

Argoed Community Council



Cyngor Cymuned Argoed Markham, Argoed, Manmoel and Hollybush

Clerk/R.F.O. Mrs Cherrie Edwards
9 Gelynos Avenue
Argoed
Blackwood
NP12 0AT
www.argoedcommunitycouncil.org.uk
e-mail: - argoedcc@live.co.uk

Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 15th July 2025 held at Hollybush Community Centre.

Next Meeting: 15th September 2025 held at Argoed Village Hall at 7pm.

250169 TO RECORD ATTENDEES AND RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Community Councillors Present: Mary Parkes, Walter Williams, Helen Williams, Andy Bould & John Mullen

Apologies For Absence: Emma Williams & Katherine Naylor

250170 THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 23/06/25

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2025 were issued prior to meeting by Cherrie Edwards. Minutes were discussed and agreed by committee.

250171 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Amendment requested by Helen Williams. *Markham Welfare Association has provided funding to Markham Playgroup to enable them to create and independent learning area outside of the classroom area for a child fantastic assest. Revision Flying start provided funding not Markham Welfare Association.*

Cllr John Mullen did not receive a copy of the minutes, CE to resend these across via email.

Cllr Mary Parkes updated JM on the confirmation of roles following the AGM. Cllr Mullen's was offer the school govenor position at Markham Primary which was accepted.

250172 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM GWENT POLICE

No Report.

250173 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Utility Bill SSE Energy - £125.91. CE to contact and request breakdown of costs.
- Cerebral Palsy Cymru - Request for donation, no amount specified. Committee agreed £25.00.
- Eisteddfod Y Cymru - Request for donation of £25.00. Committee agreed.
- Proposed cleaning and greening enhancements of the borough report. Cllr Mary Parkes advised committee members take home and read at their leisure and bring any queries to the next meeting in September.

250174 **TO RECEIVE THE CLERKS/R.F.O'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Cherrie Edwards provided a breakdown of income and expenditure to date. Copy of budget will be brought to next meeting to review available spend.

250175 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CLLR WALTER WILLIAMS**

Cllr Walter Williams reported that he has contacted Gwent Police to attend the meeting this evening, no attendance unfortunately. Awaiting information on whom will be taking over the role since Jeff Dugmore departure. Cllr John Mullen suggested that Cllr Walter Williams bring this issue up in the next Police Liaison Committee.

Cllr Walter Williams share information on an email received from Aneurin Bevan Health Board in regards to having your say on proposed changes to Neville Hall and other local Hospitals. Details provided to committee.

Cleansing and Greening update, Cllr Walter Williams has completed forms for bramble cut back, park cleansing and other issues, will update as necessary.

CE advised she has received an email regarding cleansing of the ward, and asked the committee if there was a specific date they required. Was agreed that early August would be suited in readiness for the VJ day. CE to respond to email and request this.

250176 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CLLR JOHN MULLEN ON BLACKWOOD COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL**

Cllr John Mullen reported that the pupils have recently gone on a educational visit to Berlin, this has been linked to their history subject as they are currently studying World War II.

The School has recently had a transition day for all the feeding primary schools.

Cllr John Mullen has been made aware of incidents that he will address with the school direct, unable to provide detail due to confidentiality.

Member of staff at the school recently died suddenly.

JM is now a Governor at Markham Primary as well as Blackwood Comprehensive this will provide consistency and communication, also support for pupils going from Markham on to Blackwood.

Bullying issues at Blackwood still remain although there has been several measures put in place to support this, Year group leaders, support staff and mentors.

School Transport is still experiencing issues with pupil behaviour. Recent incident involved a child's head being sat on. Cllr John Mullen is in talks with the assistant head on resolution for this behaviour. Parents are disappointed in the outcome of the support from the school on this incident. School as expressed this is a transport issue and not a school issue. On speaking with the transport provider 1st call travel. They have expressed that a chaperone would be beneficial although funding does not cover this.

250177 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Cllr Mary Parkes stated the page is continually updated, Cllr Walter Williams has sent information over on Age Alliance Wales, this will be added to the facebook page asap.

Cllr Mary Parkes is awaiting information from Argoed Village Hall regarding upcoming event to post.

250178 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM DELEGATES.

250178.1 MARKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Next Governor's meeting is September 2025. Will provide update following this meeting. Cherrie Edwards is now LA representative also.

250178.2 ARGOED COMMUNITY HALL.

Cherrie Edwards reported an update from Susan Edwards.

- Our regular weekly groups continue to hire the Hall for their activities. It is also

regularly used for parties.

- Mr Haydn Boucher's Wake was held there recently with approximately 50 people in attendance. The Welcome Spaces Project is continuing throughout the summer months, but has been cut back to the last Friday of each month. This is due to lack of volunteers and the regular volunteers needing a break during these months. Hopefully the project will resume on a regular basis from September, but this is dependent upon funding. It's a pity that we are unable to recruit volunteers who are willing to commit more regularly, as this could have an affect on the project continuing in the future.
- The talks on the history of Bedwellty Church on 11 June and a talk by Mr Ben Price entitled "Voices of 1842 - Child Labour in the South Wales Coalfields" on 09 July were very enjoyable.
- However it was disappointing that some people booked places and failed to turn up.
- There are plans to have the railings, gates, and walkway painted in the near future. Also some internal doors. This work will be funded by the Village Hall.
- The walkway perspex screen is being replaced by glass by CCBC next week.

250178.3 COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL'S LIAISON COMMITTEE.

No Report.

250178.4 MARKHAM COMMUNITY HOUSE AND LEISURE CENTRE.

Cllr Walter Williams reported that the centre recently hosted a Karake Tournament, was a very good turnout.

Centre should be having solar panels and new lights replaced if funding is agreed work will start in August.

250178.5 ACCESS FORUM

No Report. Cllr Walter Williams confirmed there has been no meetings.

250178.6 MARKHAM PLAYGROUP

Cllr Helen Williams no report. Gone home early. Apologies given.

250179 LOCAL REPORTS

250179.1 ARGOED WARD

Cherrie Edwards noted that again there has been several accidents on Penylan Road due to speeding.

Cllr Walter Williams reported he recently done a litter pick from Argoed to Markham.

250179.2 HOLLYBUSH WARD

250179.3 MANMOEL WARD

No report.

250179.4 MARKHAM WARD

Salvaged Creations last Youth Group will take place at the Chapel this month. Looking to hold Youth Group at Markham Miners Institute.

Cllr Walter Williams has reported clearance of vegetation at Abernant Roa upto Hill Side.

Cllr John Mullen provided an update on the Darts Academy. 40 player currently registered with the academy, all players doing well. Looking to take the children on a seaside trip sometime in August.

Jenson Ellaway and Lucas Milligan recently won southern counties pairs championship held in Devon. The academy took a total of 14 players altogether to compete.

Jenson Ellaway has been selected to represent Wales in the Youth European Cup in Holland. 26 Countries participating.

Cllr John Mullens to send Cllr Mary Parkes updates on thr Darts to be posted on the facebook page.

Cllr John Mullen has been in talks with Sean Davies of Caerphilly County Borough Council Sports, to discuss running a legacy event in the near future. Will keep us updated.

250170 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cherrie has requested to attend two clerk courses, this was agreed by the committee. Cherrie to arrange courses.

250171 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held at Argoed Village Hall on the 15^h September 2025 at 7pm.

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council