



Borough of Cowbridge.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE,

COWBRIDGE,

28th June 1924.

Sir,

You are summoned to attend a Meeting of the Council, acting also as the Urban Sanitary Authority of the Borough, which will be held in the Town Hall, Cowbridge, on Thursday, the 3rd day of July proximo, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon being a monthly Meeting for the following purposes namely:—

- 1—To read the Minutes of the last ~~Meeting~~ *Ordinary* Meeting of the Council ~~with a view of their confirmation.~~ *and of the Special meeting held on 19th June*
- 2—To read the Minutes and Reports of Meetings of Committees and Sub-Committees held since the last Council Meeting, and to make such orders thereon as may be resolved.
- 3—To receive Announcements, Reports and Communications, and to pass resolutions thereon.
- 4— To receive the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
- 5- To sanction the payment of accounts passed by the Finance Committee.

By Order of the Mayor

[Signature]
Town Clerk.

and Wales for the year 1923 was 11.6 and the Death Rate for Small Towns up to 50,000 population was 10.6. I have brought these two figures in just to compare the death rate of this Borough with the average death rate. There was one death in Infants under two years of age. The age of this child was eight months and the cause of death (i) Lobar Pneumonia; (ii) Convulsions.

The ages at death of the other ten were, 45, 46, 55, 56, 67, 69, 76, 77, 80 and 85. The causes of death in these cases were:-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2
Bronchitis	2
Cardiac Diseases	1
Hemiplegia	1
Cancer	3
Diabetes	1
La Grippe	1

Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals and other Institutions available for the Borough

A qualified Nurse is employed by the Cowbridge and District Nursing Association. Her duties are General Nursing and to attend to cases of Maternity if required. At the present time this Nurse also acts as Health Visitor to the Borough.

During the year in question the Health Visitor paid the following visits:-

No. of visits paid to Infants under six months	50
" " " " " " of six months and over	212
Total	262

There are two qualified Midwives practising in the Borough.

Clinic and Treatment Centres

There are no maternity and Child Welfare Centres, Day Nurseries, School Clinics, Tuberculosis or Venereal Clinics in the Borough; but arrangements can be made for Patients requiring treatment for Venereal Diseases to attend at the Clinic at Pontypridd under the Glamorgan County Council and for Tuberculosis at Bridgend under the Welsh National

Hospitals Tuberculosis

Cases of Tuberculosis can be treated by the Welsh National Memorial Association at such Hospitals as Glan Ely, Cymla, Neath, or at the various sanitoriums under their care.

Maternity

There are no Maternity Homes available for the women inhabitants in the Borough; but arrangements can be made for their admission to the Royal Infirmary at Cardiff. This also applied to the case of children requiring Hospital Treatment.

Fever

Fever Patients are admitted to the Bridgend Fever Hospital and Small Pox Patients to the Isolation Hospital, Bridgend. The Local Authorities contribute to the upkeep of these Hospitals.

Ambulance Facilities

- (a) In infectious cases the Borough have a claim on the Motor Ambulance attached to the Bridgend Fever Hospital.
- (b) In cases of accidents and non-infectious cases there is no Public Ambulance available, and one has either to resort to private cars or a private ambulance.

Slaughter Houses

Up until the commencement of the year the Butchers made use of a slaughter house situate at the rear of the Blue Bell Inn, but during the year a Private Slaughter House has been erected in the field behind the gas works. This new Slaughter House is well kept and quite satisfactory.

The Slaughter House at the rear of the Blue Bell Inn is kept as clean as circumstances will permit. In my past reports I have remarked that the present place is quite unsuitable for its purpose and I again urge upon the Council that it is their duty to the public to provide the town with a suitable and up to date abattoir. I hope this matter will receive active attention.

In the near future the Borough of Cowbridge is promised a public water supply, so there ought not to be any difficulty with the water necessary for the Public Abattoir.

Water Supply

There is no public water service in the Borough. The centre part of the Town is supplied from a pump adjoining the Town Hall. This pump is fed by water pumped from the Silver Well. This is the most satisfactory of all the local supplies in Cowbridge, but it is insufficient in quantity for those who wish to use it. The East and West ends of the town are served by public pump wells, the deepest of which is only 29 feet. Some houses in Cowbridge have private wells, the surroundings of which are such as to suggest danger of pollution. Private wells are situated usually close to the back of the houses and commonly near to cesspools, and the like. Some people in better class houses collect rainwater from the roofs and store it in underground brick cisterns or in galvanised iron tanks above ground. Water supply from this source is precarious in the summer but is plentiful enough at other times, since the rainfall of the locality ranges between 30-40 inches annually.

I have emphasised in my previous reports the importance and necessity of Cowbridge having its own water supply. The position and surroundings of Cowbridge point to the possibility of it becoming a favourite residential town, but this cannot be expected until it has a good water supply. I hope this matter can be hurried on, as dissatisfaction has been shown by the ratepayers.

Drainage

There is no proper system of sewerage for Cowbridge, if indeed one may be said to exist, it is of the most primitive kind. With the exception of some houses, which have drains leading into the river Thaw, the lavatories are emptied into Cesspools at the back of the houses. In my last report I had occasion to remark that the majority of householders failed to comply with the Bye-laws which lay it down, that Cesspools should be emptied at least once in six months and again I strongly recommend that the Corporation should undertake the work of cleaning out the Cesspools

periodically. The cost would be small and the benefit accruing to the householders considerable. Although highly desirable for the general convenience and the health of the population, a drainage scheme cannot be considered until a constant and plentiful supply of pipe borne water is ensured.

Requirements.

In past reports I have repeatedly placed before the Council the urgent necessity for a Public Water Supply, a sewerage system and a new slaughter house.

I look upon Cowbridge as a residential centre, but I am afraid that the Council cannot expect private individuals to build new houses unless the houses will be furnished with water and a drainage system. Unless these two most necessary and vital requirements are introduced into the Borough, I for one, fail to see how Cowbridge can increase its population.

Housing

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(a) Total	2
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts 1919 or 1923.	
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons.	

1. Unfit Dwelling-houses.

Inspection -

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	40
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	Nil

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.

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A-Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning etc. Act, 1919	Nil
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:-	8
(a) By owners	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	Nil
B- Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:-	
(a) By owners	
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.	Nil
C- Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning etc. Act 1909	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to making Closing Orders	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit.	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) D. J. EVANS, M.O.H.