

ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED ARGOED.
MARKHAM, ARGOED, MAN-MOEL AND HOLLYBUSH

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Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 15th July 2013 at Hollybush Community Centre.

1220 To sign the register and receive apologies

1220.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman M. Williams, D. Briggs, L. Gardiner, A. Jones, G. Lewis, H. Rowlands, H. Speck, J. Watkins and W. Williams.

1220.2 Apologies were received from A. Edwards and K. Masson

1221 The Chairman welcomed Phil Griffiths, Senior Engineer with Caerphilly County Borough Council.

Phil explained the background to the problems with the purchase of the land at the former Markham Colliery site. One of the owners had disputed the value of the coal left in the ground. The Heads of the Valleys funding was not available at present however, the funding for the compulsory purchase order of the land was in place. The land to be purchased is on the west side of the site and is critical to the eventual reclamation of the whole site in the future. An agreement had been reached with the Markham Steam and Coal Company with a view to completing the purchase in the spring of next year. Phil also referred to the new gas mains being laid to Hollybush village. It was hoped that this would be laid alongside the cycle path rather than dig up the cycle path and disrupt its use.

The Chairman asked about the future use of the Markham Colliery site. Phil confirmed that there would be a visitor's centre and training facilities. Leon asked about the funding that had originally been provided for the Markham site but which had been re-allocated to Bargoed. Phil confirmed that this money has now gone.

John Watkins thanked Phil for coming to the meeting to explain what is happening. He was concerned that the Borough Council thought that the Community Council had lost interest in the project.

Walter Williams asked about the creation of jobs as a result of the land acquisition and construction of the visitors centre and training facilities. Phil confirmed that jobs would be created to build the visitors centre and training facilities and permanent jobs would be created afterwards to run both places.

David Briggs asked whether there were workable coal reserves left in the former colliery. Phil said that there was a difference of opinion as to whether it was economic to mine the coal reserves.

The Chairman thanked Phil for attending the meeting and hoped that he would be able to attend a future meeting to give the Community Council an update on the progress of the site.

1222 To receive a report from the Police

1222.1 Jeff Dugmore gave his apologies for not attending but had sent an update of Police activities in the area.

- Off Road Bikes – Section 59 warnings have been issued and local farmers have been spoken to regarding the use of their land for such activities.
- ASBOs – mobile and foot patrols have been conducted and ASBOs issued.
- Parking Issues – hi visibility visits by the PCSO and Police Officers have been carried out. Letters have been given out to parents who persist in parking illegally and dangerously outside Markham Primary School.
- Other Issues – a discussion took place at the last PACT meeting regarding the provision of a youth club. Jeff has attended several meetings along with the Pastor and the youth club is going from strength to strength.

1223 To receive a report from County Borough Councillor Leon Gardiner.

1223.1 Leon said that the installation of the gas main into Hollybush is due to start in August 2013. He said that he was going to speak to Gwyn Price AM to see whether gas could also be installed in Cwm Argoed.

1223.2 He mentioned the investigation into the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive of Caerphilly County Borough Council. He had complained to the Parks Department of CCBC about the quality grass cutting in the area. Also the poor service in relation to the trimming of hedgerows.

1223.3 John Watkins said about the poor visibility from Manmoel Crossing when trying to enter the A4048 junction.

1224 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th June 2013 were agreed subject to the following alteration:

1224.1 Minute 1212.1 – should read with the assistance of Gwyn Price A.M.

1225 Matters arising:-

1225.1 Minute 1212.1 – Charges for bulk collection. The Clerk explained that according to CCBC's website, only 3 piece suits and beds were collected free of charge. All other items were chargeable.

1225.2 Minute 1214.1 Car park sign at entrance to Markham car park – Clerk to chase up with CCBC

1225.3 Minute 1217.2 – Garry Lewis informed the meeting that the laptop, projector and screen had now been purchased by Argoed Village Hall.

1225.4 Minute 1218.1 – The Clerk confirmed that Gwyn Price A.M. would be attending the Community Council meeting in September.

1226 Correspondence

1226.1 The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and required actions **agreed**.

1227 To receive the financial report from the Clerk

1227.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 15th July 2013, showing a total balance of £14,670.09 was **accepted**.

Treasurer's Account	6,512.56	
Unpresented income/cheques	<u>-768.12</u>	5,744.44
Business Money Manager A/C		8,925.65
Bank Balances		<u>14,670.09</u>

1227.2 The schedule of payments provided by the Clerk was **agreed**.

1228 Delegates Reports

1228.1 Markham Primary School – The Chairman reported on a leaving do for a member of staff. The presentation was taking place on Wednesday 17th July. Leon said that he was having a plaque made to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of Markham Village and was going to present it to the school.

1228.2 Argoed Village Hall – Garry Lewis reported the quiz nights were very successful.

1228.3 Hollybush Community Centre – nothing to report

1228.4 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – Next meeting due on 24th July

1228.5 Markham Community House and Centre – Ann Jones reported that all staff are now using the clocking in system. A 7 a side rugby tournament was being held on Saturday 20th July.

1228.6 Upper Sirhowy Valley Community Partnership - Garry reported that a borough wide meeting had recently been held at the former Mynyddislwyn Offices in Pontllanfraith. He was trying to find out more about the structure and basis of representation at the meeting.

1228.7 Access Forum – nothing to report

1229 Local Reports

1229.1 Argoed – The Chairman asked about the memorial garden at the bottom of Penylan Road. The Clerk said that he would chase Rhodri Lloyd from CCBC about this.

1229.2 Hollybush – nothing to report

1229.3 Manmoel – nothing to report

1229.4 Markham – Leon Gardiner confirmed that the flower show was taking place between 26th and 28th July in Markham Congregational chapel and also a disco in Markham club was being organized for the under 12s.

1230 Planning Applications

1230.1 13/0442/FULL – 22 Monmouth Walk, Markham – external wall insulation

1230.2 13/0441/FULL – Banalog Farm, Hollybush – retain change of use from barn-workshop to workshop

1230.3 13/0477/FULL – 4 Glen View, Hollybush – install external wall insulation on front and rear of property

1230.4 13/0489/FULL – Smugglers Run, Pen-Deri Farm Lane, Argoed – erect steel & wooden framed agricultural building

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 16th September 2013