

# Argoed Community Council



**Cyngor Cymuned**

**Argoed**

**Markham, Argoed,  
Manmoel and Hollybush**

**Clerk/R.F.O. Mrs Cherrie Edwards  
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Minutes of Argoed Community Council AGM meeting held on 26th May 2026 at Markham Miners Institute.

**Next Meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2026 to be held at Argoed Village Hall at 7:00pm**

## **250267      TO RECORD ATTENDEES AND RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

**Community Councillors Present:** WW, MP, HW, EW, KN & JM

**Apologies:** CE received apologies from AB

## **250268      THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- Minutes agreed by committee.

## **250269      MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- No response from Bryntirion. CE has sent 2 emails and a formal letter via post. CE to escalate and raise a complaint with Aneurin Bevan Health Board.
- Display stand has not been erected. EW will contact Williams Bros. If no response EW will instruct another contractor to fulfil the works.
- Argoed Village Hall still looking to employ a caretaker.

## **250270      ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026-2027**

Cllr MP current chair opened the meeting. Current committee was officially dissolved. Cllr MP asked for volunteers for the roles of Chair and Vice Chair.

Congratulations to Cllr Emma Williams who has been elected as chair and Cllr Walter Williams as Vice Chair.

The following committees were reviewed and representatives elected as follows: -

- Markham Primary School – Cllr Walter Williams & Cherrie Edwards
- Community Town Council and Liaison Committee – Cllr John Mullens
- Markham Community House – Cllr Walter Williams
- Access Forum – Cllr Walter Williams
- One Voice Wales – Cllr Mary Parkes

**250271      TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM GWENT POLICE**

No report.

**250272      CORRESPONDENCE**

No Report.

**250273      TO RECEIVE THE CLERKS/R.F.O'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

CE supplied financial statement to date, this was reviewed and agreed. Confirmed that first precept payment had been received.

CE informed the committee that on compiling the current full audit it has come to light that the current SCP 9 hourly rate had been paid incorrectly for year 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 to date. A total of £312.10 underpayment.

**250274      TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CLLR WW**

Cllr WW has recently attended the AGM county council meeting, all representative remaining on current committees. One committee was dissolved and a voluntary committee put in place to replace.

Fly tipping still remains and issues throughout. Recent fly tipping at Sunnyview Argoed of a large number of used tyres. This has been reported to CCBC for removal.

Vehicle at Penywerlod Terrace is blocking access, would seem to be abandoned, vehicle has no tax, this has also been reported to CCBC.

Resurfacing works have been completed in Manmoel.

A pot hole in the lanes leading to the Maes Manor has been reported to CCBC.

Cllr WW also confirmed that he has completed a number of cleaning and greening requests via the portal for various areas of the villages.

**250275      TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CLLR JM ON BLACKWOOD COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL**

Cllr JM was unable to attend the last governing body meeting. Cllr MP raised concerns regarding the school buses. JM requested that MP ask the relevant parent to contact him and provide a written letter and any evidence in order for Cllr JM to raise with the school. EW actioned that MP provide JM with said letter and make contact with the parent in order for JM to raise the concerns. JM to provide update at next meeting on outcome.

Cllr WW also offered to provide support as county councillor if needed.

**250276      TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S FACEBOOK PAGE**

FB page continues to be updated as and when information comes through.

**250277      TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM DELEGATES.**

***250277.1      MARKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL.***

CE reported that the school provided an update on monster phonics, current data shows that the new program is proving successful with many children improving on their readings ages. The school aim to analyse this data termly to monitor its progress. A presentation was shown of the children in various classes engaging in monster phonics.

One member of staff has returned from the Welsh sabbatical course. A presentation was given to all on what was learnt in this time and how this will be implemented into the learning for the children at the school.

Water issue at the school has been resolved now.

School is also recruiting a Teaching Assistant. This position is currently on CCBC vacancies.

Cllr JM also mentioned that the school had approached him regarding the school garden area and revamping it. Headteacher LP will be sending in a request shortly for funding support.

EW questioned how funding will be issued when the school is unable to provide bank statements. CE explained that usual protocol would be that schools do not need to provide bank statements. EW requested that CE put a footnote to the funding request forms to stipulate that schools are not required to provide bank statements.

Cllr WW also mentioned that the Mayor recently attended the school for an assembly presentation for a pupil and commented that the school was a credit with all it has to offer pupils.

**250277.2 ARGOED COMMUNITY HALL.**

Argoed Community Hall are still looking for caretaker and for volunteers to join the committee.

**250277.3 COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL'S LIAISON COMMITTEE.**

Cllr JM was unable to get onto the teams meeting.

**250277.4 MARKHAM COMMUNITY HOUSE AND LEISURE CENTRE.**

Cllr WW confirmed that the community house has recently taken on another member of staff for 10 hours.

Medium night was a success with 50 tickets sold. Gym is also being well attended along with bookings for the sports hall.

**250277.5 MARKHAM PLAYGROUP**

Cllr HW reported that the playgroup has had a very successful half term, children have planted carrots, runner beans and flowers. The children have also been learning about caterpillars and mini beasts.

**250278 LOCAL REPORTS**

**250278.1 ARGOED WARD**

No Report.

**250278.2 HOLLYBUSH WARD**

No Report.

**250278.3 MANMOEL WARD**

Polling has been done recently in the village will more to come.

The abandoned car tyres are still awaiting collection in the village, WW will chase this up.

Defib supplies are being ordered, invoice will be passed to CE in due course.

**250278.4      MARKHAM WARD**

Cllr JM reported that the Darts Academy is still well attended with around 40 young people attending each week.

8 players have recently qualified for the Young Dragons finals, with Jenson Ellaway also being selected to represent Wales in the European Championships in Ireland.

Cllr JM is still volunteering at Markham Primary School running a darts club that is helping the children with their numeracy skills.

The academy is also attending the National Championships in July 26.

Cllr JM reported that there are overgrown brambles at Abernant steps and the memorial park. The orchard is in need of clearing and has become overgrown, also the roundabout near the war memorial needs the verges cutting back. WW will submit a cleaning and greening request.

**250279                      ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**250279.1      Planning ARGO179& ARGO180 – Right of Way, James Street.**

Committee reviewed the outlined changes proposed and requested that CE contact the rights of way department to obtain further information and pass to committee member once received for review.

**250279.2      Mr Luke Grey – Community Councillor Application.**

CE to contact Mr Luke Grey and invite him to attend an interview with Chairperson Cllr Emma Williams on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 6.30pm.

**250279.3      Gemma Baker Request for Go Safe to attendance at meeting.**

GB has requested that the Go Safe team attend the next meeting to discuss training of equipment for residents. Committee agreed that Go Safe and GB can attend the July meeting at 7pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting will be held at Argoed Village Hall on Monday 15 June 2026

Signed.....

Cllr Emma Williams, Chairperson, Argoed Community Council.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES – 2026 – 2027**

- 15th June 2026 at 7:00pm – Argoed Village Hall
- 27th July 2026 at 7:00pm - Manmoel Village Hall
- 21st September 2026 at 7:00pm - Hollybush Community Centre
  - 19th October 2026 at 7:00pm - Argoed Village Hall
- 16th November 2026 at 7:00pm - Markham Miners Institute
- 14th December 2026 at 7:00pm - Manmoel Village Hall
- 18<sup>th</sup> January 2027 at 7:00pm – Hollybush Community Centre
  - 15<sup>th</sup> February 2027 at 7:00pm – Argoed Village Hall
  - 15<sup>th</sup> March 2027 at 7:00pm – Markham Miners Institute
  - 19<sup>th</sup> April 2027 at 7:00pm – Manmoel Village Hall
- 17<sup>th</sup> May 2027 at 7:00pm – Hollybush Community Centre
  - 21<sup>st</sup> June 2027 at 7:00pm – Argoed Village Hall