

Cyngor Cymuned Argoed

Markham, Argoed,
Man-moel and Hollybush

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Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 20th June 2022 using MS Teams

2277 To sign the register and receive apologies

2277.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman Walter Williams, Garry Lewis, John Mullen, Kath Naylor, Mary Parkes and Emma Williams
Apologies were received from Andy Bould

2278 To receive presentations

2278.1 The Chairman welcomed Mrs Lindsey Pritchard, the Head Teacher of Markham School to the meeting.

Mrs Pritchard started by outlining the discussion that had taken place at the latest Governors meeting. 44% of all children are entitled to receive free school meals. The Welsh Government has announced that from September this year all reception and year 1 pupils will receive free school meals and this will be extended to year 2 pupils in the following September.

The impact of increasing energy costs is being felt on the school budget. She also mentioned the huge increase in charges for summer trips which will go from £10 to £15 per pupil to £25 per pupil this year.

She finished by saying that difficult decisions will have to be made when prioritising the school budget.

After a general discussion between councillors and Mrs Pritchard, she agreed to provide a report for the October Council meeting at which time the Council can consider what funding assistance it can provide.

2278.2 Councillor Walter Williams reported that the County Borough Council had been concentrating on seminars and training for new and existing councillors. He added that Jeff Cuthbert the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent had met with the Council and had reported that 150 quad bikes had been caught and crushed in the last few months.

2279 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th May were **agreed**.

2280 Matters arising

2280.1 Minute 2271.3 It was agreed that Garry Lewis, Walter Williams and John Mullen should be signatories on the new bank account.

2280.2 Minute 2271.4 – Councillor John Mullen reported that the presentations went well. It was suggested that a regular event on St. David’s Day could take place for the school.

2281 The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and the required actions **agreed**.

2282 To receive the financial report from the Clerk.

2282.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 20th June 2022 showed a total balance of £23,323.29
The financial report and schedule of cheques produced by the Clerk was **agreed**.

2282.2 The Annual Return for 2021/22 was presented by the Clerk and it was **agreed** that the return should be signed by the Clerk and the Chairman and then submitted to Audit Wales.

2283 Local Development Plan (LDP)

2283.1 Cllr John Mullen – no update

2284 To receive an update on the Community Council’s Facebook page.

2284.1 Cllr Mary Parkes gave a brief update on the activities on the Facebook page. She added that she was trying to include information relating to Government Grants that were available.

2285 Delegates Reports

2285.1 Markham Primary School – see presentation by the Head earlier in the meeting (minute 2278.1).

2285.2 Argoed Village Hall – Cllr Garry Lewis reported the Hall Committee were still trying to get low energy lights fitted.

2285.3 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – no report

2285.4 Markham House and Leisure Centre – Councillor Walter Williams reported on an excellent Jubilee Celebration that had been held at the centre

2285.5 Access Forum – Councillor Walter Williams reported on a meeting that had taken place the previous week.

2286 Local Reports

2286.1 Argoed – nothing to report

2286.2 Hollybush – nothing to report

2286.3 Manmoel – Councillor Kath Naylor reported that an enduro race had been had in the village and had caused a lot of problems for the residents. She reported on the successful Jubilee Celebrations and also reported that the hanging basket had been put up and looked very pretty.

2286.4 Markham – Councillor John Mullen reported that two residents had approached him with a view to utilizing waste ground on Mountain View to cultivate fruit and veg. Councillor Walter Williams said that he would contact the Parks Department of Caerphilly County Borough Council to see if they could help with the request.

Councillor Mullen reported that trees and hedges opposite the Dyers Dip Junction on the A4048 seem to have been missed as part of the Borough Council's programme of works.

2287 Planning Applications

2287.1 Land at grid reference 317750 High Street, Argoed – remove conditions relating to erection of two storey detached dwelling and garage

2287.2 Ty'r Sais Stables, Ty'r Sais Farm Lane, Argoed – erect 24 stables and associated track

2287.3 Fernbank, The Laurels, Rock Villas, Argoed – demolish existing extension and erect single storey rear extension.

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 18th July 2022