

Argoed Community Council



Cyngor Cymuned Argoed

Markham, Argoed,
Man-moel and Hollybush

Clerk/R.F.O. Gwyn L. James.

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Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 20th January 2020 at Argoed Village Hall.

2018 To sign the register and receive apologies

2018.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman J. Watkins, M. Barton, A. Bould, A. Davies, G. Lewis D. Moore, J. Moore C. Padfield, M. Parkes H. Rowlands, M. Williams and Walter Williams

2019 To receive a report from the Police

2019.1 PCSO Jeff Dugmore reported on the following issues

- Problems with parking at the turning circle at Markham Terrace
- Off-road bikers at Manmoel – a land owner near to the border with Blaenau Gwent Borough Council had allowed bikers to use their land
- Off-road bikers are illegally using the Markham Colliery Site
- Suggested residents use the “Your Voice” police website to raise issues.

2019.2 Councillors raised concerns about speeding cars on Penylan Road.

2019.3 It was **agreed** that the Clerk should write to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent, Mr Jeff Cuthbert bringing to his attention the destruction of the environment because of the indiscriminate use of off-road bikes, quad bikes and 4x4 vehicles. It was further **agreed** to copy the letter to the CEO of Caerphilly County Borough Council.

2020 To receive a report from County Councillor Walter Williams

2020.1 Cllr. Williams informed the meeting that the Borough Council’s Medium Term Financial Plan was to be re-visited because of the increase of funds made available by the Welsh Government. He also reported that the WHQS environmental programme is continuing to improve the area.

2021 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th December 2019 were **agreed**.

2022 Matters arising:

2022.1 Argoed Community Benefit Fund

- The Clerk confirmed that no new applications for funding had been received.

- Minute 2012.6 – the Clerk reminded the meeting about the Code of Conduct training which was due to take place on 12th February.
- Minute 2016.1 – Blocked gullies on Penylan Road – Cllr. Walter Williams agreed to contact the relevant officer from Caerphilly County Borough Council

2023 The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and the required actions **agreed**.

2024 To receive the financial report from the Clerk.

2024.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 20th January 2020 showed a total balance of £21,705.91

2024.2 The above balance included £3,450 from the Argoed Community Benefit Fund.

2024.3 The financial report produced by the Clerk was **agreed**.

2024.4 To receive the Clerk's Precept and Budget Proposals for 2020/21

2024.5 To agree the Precept for 2020/21

- The Clerk reminded the meeting that the Community Council's current precept was set at £15.00 per dwelling. It was **agreed** to set the Precept for 2020/21 at £15.00 per dwelling

2024.6 The Clerk provided a draft budget for 2020/21 based on Precept Income of £12,789.60.

- The Salary estimate included an estimated 2% national pay increase
- The Chairman's Allowance was set at £400 as per the AGM in May 2019.
- All other items of expenditure were as per the previous years budget.
- It was **agreed** that the Clerk's Budget Proposals for 2020/21 be adopted.

2024.7 It was **agreed** to set the Section 137 spending limit to £2,000

2024.8 It was **agreed** that the Clerk's salary be in accordance with the NALC National Agreement.

2024.9 The Clerk's Risk Assessment Report for January 2020 was received and **agreed**.

2025 To receive and update on the Community Council's Facebook page.

- Cllr. Colin Padfield informed the meeting that 73 "hits" had been made on the Facebook page and there were 4 more "likes"

2026 Delegates Reports

2026.1 Markham Primary School – Cllr. Walter Williams reported that the presentations were due to take place on the following Friday.

2026.2 Argoed Village Hall – Cllr. Garry Lewis reported that a meeting had been held with Caerphilly County Borough Council about maintenance of the building including heating and water costs and drainage problems with the car park.

2026.3 Hollybush Community Centre – no report.

2026.4 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – no report

2026.5 Markham House and Leisure Centre – Cllr. Walter Williams said that there was no change from his previous report.

2026.6 Access Forum – no report

2027 Local Reports

2027.1 Argoed – Items raised included rubbish dumped at the side of the roads; mechanical sweeping to the road and footpaths.

2027.2 Hollybush – It was reported that there was a problem with fly tipping and also refuse bins being stolen.

2027.3 Manmoel – It was reported that there were still problems with off-roaders.

2027.4 Markham – It was stated that many residents were experiencing problems with getting appointments at the doctors surgery in Markham. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should write to the Health Authority complaining that people cannot get appointments because of 2 week rule relating to the doctors' diary

2028 Planning Applications

2028.1 20/0013/NCC – Ysguborneydd Farm, Pen-yr-Heol-Las, Farm Lane, Manmoel – vary condition 01 of planning consent.

2028.2 20/0017/RET - 40 James Street, Markham – retain and complete the construction of an outbuilding/practice room

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 17th February 2020