

ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Gwyn L. James, Clerk and RFO
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Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 15th April 2024 held Argoed Village Hall.

2532 To sign the register and receive apologies.

2532.1 Community Councillors present: Garry Lewis, Kath Naylor, Ellis Porter and Walter Williams

2532.2 Apologies were received from Andy Bould, John Mullen, Mary Parkes and Emma Williams

2532.3 In the absence of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Cllr Garry Lewis chaired the meeting.

2533 To receive a report from Gwent Police – apologies for not being able to attend.

2534 To receive a report from County Councillor Walter Williams.

2534.1 Cllr. Walter Williams informed the meeting of the following issues:

- Cllrs John Mullen and Walter Williams together with Mr Graham Morgan had met with a representative of Llanover Estate to discuss the future use of the former Markham Colliery Site
- Empowerment fund had re-started
- Recycling of business refuse had started

2535 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th March 2024 were **agreed**.

2536 Matters arising

2536.1 Minute 2521.1 – the hedge had been removed from around the resource centre; potholes had been patched; mud on Bryn Road had stopped but now affecting Penywerlod Terrace; Manmoel Crossing drains had been cleaned out.

2536.2 Minute 2529.1 – no update on outdoor classroom

2536.3 Minute 2530.4 – new doctor's surgery to start soon

2537 The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and the required actions **agreed**.

2537.1 Item 2537.5 Markham School request for financial assistance. Cllrs Walter Williams and Garry Lewis declared an interest as they are both members of the school governing body. This meant that meeting was then inquorate because there were only two councillors present to consider the request. It was **agreed** to defer this matter until the May meeting and the Clerk to email the Head of the School to advise her of the deferment.

2538 To receive the financial report from the Clerk.

2538.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 15th April 2024 showed a total balance of £9,468.55

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

2538.2 The Clerk informed the meeting that he wished to stand down as Clerk and RFO and gave notice that he would finish with the Council on 30th September 2024.

The meeting recorded its thanks to the Clerk for the eighteen years of service to the Community Council.

It was **agreed** to accept the Clerk's resignation and to start the process of advertising for a replacement Clerk and RFO.

2539 Local Development Plan (LDP)

2539.1 The Chairman had previously apologised for not attending the meeting.

2540 Blackwood Comprehensive School

2540.1 The Chairman had previously apologised for not attending the meeting.

2541 To receive an update on the Community Council's Facebook page.

2541.1 Cllr Mary Parkes had previously apologised for not attending the meeting.

2542 Delegates Reports

2542.1 Markham School – Cllr Walter Williams reported that the next Governors' meeting was due on Wednesday.

2542.2 Argoed Village Hall – Cllr Garry Lewis reported that new round tables had been purchased for the main hall. Due to funding shortages, the "Open Doors" was only being held once per month.

2542.3 Community and Town Council Liaison Committee – next meeting due in May

2542.4 Markham Community House and Leisure Centre – Cllr Walter Williams reported that the centre is doing well and the Thursday Luncheon Club has been full for the last two weeks.

2542.5 Access Forum – no report

2543 Local Reports

2543.1 Argoed – Cllr Garry Lewis reported on water running down an access lane onto Gelynos Avenue close to his house.

2543.2 Hollybush – no report.

2543.3 Manmoel – Cllr Kath Naylor reported that the Easter Tea in Village Hall had been successful. There was an increasing problem with quad bikes being ridden through the forestry. Several bridle ways in the area are overgrown.

2543.4 Markham – no report

2544 Planning Notifications - none

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council

20th May 2024