

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

Clerk/R.F.O. Gwyn L. James.
13, Cherry Tree Road,
Pontllanfraith,
Blackwood, Gwent.
NP12 2PY.
Tel. 01495 226038 / 07855 556483.
e-mail:- argoedcc@live.co.uk

Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 16th September 2013 at Manmoel Village Hall.

1231 To sign the register and receive apologies

1231.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman M. Williams, L. Gardiner, A. Jones, G. Lewis, K. Masson, J. Watkins and W. Williams.

1231.2 Apologies were received from A. Edwards, H. Rowlands H. Speck and D. Briggs

1232 The Chairman welcomed Gwyn Price A.M. to the meeting.

Gwyn said that he had asked a member of the Next organisation to attend the meeting with him to discuss the process of deciding the level of grant which residents can receive toward the cost of external insulation of their properties. Unfortunately this person had not turned up. Gwyn provided the meeting with a document which outlined the process of determining the level of financial assistance.

1233 To receive a report from the Police

Jeff Dugmore gave his apologies for not attending but had sent an update of Police activities in the area relating to Off Road Bikes, ASBOs issued and Speeding vehicles.

Jeff also mentioned the continued success of the youth club.

1234 To receive a report from County Borough Councillor Leon Gardiner.

- Leon thanked Gwyn Price for all his efforts in getting gas installed in Hollybush. It was hoped that some properties will have gas installed by late November this year.
- The Borough Council was monitoring traffic use of the new road in Argoed
- Memorial at the bottom of Penylan Road – Rhodri Lloyd from CCBC to contact Leon.
- The youth club in Markham is hoping to meet weekly due to the demand.
- Mike Williams asked what the Borough Council was doing about the former Argoed School site. Leon said that it was no longer in the ownership of the Borough Council. Owners are having difficulty doing anything with the site because CADW have a preservation order on the building.

1235 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th July 2013 were agreed subject to the following alteration:

1235.1 Minute 1225.1 – should read 3 piece suites

1236 Matters arising:- none

1237 Correspondence

1237.1 The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and required actions **agreed**.

Leon Gardiner declared an interest when item 3 was discussed and left the meeting. The council **agreed** to donate £600 toward the cost of a new door at Markham Congregational Chapel. Leon was then invited to re-join the meeting.

1238 To receive the financial report from the Clerk

1238.1 Audit of Final Accounts for 2012/13.

The external auditors had reported that there were no issues which affected the audit opinion on the Annual Return for 2012/13 and that there were no matters which they felt should be drawn to the attention of the Council. On the basis of the report, the Council approved the Annual Return for 2012/13 and the Clerk and Chairman signed the return in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

1238.2 The financial position of the Community Council as at 16th September 2013, showing a total balance of £18,493.481 was **accepted**.

Treasurer's Account	9,911.14	
Unpresented income/cheques	<u>-344.58</u>	9,566.56
Business Money Manager A/C		8,926.92
Bank Balances		<u>18,493.48</u>

1238.3 The schedule of payments provided by the Clerk was **agreed**.

1239 Delegates Reports

1239.1 Markham Primary School – Mike Williams said that an inspection was due at the school and members of the Governors were concerned that the standards of reading, writing and arithmetic were lower than other schools of comparable size and location. Garry Lewis said that the Head had introduced new teaching methods for reading and maths.

It was **agreed** that the Chairman of the Community Council should present the school with a cheque for £350 toward the cost of providing school prizes for the children.

1239.2 Argoed Village Hall – Leon reported that it was well used and events were very successful.

1239.3 Hollybush Community Centre – nothing to report

1239.4 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – nothing to report

1239.5 Markham Community House and Centre – Ann reported that the Centre was providing refreshments for the rugby. The gym was doing well and the refurbishment of the showers was completed.

1239.6 Upper Sirhowy Valley Community Partnership - this should be re-named to Community Partnership.

1239.7 Access Forum – nothing to report

1240 Local Reports

1240.1 Argoed – nothing to report

1240.2 Hollybush – nothing to report

1240.3 Manmoel – Keith Masson referred to the planning application for the erection of wind turbines on the land known as “the cock of the north”. Manmoel

residents were concerned about the impact that these turbines would have on the surrounding area. Keith explained the process which the residents had used to oppose the development.

1240.4 Markham – Walter Williams (on behalf of Dave Briggs) said that the school party was now being held at Christmas instead of the summer.

Walter said that at the recent residents meeting, it had been suggested that some form of barrier should be placed around the Cenotaph to protect it.

Phil Griffiths had spoken to the meeting and explained about the re-development of the former Markham Colliery Site. Residents were annoyed that the £3m that had originally been set aside for the project had been spent at Bargoed and that the money was no longer available. Phil had explained that there had been massive delays in acquiring the land that was needed to start the re-development.

1241 Planning Applications

1241.1 13/0441/RET – Banalog Farm, Permission granted for change of use from barn-workshop to workshop

1241.2 13/0477/FULL – 4 Glen View, Hollybush – permission granted to install External Wall Insulation on front and rear of property

1241.3 13/0489/NOTA – Smugglers Run, Pen-Deri Lane – permission not required for erection of steel and wooden framed agricultural building.

1241.4 13/0514/FULL – Penyfan Caravan Park – erect 50mw solar array within curtilage of caravan park

1241.5 13/0523/COU - Penyfan Caravan Park – change of use of area reference H from amenity to camping and pod development

1241.6 13/0543/RET – 76 Penylan Road – retain existing single storey extension to existing garage

1241.7 13/0570/LA – Markham Resource Centre, Heol-y-Bedw-Hirion, Markham – erect single storey extension and new workshop

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 21st October 2013