**MINUTES OF THE ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH**

**NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7 P.M. AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, MERCIA DRIVE, MYNYDD ISA.**

**New Brighton Ward Argoed Ward**

Councillor R Marsh Councillor W J Taylor(Chair)

Councillor JMcCarron Councillor H McGuill Councillor B Clarke Councillor J Holiday

Councillor A Henry Councillor I Jolly

Councillor G K Mutch Councillor J Norwood

 **1. Use of recording equipment**

 **2. Apologies**  Councillor F Hadfield-Jones Councillor M Shepherd

 **3 Co-Option of members**

 **None**

 **4. Standing Orders**

New remuneration panel changes to be incorporated

 **5. Declaration of interests to be signed**

Cllr McGuill personal interest in Mold Reacreations

 **6. Police Report**

Clerk reported two officers appeared in Mynydd Isa and he requested a presence at the meeting they said they would pass the message the PCSO for the area is Sammi Salisbury.

7. **Financial Matters**

**a) Accounts for payments October 2017 £ £**

BT Telephone and Internet 57.85 Clerk Expenses Birmingham and Wreath 123.45 Glasdon Additional Keys for Notice board 8.52 CANDA Photocopying 134.08 FlintshireCC Lighting August and September maintenance 465.6 Electric 762.14 Repairs 246.15 1473.95 Election costs 409.43

**Total Payments** **2247.28**

**Resolved: The above payments were authorised and signed By the Chair and Vice Chair**

**Salary Costs** arenot recorded in minutes but Councillors have been informed of the cost.

**b) Remuneration Panel Review**

**Payments to Members of Community Councils**

**13.1**. The Panel has had responsibility for the remuneration of community and town

councils since the Measure of 2011 and its first determinations for such

members came into effect in the financial year 2013/2014. Subsequent

Annual Reports have developed ideas for remuneration of community and

town councillors, allowing flexibility to meet appropriate responsibilities.

**13.2**. The Panel recognises a wide variation in geography, scope and scale across

735 community and town councils in Wales, from small community councils

with relatively minimal expenditure and few meetings to large town councils

with significant assets and responsibilities.

**13.3** Since producing its last report, the Panel met with 104 Councillors and Clerks

representing 68 Community and Town Councils in 4 meetings it held across

Wales. The discussions confirmed the widely held view that the roles

individual councils undertake vary significantly. Subsequent research the

Panel undertook into councils’ income and expenditure and councillor to

population ratios further supported the wide variation.

**13.4** The Panel is of the view that in accordance with this wide variation, the

responsibilities and accountabilities of councillors must also vary. Councillors

managing income or expenditure of £1m and those delivering significant

services, including some that might have been delegated from principal

councils, are operating in a much more complex environment than a council

with an annual budget of £10,000.

**13.5** Therefore the Panel is proposing to form groups of Community and Town

Councils to reflect these differences. The Panel examined a range of

measures the Panel could use as the basis for any groupings and it considers

that 4 groups based on the level of income *or* expenditure, whichever is the

highest, in the previous financial year, is most appropriate. Using income *or*

expenditure figures better reflects the activity levels of a council than

population ratios which the Panel found did not correlate to income or

expenditure. It is also easy for councils to understand which group they

belong to.

**Table 7 Community and Town Council Groupings**

**Community and Town**

**Council Group**

**Income *or* Expenditure of:**

A £200,000 and above

B £60,000 - £199,999 Argoed is in this group

C £10,000 - £59,999

D Below £9,999

**13.6.** The Panel is of the view that Community and Town Councillors are not

volunteers because further to the democratic process they have accepted

formal responsibilities and they all face some degree of liability, in respect of

the Council functions they are running. Also, the Panel wants any member

who has personal support needs and or caring responsibilities to be able to

fulfil their role. To reflect this, the Panel is mandating payment of a

contribution to costs and expenses, and reimbursement of the costs of care,

for all members of Community and Town Councils as set out in

Determinations 44 and 51.

**13.7** The Panel is also of the view that Councils in Group A are likely to have a

greater number of committees, reflecting its level of activity; and therefore is

additionally mandating the payment for senior roles as set out in

Determination 45. Where not mandated, each determination requires a formal

decision by each of these community or town councils’ annually. A Council

can adopt any or all of the non-mandated determinations but if it does make

such a decision, it must apply to all its members.

**13.8** In all cases, any individual member may make a personal decision to elect to

forgo part or all of the entitlement to any of these payments by giving notice in

writing to the proper officer of the council.

13.9 Members in receipt of a Band 1 or Band 2 senior salary from a principal

council cannot receive payment for a senior role from any Community or Town

Council.

**Payments towards costs and expenses**

**13.10**. In order to compensate members of community and town councils for

expenses and costs involved in carrying out their duties, the Panel has

determined that councils must make a payment to each member.

**Determination 44:** Community and town councils must make a payment to

each of their members of £150 per year for costs incurred in respect of

telephone usage, information technology, consumables etc.

Senior roles

**Recommendation**: The Council accepts the determination and members who wish NOT to take up the payment should sign at the Annual Meeting their rejection. The Council accepts that it is the choice of the individual whether to take up or reject the payment**.**

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

**13.11** The Panel recognises that specific member roles especially within the larger

community and town councils, for example a committee chair, will involve

greater responsibility. It is also likely that the larger councils will have a

greater number of committees, reflecting its level of activity. The Panel has

therefore determined that councils in Group A must make a payment for a

minimum of one senior role and a maximum of five senior roles. Councils in

Groups B, C and D are authorised to pay up to five responsibility payments for

specified roles.

**Determination 45:** Community and town councils in Group A must make an

annual payment of £500 each to a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 5 members

in recognition of specific responsibilities. This is in addition to the £150

payment for costs and expenses.

**Not relevant to Argoed.**

**Determination 46:** Community and town councils in Groups B, C or D are

authorised to make an annual payment of £500 each to up to 5 members in

recognition of specific responsibilities. This is in addition to the £150

payment for costs and expenses if that is made.

**Recommendation:** Whilst currently not relevant The Council would respect the payment should it arise where specific responsibilities are identified.

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

**Reimbursement of travel costs and subsistence costs**

**13.12.** The Panel recognises that there can be significant travel and subsistence

costs associated with the work of community and town council members,

especially where the council area is geographically large and/or when

engaging in duties outside this area.

**Determination 47:** Community and town councils are authorised to make

payments to each of their members in respect of travel costs for attending

approved duties. 8 Such payments must be the actual costs of travel by public

transport or the HMRC mileage allowances as below:

* 45p per mile up to 10,000 miles in the year.
* 25p per mile over 10,000 miles.
* 5p per mile per passenger carried on authority business.
* 24p per mile for private motor cycles.
* 20p per mile for bicycles.

**Recommendation:**To accept the above determination

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

**Determination 48:** If a community or town council resolves that a particular

duty requires an overnight stay, it may authorise reimbursement of

subsistence expenses to its members at the maximum rates set out below on

the basis of receipted claims:

* £28 per 24-hour period allowance for meals, including breakfast where not

provided.

* £200 – London overnight.
* £95 – elsewhere overnight.

8 Where a member who is on official business is driven by a third party (not a member or officer of that authority), the member

can claim mileage at the prescribed rates plus any parking or toll fees provided the authority is satisfied that the member has

incurred these costs.

**Recommendation:**The Council to accept the determination

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

* **£30 – staying with friends and/or family overnight.**

**Compensation for financial loss**

**13.13** The Panel has retained the facility which councils may pay as compensation

to their members where they suffer financial loss when attending approved duties.

**Recommendation:The Council to accept the determination**

**Determination 49:** Community and town councils are authorised to pay

financial loss compensation to each of their members, where such loss has

actually occurred, for attending approved duties as follows:

* Up to £34.00 for each period not exceeding 4 hours:
* Up to £68.00 for each period exceeding 4 hours but not exceeding 24

hours.

**Recommendation:**The Council to accept the determination

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

**Reimbursement of the costs of care**

**13.14** The purpose of this is to enable people who have personal support needs and

or caring responsibilities to carry out their duties effectively as a member of an

authority. The Panel believes that the additional costs of care required to

carry out approved duties should not deter people from becoming and

remaining a member of an authority or limit their ability to carry out the role.

**13.15** The Panel recognises the issues relating to the publication of this legitimate

expense. This is reflected in the options for publication as set out in Annex 4.

To support current members and to encourage diversity the Panel urges

authorities to promote and encourage greater take-up of the reimbursement of

Costs of Care.

**Determination 50:** Community and town councils must provide for the

reimbursement of necessary costs for the care of dependent children and

adults (provided by informal or formal carers) and for personal assistance

needs up to a maximum of £403 per month. Reimbursement must be for the

additional costs incurred by members in order for them to carry out their

approved duties. Reimbursement shall only be made on production of

receipts from the carer.

**Recommendation:**To accept the above on the same basis as Determination 49.

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

**Civic Head / Deputy Civic Head Payment**

**13.16.** Recognising that some mayors and chairs of community and town councils

and their deputies are very active during their year of office, the Panel has

determined that community and town councils should be authorised to make a

payment for these roles. In its previous annual reports the Panel did not

determine a maximum level of payment to mayors/chairs and their deputies.

**13.17** The Panel’s consultation meetings this year, confirmed that the majority of

community and town councils make no or very modest payments to their civic

leaders and that some of them are reporting the budget allocated for civic

functions and civic expenditure rather than the amount paid as personal

senior salary to the individual.

**13.18** The Panel is concerned only with the amount paid to the mayors/chairs as a

salary or honorarium, to be used or retained at their discretion. The Panel has

determined that the maximum amount to be paid to a chair/mayor of a

community or town council in this way shall be £1,500. The maximum amount

to be paid to a deputy mayor/chair in this way shall be £500.

**Determination 51:** Community and town councils are authorised to provide a

Civic Head payment to the mayor/chair of the council up to a maximum of

£1,500 to undertake the functions of that office. This is in addition to the £150

payment for costs and expenses if that is made.

**Recommendation:** The Council to accept the determination

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

**Determination 52:** Community and town councils are authorised to provide a

Deputy Civic Head payment to the deputy mayor/deputy chair of the council up

to a maximum amount of £500 to undertake the functions of that office. This is

in addition to the £150 payment for costs and expenses if that is made.

Publicity requirements

**Recommendation**:To accept the determination with the amount to be specified in the annual meeting

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

**13.19.** There is a requirement on community and town councils to publish details of

all payments made to individual members in an annual Statement of

Payments. This information must be published on council noticeboards and/or

websites (with easy access) and provided to the Panel by email or by post no

later than 30 September following the end of the year to which the payments

relate. The Panel draws attention to the requirements stipulated at Annex 4.

The Panel is concerned that a significant number of councils are in breach of

this requirement.

**The above requirements should be incorporated with the Financial Regulations of the council.**

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

**c)** **Support required for New Charity**

**Argoed Support for NEW Charity Argoed Recreation Charity.**

**Y Bonc**

 £

Bark 100

Moles 300 4 call outs at £75

Planters Plants 100 Supplied by Council

Litterpicking Currently done by FCC could be done by Volunteers

Inspection Currently done by FCC may be recharged

Weeding 500 Currently part of Redbud’s Contract

Watering 400 Currently part of Redbud’s Contract

**Bryn Y Baal Quarry**

Annual Cut 150 Hire Of Machine

Labour Per Cut 200 Currently part of Redbud’s Contract

Strimming Bank 440

Purchase of seeds 500 every 3 years

Insurance Cover say 500

Current costs approximately £3190

**Resolved: An initial amount of £5000 to be granted to the charity and an amount of £5000 to be budgeted in the precept to cover the above costs and any additional costs up to £5000**

**d) Approval of quotes for Y Bonc and Wats Dyke**

**YBonc**

Three Quotes received two were accepted

 DCIM £4476 Bounce Back £3973.50

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bounce back** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Further to our telephone concersation could you please quote for the following EPDM (solid fibre)  |
|   |   |   |   |   | Removal  | Total |  |
|   |   |   |   | Cost | of old Fibre |   |  |
| Aparatus | Area M2 | Depth MM | £m2 | £ | £ | £ |  |
| Cradle Swing | 21 | 50 | 67.5 | 1417.5 |   | 1417.5 |  |
| Junior swing | 21 | 60 | 73.5 | 1543.5 |   | 1543.5 |  |
| Roundabout and springer | 105 | 40 | 63 | 6615 |   | 6615 |  |
| Small Multi Unit | 36 | 50 | 67.5 | 2430 |   | 2430 | 3973.5 |
| Wooden Multi unit | 62 | 80 | 84 | 5208 |   | 5208 |  |
| Tyre Swing | 33 | 60 | 73.5 | 2425.5 |   | 2425.5 |  |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
| Herras fencing |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|   | 278 |   |   |   |   | 19639.5 |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DCM** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Further to our telephone concersation could you please quote for the following EPDM (solid fibre)  |
|   |   |   |   |   | Removal  | Total |  |
|   |   |   |   | Cost | of old Fibre |   |  |
| Aparatus | Area M2 | Depth MM | £m2 | £ | £ | £ |  |
| Cradle Swing |   |   | 45 | 0 |   | 0 |  |
| Junior swing | 24 | 50 | 65 | 1560 | 484 | 2044 |  |
| Roundabout and springer | 110 |   | 49 | 5390 | 1870.51 | 7260.51 |  |
| Small Multi Unit | 40 |   | 49 | 1960 | 680.19 | 2640.19 |  |
| Wooden Multi unit | 65 |   | 59 | 3835 | 1105.30 | 4940.30 |  |
| Tyre Swing | 33 | 70 | 59 | 1947 | 485 | 2432 | 4476 |
| Herras fencing |   |   |   |   |   | 1170 |  |
|   | 272 |   |   |   |   | 20487 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Recommended By Amenities Bounce Back

**Resolved: to approve the above recommendation**

**Wats Dyke**

2 quotes received 3rd did not reply

 **Earth Anchors** **Kedel(met at Birmingham)**

Plastic Lumber for seats £392 £596.84

One Rail fencing £1394 £1374.50

Two rail Fencing £1634 £1746.40

**Recommended by Amenities: KEDEL**

**Resolved: The Chair and Cllr Norwood to review the status of the wood on the benches and report back to Council. The Clerk to consult with FCC regarding implementation.**

 **8. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October 2017**

**Resolved:The minutes were approved and signed by Chair**

 **9. Chairman’s Report.**

 **a) Matters since last meeting**

**1.)** The quotes for the fencing for Wat’s Dyke football field have been received and it was agreed at the amenities meting to get an additional quote.

**2.)** The spraying ofthe memorial garden and the centre have been carried out by Redbud and the memorial garden maintenance is in progress

**3.)** The Clerk and Chair visited the NEC in Birmingham and visited the stand of KEDEL who displayed and shown the plastic lumber that is available and gave a good understanding of the product.

**4.)** The constitution for Argoed Recreational Charity was presented to Cllr McGuill and Andrew Grime of the trustees who were briefed on rules regarding the constitution and its limited liability.

**5.)** The new posts for hanging baskets in the square should be available in the next few weeks

**6.)** The Advert for the Christmas Lighting of the square on the 8th of December has been designed and is ready for distribution. The local community choir is expected to take part.

**7.)** TodayNovember 7th the tyre swing at Y Bonc has been dismantled and removed for health and safety reasons.

**8.)** TheClerk is expectedto get the tenders for the lights out to contractors in a week. Flintshire CC has advised that should we not keep the contract with them then the electricity supplier will also have to change.

**9.)** Two new Led lights have replaced the old lights around the Square at a cost of £150 each not warranty. This was approved with the Chair.

**10.)** Lights at Argoed sports have been fixed with two LED replacing old lights. There are 5 lights in Argoed sports with three need upgrading.

**11.)** It’s been reported today the death of Assembly Member Carl Sergeant the Assemble Member for Connah’s quay

 **10. Notices of Motion**

 None

**11. Planning applications/Decisions**.

 **Planning Applications October 2017**

**Received**

**Ref: 057587 Date Valid: 26 September 2017 Expiry Date: 21 November 2017 Case Officer: 01352-703299**

**Applicant:** Mr Gary Hughes, Gwynfa, New Brighton, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6QW

**AgProposal:** Erection of two storey extension to side of dwelling

**At:** Gwynfa, New Brighton, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6QW

**Grid Ref:** 325437 365468 **Area:** Argoed Community Council W**ard:** New Brighton

**Resolved: Community Council concerned there was insufficient off road Parking as there was only space enough for one car.**

**Ref: 057598 Date Valid: 2 October 2017 Expiry Date: 27 November 2017 Case Officer: 01352 703266**

**Applicant:** Mr Malcolm Owens, Maes Bedw, Ffordd Y Bont, Pontybodkin, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 4TS

**Agent:** BH Architects Ltd, Barden, Queen Street, Treuddyn, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 4LU

**Proposal:** Erection of detached dwelling and garage

**At:** Land adjacent to Tristernaugh, New Brighton, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6QQ

**Grid Ref:** 325102 365388 **Area:** Argoed Community Council W**ard:** New Brighton

**Resolved: approved subject to enough spacing for off road parking for two cars.**

**Ref: 057490 Date Valid: 9 October 2017 Expiry Date: 4 December 2017 Case Officer: 01352-703299**

**Applicant:** Mr Barry Roberts, Ashlyn, Bryn Lane, New Brighton, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6RD

**Agent:**

**Proposal:** Erection of extensions to dwelling

**At:**  Ashlyn, Bryn Lane, New Brighton, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6RD

**Grid Ref:** 325414 365385 **Area:** Argoed Community Council W**ard:** New Brighton

**Resolved: approved subject to enough spacing for off road parking for two cars.**

**Ref: 057654 Date Valid: 17 October 2017 Expiry Date: 12 December 2017 Case Officer: 01352 703327**

**Applicant:** Mr M Roberts, 2 Dwyfor Avenue, Bryn Y Baal, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6TJ

**Agent:** Sustain Architecture, Inchcape, Cefn Bychan Road, Pantymwyn, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 5EN

**Proposal:** Erection of two storey and single storey side extension

**At:**  2 Dwyfor Avenue, Bryn-Y-Baal, Mold, CH7 6TJ

**Grid Ref:** 325935 364423 **Area:** Argoed Community Council W**ard:** Argoed

**Resolved: approved subject to enough spacing for off road parking for two cars.**

**Planning Applications**

**DETERMINED**

**Ref:** 057443 **Area:** Argoed Community Council **Ward:** Argoed **Case Officer:** 01352-703262

**Applicant:** Mrs Olive Evans, 143 Park Avenue, Bryn Y Baal, CH7 6TR

**Agent:** ,

**Proposal:** Erection of single storey extension to side of dwelling

**At:** 143 Park Avenue, Bryn Y Baal, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6TR

**Decision Date:** 06/10/2017  **Decision: Approved**

**Decision Issued:** 6 October 2017  **Decision Level:** Delegated-Officer

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**12. Representative’s Report.**

**None**

 **13. Committee and group reports**

**IT Group**

Cllrs Hadfield-Jones and Mutch met up in October and spent 3hours working and tidying up the Website where there was considerable duplication of data. There is more to be done and more meetings in the coming weeks. Cllr Mutch had developed a list of items to do and some has been completed.

**Minutes of Amenities Committee held on Wednesday at 6.00 pm 18th October at the Community Centre Mercia Square, Mynydd Isa.**

PRESENT.

**Committee Members:** Cllr W J Taylor, Cllr G KMutch, Cllr B Clarke.

**In attendance:** Clerk Rhodri Hampson-Jones, Redbud Ltd

**Apologies**: Cllr R W Marsh**,** Cllr J Holiday, Cllr A Henry, Cllr Norwood

**Declaration of interests:** None

**RedBud Ltd**

Redbud presented her report to members and discussed the memorial garden and the hedges at Y Bonc. It was agreed that the hedges at top which are filling the gap where children ar climbing over into the farmers field should be allowed to grow to fill in the gap.

**Repairs at Y Bonc**

Two Quaote were compare and a third dismissed because of costs. The two quotes were from DCM and Bounces Back. After comparison of quotes the following company was recommended.

**Recommendation**: **Bounces Back.**

**New Posts for Hanging Baskets**

The Clerk informed members that the order had been placed With Broncoed Engineering and should be ready within three weeks.

**Plastic Lumber for Wat’s Dyke**

Two quotes had been received for plastic lumber to use on seats and fencing at Wats Dyke and One company was Kedel who the Clerk and Chair met at Birmingham NEC where the products were on show. The other company was Earth Anchor the quotes were very close for the benches but it was felt that another quote would be needed for the fencing.

**Recommendation: That the quote for Kedel be accepted for the seats and an additional quote is sought for the fencing.**

**Meeting terminated 6:40pm**