

ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Gwyn L. James, Clerk and RFO
4 Bloreng View
Llanfoist
Abergavenny
NP7 9YB

Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 18th January 2021 using MS Teams

2087 To sign the register and receive apologies

2087.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman A. Davies, A. Bould, G. Lewis, J. Mullen, J. Watkins, Mike Williams and Walter Williams

2087.2 Apologies were received from M. Barton, D. Moore, J. Moore and M. Parkes

2088 To receive a report from County Councillor Walter Williams

2088.1 Cllr. Williams referred to a letter received in June 2017 from Mr Terry Shaw of Caerphilly County Borough Council regarding the problem with speeding vehicles on Penylan Road. The letter explained why the Borough Council would not consider installing traffic calming measures despite the concerns of the Community Council about the risk of fatal accidents taking place. Cllr Williams said that he would request that another traffic monitoring survey be carried out to see whether the average speeds have increased since the last survey was carried out.

2088.2 Cllr. Williams reported that the Borough Council was to consider the budget for 2021/22. It was possible that a Council Tax increase of 3.9% would be implemented. This would mean that Caerphilly would still have the second lowest Council Tax in Wales and the lowest in greater Gwent.

2088.3 The Borough Council has had to change working practices because of the Coronavirus which is resulting in extra costs. It was managed to continue with free school meals

2089 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st December 2020 were **agreed**.

2090 Matters arising: -

2090.1 Minute 2078.5 – Flood damage to the lane from Hafodyrsclawdd Farm to Manmoel Crossing – the Clerk had not received any response to date.

2090.2 Minute 2080.1 – Penylan Road – the Clerk informed the meeting that he had spoken to a member of staff from Rhiannon Passmore's office. Information was due to be sent to the Clerk, hopefully before the next meeting.

2090.3 Minute 2085.4 – Cllr John Mullen said that he would provide the Clerk with information which could then be distributed prior to the next meeting.

2091 The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and the required actions **agreed**.

2092 To receive the financial report from the Clerk.

2092.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 18th January 2021 showed a total balance of £23,610.30

2092.2 The financial report and schedule of cheques produced by the Clerk was **agreed**.

2093 To receive and consider the Clerk's report on setting the precept for 2021/22 and agreeing the Budget for 2021/22

2093.1 It was **agreed** that the Community Council charge for 2021/22 would remain at £15.00 per property.

2093.2 The Clerk's proposed Budget for 2021/22 was **agreed**

2093.3 The Council **agreed** to set the Section 137 spending limit for 2021/22 at £2,000

2093.4 It was **agreed** that the Clerk's salary would remain on the same N.A.L.C. SCP. It was noted that N.A.L.C. had not yet agreed a percentage increase for 2021/22

2094 To receive an update on the Community Council's Facebook page.

2094.1 Cllr Mary Parkes had previously given her apologies for not attending the meeting.

2095 Delegates Reports

2095.1 Markham Primary School – Cllr Garry Lewis reported that a Governors' meeting had been held the previous week. Parents had complimented the school on the quality of the school meals being provided. Lessons were being provided via a video format which seemed to be preferred by parents and children. He said that he would find out the percentage of children who had access to IT equipment. Cllr Walter Williams commented on the dedication of the Head Teacher and her team.

2095.2 Argoed Village Hall – Cllr. Garry Lewis reported that a request to hire the hall had been received but it had to be turned down because of Coronavirus restrictions.

2095.3 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – no meeting

2095.4 Markham House and Leisure Centre – no meeting

2095.5 Access Forum – no meeting.

2096 Local Reports

2096.1 Argoed – It was reported that vehicles were parked on the pavement of the A4048 near the junction with Penylan Road. Cllr Walter Williams said that he would get in touch with the PCSO Jeff Dugmore. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Police at Blackwood Police Station.

2096.2 Hollybush – It was reported that off-road bikers were regularly using the cycle path.

2096.3 Manmoel – It was reported that the Police had visited the village to investigate problems with off-road bikers and vehicles. It was also reported that drivers were trying to use a road leading from Manmoel to Argoed which was totally unsuitable for vehicles. It was suggested that a "No Through Road" sign should be placed at the entrance to the road.

2096.4 Markham – Cllr John Mullen referred to the recent success of Markham resident Mr. Gerwyn Price who had won the World Darts Competition. It had been suggested that an Academy Open Day would be organized in the near

future and it was felt that the Community Council should get involved with the event. It was also suggested that a plaque be placed inside Markham Miners' Institute to recognize Mr. Price's success.

2097 Planning Applications

2097.1 20/0926/NCC – Fair Oak Farm woodland Terrace Argoed – vary condition 21 of planning consent

2097.2 20/1062/FULL – Argoed Baptist Chapel – erect single storey accommodation to rear of Church providing temporary shelter and leisure accommodation

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 15th February 2021