



Be kind



Byddwch yn garedig

COWBRIDGE (ANCIENT BOROUGH) with
LLANBLETHIAN TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF
Y BONTFAEN (Bwrdeistref Hynafol) gyda
LLANFLEIDDAN

Report to Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council

From: Cathy Kennedy, Chief Executive Town Clerk

Subject: Cowbridge Cinema Project Progress and Recommendations

Date: 7th November 2024

Meeting Date: 19th November 2024

1. Reason for Report

The purpose of this report is to update the council on the progress of the Cowbridge Cinema project, outline key considerations for equipment procurement, and make recommendations for decisions needed regarding the types of films to show and the equipment to use. This will ensure the project proceeds according to plan and aligns with the funding received from the National Lottery Community Fund.

2. Background

The Cowbridge Cinema project, titled "*Cowbridge Cinema Nights*", received funding of £8,500 from the National Lottery Community Fund to revive community cinema events at Cowbridge Town Hall. These events were a well-loved community tradition before being discontinued during the COVID-19 pandemic due to equipment failure and a lack of volunteers.

The project's goal is to purchase and install a new projector and either use the existing sound system or acquire a new one. The aim is to relaunch cinema events starting in January 2025, following the annual pantomime. To date, tenders have been advertised on "Sell to Wales" and two suppliers have already visited the town hall to provide quotes, which will be reviewed at the council meeting on 19th November 2024.

3. Findings

Tenders were sent out and advertised on "Sell to Wales," generating a good amount of interest. Two suppliers have already visited the town hall to assess the site for the installation. Quotes will be submitted for review by the 19th November council meeting.

The council needs to decide whether to purchase a new surround sound system as part of the project to enhance the cinematic experience for attendees.

The council needs to purchase a new projector. The decision regarding the specification of the projector will depend on the type of films shown and the format used (Blu-ray, DVD, or laptop-based streaming).



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If the council decides to show more recent films, a projector that supports high-definition (HD) or 4K resolutions may be necessary, especially if streaming from laptops or using Blu-ray.

The choice between Blu-ray, DVD, or laptop-based streaming will directly influence the type of projector purchased. Modern projectors with HDMI ports are needed for laptops or Blu-ray, while older projectors can still work with DVDs.

The equipment installation has been tentatively scheduled for January 2025, immediately following the pantomime.

A marketing campaign will be launched in mid-December to promote the cinema's return, utilising social media, local networks, and partnerships with schools and businesses.

4. Financial Implications

Budget Overview:

The National Lottery grant awarded for this project totals **£8,500**, broken down as follows:

- Projector: £6,000
- Surround Sound System: £1,500 (if new one is required)
- Setup and installation: £500
- Marketing: £500

Potential Additional Costs:

If the council opts to show newer films requiring higher-quality projectors, the cost of the projector may need to be reassessed based on the specific technical requirements (e.g., HD or 4K resolution).

5. Conclusion

Decisions must be made regarding the type of films to show and the format to use (Blu-ray, DVD, or streaming via laptop). These decisions will affect the type of projector purchased and, subsequently, the budget.

To stay on schedule for a January 2025 installation, the council must finalise its decision by the November meeting, allowing enough time to purchase the appropriate equipment and conduct necessary installations.



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6. Recommendations

- a) The council should decide whether to show up-to-date films, as this will determine the projector's technical requirements (HD/4K capability).
- b) The council must choose between using Blu-ray, DVD, or laptop-based streaming, which will guide the selection of projector features such as HDMI input compatibility.
- c) Once the film format decision is made, proceed with purchasing a projector and surround sound system (if needed) based on the supplier quotes to be reviewed on 19th November.
- d) Confirm the installation of the projector and any additional equipment in early January 2025, immediately following the pantomime.
- e) Begin preparations for the first public screening in early February 2025, ensuring a successful relaunch of Cowbridge Cinema Nights.
- f) Delegate decision making powers to the town clerk in collaboration with the town hall chair, Cllr Andrew with regards to the purchase and installation of the required equipment, up to a maximum of £8,500.