. Your email below dated 22nd March 2023 will be included under Correspondence at the next Council meeting which will be on 18th April 2023. You may receive a response from the Council after that.

In your email you refer to the field beside your home (called The Paddocks) being on the candidate list for housing. I believe this is Site 555 in the Register. See attached file. Is that correct?

As I am sure you are aware, the candidate sites are not yet out for consultation. When they are I hope Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council will discuss at a meeting and respond to the consultation. I also intend to respond in a personal capacity.

You make some points about the ownership of the site and the relationship between Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council and Cowbridge with Llanblethian United Charities (registered charity number 1014580). Information about the charity is available publicly on the charity commission website. From the Charity's annual report I can see that 5 trustees are appointed by Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council but, to the best of my knowledge, other than this, Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council has no say in the running of the charity.

I would be happy to discuss with you and have a look at the site. Perhaps we could arrange a meeting at the site. When would be most suitable for you?

You asked for more information about the way in which our meetings operate. Attached is a copy of our Standing Orders downloaded from our new website which is now up and running but please be aware that it is still a work in progress.

Declarations of interest are a matter for individual Councillors who should follow the Code of Conduct.

I believe you asked for the Section 106 report that I referred to at our last Council meeting. A copy is attached. The tabular information and the protocol are available on the Vale of Glamorgan Council website.

Best regards
John

Councillor John Andrew
The Mayor
Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council
Tel: 07964 829780
[Email: cllrjandrew@cowbridge-tc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrjandrew@cowbridge-tc.gov.uk)

Dear Mr Mayor,

Thank you very much for your time on the telephone this morning. As mentioned, I am keen to stay updated on the candidate site list for the replacement LDP.

By way of explanation, I live in Vale Court, Cowbridge and the field beside my home (called The Paddocks) is on the candidate list for housing. I have the following concerns:

- Access will be a real issue for the local area. I am concerned for the safety of local children for whom it will become unsafe to play in their street, which is currently a small quiet cul-de-sac.
- I am also concerned about the overdevelopment of Cowbridge, which I know is something the Council have been concerned about whilst opposing other new developments. Our local infrastructure - schools, doctors surgeries and utilities cannot accommodate more housing.
- The houses on Clare Gardens have not sold quickly suggesting demand is not as high as believed. This includes affordable housing as Newydd Housing Association still have properties available in their first time buyer scheme listed as available on the Vale council website.
- Cowbridge is accepted to be a tourist destination by the Vale council but by continuing to develop new build properties and clogging the town with traffic, this will be lost.

I telephoned Cowbridge council last week to better understand the relationship between the Council and Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charity and discuss a possible conflict of interest. The Paddocks is owned by Cowbridge and Llanblethian United Charity (purchased on 1 August 2019 for £20k) who have put the land forward for the candidate list and have a social housing provider lined up with site plans already designed. I believe that the two councillors who are also Trustees of United Trust (Councillors Trousdell and Williams MBE) will need to declare their conflict of interest when the council considers whether to object and this will need to be managed. I am disappointed that three previous mayors who have served on the council whilst it has opposed other sites due to the overdevelopment of the town have now decided to pursue this.

I asked Deputy Clerk Sarah-Jane for more information regarding proposer/seconder in council meetings but I believe she has passed this to you to respond to me. Last night Councillor Terry Williams MBE seconded the appointment of Sian Vaughan to serve another term of 4 years as a trustee of United Charity, which feels like unusual governance as he is also a Trustee of the same charity. Please know that I'm in no way disputing the reappointment or the work that the charity does, I just believe it shows the need for careful management of this relationship.

Having attended the town council meeting last night, I feel there is a much better outcome available for all, if the Charity sells the land for local use (not housing), especially aligned to the s106 engagement results (which so many local residents fed into) and the funding that is available. The field is used by many people walking their dogs and has lots of local children living nearby. I believe it could be a real benefit to the local community to have outdoor space rather than more housing.

I would be very happy to meet with you to discuss this further and I would love to be involved in maintaining the excellent community and town that Cowbridge has. If there is anything I can do to help, please let me know.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Dana