

Argoed Community Council
Gwyn L James, Clerk and RFO
4 Bloreng View, Llanfoist
Abergavenny, NP7 9YB
07904 058935
argodcc@liveco.uk

Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 16th January 2023 held at Markham Miners' Welfare.

2343 To sign the register and receive apologies

2343.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman Walter Williams, Andy Bould, Garry Lewis, John Mullen, Mary Parkes and Emma Williams
Apologies were received from Kath Naylor

2344 To receive a report from County Councillor Walter Williams.

2344.1 Cllr. Williams reported that Caerphilly County Borough Council Group meeting was due to be held on Tuesday to discuss the budget for 2023/24. The Borough Council is facing a budget deficit of £45M which will be funded but taking £23M from balances and £22M cuts from services. Severe impact on service provision is expected.

2345 To receive a report from PCSO Jeff Dugmore.

2345.1 The Chairman welcomed PCSO Dugmore to the meeting.

2345.2 PCSO Dugmore informed the meeting of various initiatives to help the elderly and vulnerable in the community; door bells, door chains, key fob storage boxes are some of the items provided.

2345.3 Various concerns were raised by Councillors which were noted by PCSO Dugmore.

2346 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th December 2022 were **agreed**.

2347 Matters arising

2347.1 Minute 2336.1 – Co-option of new Councillor. The Clerk informed the meeting that he not received any response about the training programme that is to be undertaken by the new councillor.

2347.2 Abernant Roundabout – Cllrs Walter Williams and John Mullen had met with a Highways Engineer from Caerphilly Country Borough Council to discuss alternatives. The complete removal of the roundabout has not been totally rejected by the Borough Council.

2348 The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and the required actions **agreed**.

2349 To receive the financial report from the Clerk.

2349.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 16th January 2023 showed a total balance of £20,459.17
The financial report and schedule of cheques produced by the Clerk was **agreed**.

2350 To consider and agree the Clerk's proposals on the setting the Precept and Budget for 2023/24

2350.1 After a brief discussion it was **agreed** to set the Precept at £15.50 per Band D property. This would provide an income of £13,646.98

2350.2 The Clerk's proposed budget for 2023/24 was **agreed**.

2350.3 The Clerk's proposal to take £6,000 from balances to fund improvements to the Christmas Decorations, provide more funding for local organisations/charities and contribute toward the cost of celebrating the King's Coronation were **agreed**. This would result in the balances being reduced to below £10,000 by the end of the financial year.

2350.4 The level of grant assistance under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 was **agreed** at £2,000

2350.5 It was **agreed** to keep the Clerk's salary at SPC 9 as per the N.A.L.C. National Agreement.

2351 Local Development Plan (LDP)

2351.1 Cllr John Mullen gave a brief update on the LDP.

2352 To receive an update on the Community Council's Facebook page.

2352.1 Cllr Mary Parkes give a brief update on the use of the Facebook page.

2353 Delegates Reports

2353.1 Markham Primary School – Cllr Walter Williams reported that the lestin School report had been excellent.

2353.2 Argoed Village Hall – there was no report as Cllr Garry Lewis had left the meeting early.

2353.3 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – no report

2353.4 Markham House and Leisure Centre – Cllr Walter Williams reported that the Welsh Amateur Boxing Competition had taken place at the centre. It had been very successful with the one criticism that the inconsiderate parking of cars had caused problems for local residents

2353.5 Access Forum – no meeting

2354 Local Reports

2354.1 Argoed – no report.

2354.2 Hollybush – Cllr Andy Bould reported that there had been problems with flooding due to the recent heavy rainfall.

2354.3 Manmoel – no report

2354.4 Markham – Cllr John Mullen reported that the Darts Academy was taking part in a Glamorgan V Gwent Competition was due to be held in the near future.

2355 Planning Applications

2355.1 Case number 22/1054 was considered and noted.

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 20th February
2023