



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
www.argoedcommunitycouncil.org.uk
e-mail:- argoedcc@live.co.uk**

Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 23rd October 2017 at Markham Miners' Institute.

1737 To sign the register and receive apologies

1737.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman M. Williams, S. Blakeman, M. Blakeman, A. Davies, G. Lewis, K. Mills, H. Rowlands J. Watkins and W. Williams.

1737.2 Apologies were received from Cllr. A. Jones

1737.3 The Chairman spoke of the sad loss of Cllr Dave King. The meeting stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

1738 The Chairman welcomed Mr. Dave Anderson from the 1st Markham Scout Group.

1738.1 Mr. Anderson gave a brief background to the activities of the scout group. He said that there were about 12 scouts currently, mainly from the Markham area with a few from Aberbargoed. He added that the group was interested in the possibility of joint projects with the Community Council.

1738.2 PCSO Jeff Dugmore asked if the group would be interested in going in to schools to teach first aid. Mr. Anderson confirmed that they would be interested in such a project.

1738.3 The Chairman thanked Mr. Anderson for attending the meeting.

1739 To receive a report from the Police

1739.1 PCSO Jeff Dugmore said that the Police were working in conjunction with the fire service in preparation for Halloween and Bonfire Night.

1739.2 The "Your Voice" surveys were due for completion by the end of the month.

1739.3 He confirmed that the Police would be in attendance for the Armistice Service on 12th November.

1739.4 He spoke about flooding problems on the A4048 near Sunny View

1740 To receive a report from County Councillor Walter Williams.

1740.1 Cllr. Williams informed the meeting that barriers could not be installed around Hollybush Rugby ground because there was insufficient space around the field. He said that he had spoken to Cllr Sean Morgan, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration about the Oakdale Community Benefit Fund. He confirmed that only wards co-terminus with Oakdale could benefit from the fund. The Police and Crime Commissioner had met with Caerphilly County Borough Council. There were only 149 serving officers for the whole of Caerphilly!

Cllr. Williams reported on several site visits he had made including Cwrt Y Bella. He reported that the planning application for a wind turbine at Manmoel had been approved despite local objections.

Cllr. Arthur Davies asked why all areas did not receive community benefit funds as a result of renewal energy developments.

Cllr. Williams replied that many community areas had benefited from community benefit funds.

Cllrs. Garry Lewis and Walter Williams had met with Phil Griffiths of Caerphilly County Borough Council regarding the future of the Markham Colliery site.

The burning of rubbish near the river Sirhowy had been investigated by officers from Caerphilly County Borough Council.

Cllr John Watkins thanked Cllr Williams on behalf of the Community Council for his hard work over the last few months since he had been elected to Caerphilly County Borough Council.

1741 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th September 2017 were **agreed**.

1742 Matters arising: -

1742.1 Markham Colliery Site – see item 1740.8 above

1742.2 Argoed Community Benefit Fund

- Cllrs Garry Lewis and Stephen Blakeman proposed that £3,000.00 be donated to Markham Primary School to assist with the purchase of audio-visual equipment and laptop computers. This was **agreed** unanimously.
- Manmoel – Cllr Arthur Davies expressed the opinion that as the solar panel development was within the Manmoel Ward and the ward had been disproportionately affected by the development, then the ward should receive a larger portion of the Community Benefit Fund. He proposed the following allocation:-

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| Manmoel | £8,000 |
| Markham | £4,000 |
| Hollybush | £4,000 |
| Argoed | £4,000 |

- This proposal was not supported by any other councillor.
- Hollybush – Cllr Marilyn Blakeman wanted to consult further with the residents before submitting any requests for project funding.

1743 The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and the required actions **agreed**.
Item

1744 To receive the financial report from the Clerk.

1744.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 23rd October 2017, showed a total balance of £38,496.65

1744.2 The financial report produced by the Clerk was **agreed**.

1745 Delegates Reports

1745.1 Markham Primary School – The Chairman reported that the school was preparing for the Christmas plays

1745.2 Argoed Village Hall – no report

1745.3 Hollybush Community Centre – no report

1745.4 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – no report

1745.5 Markham House and Leisure Centre – Cllr. Hilary Rowlands reported that the centre had failed to appoint a cook.

1745.6 Access Forum – Cllr. Garry Lewis reported that he had resigned from this organisation. It was agreed to appoint Cllr. Marilyn Blakeman as the Community Council's representative.

1746 Local Reports

1746.1 Argoed – The Chairman reported that he complained to Caerphilly County Borough Council about the failure of refuse collectors to replace bins outside the correct properties.

1746.2 Hollybush – Cllr. Marilyn Blakeman reported that she was awaiting feedback via the slips that she had distributed to the residents regarding possible projects for the Community Benefit Fund.

1746.3 Manmoel – no further updates

1746.4 Markham – Cllr. Hilary Rowlands reported that the steps north of the mini roundabout in Markham were overgrown.

Cllr. John Watkins enquired whether it was possible to establish the cost of the purchase of Markham Colliery Site and also the precise area of the land acquired. The Clerk suggested submitting a Freedom of Information request to Caerphilly County Borough Council.

Cllr. Watkins also wondered whether the land could be used for housing.

1747 Planning Applications

1747.1 17/0795/COU – Quoits Cottage, The Retreat, High Street, Argoed – change of use of land to extend domestic curtilage, erect extension to existing dwelling, decking, steps, retaining wall and double garage.

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 20th November 2017