



MINUTES OF THE ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AS A REMOTE MEETING ON TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2020.

Representatives:

New Brighton Ward

Councillor G K Mutch

Argoed Ward

Councillor J Holiday

Councillor I Jolly (Vice-chair)

Councillor H McGuill

Councillor Miriam Shepherd

In attendance: Assistant Clerk Mared Eastwood

1. Apologies

Received from Cllr B Clarke, Cllr A Henry, Cllr R Blanchard, Cllr F Hadfield-Jones, Cllr R Marsh, Cllr J Norwood.

2. Co-option of Members

In light of the current Coronavirus situation there has been an adjustment made to the 6-month rule for Councils to take into consideration the period of time when there was a lack of meetings taking place until the Coronavirus Regulations 2020 came into effect. It was noted that Cllrs Clarke and Henry are coming close to losing office due to the 6-month rule. It was also noted that Cllr Norwood wished to return to the Council.

Resolved: That Cllr J Norwood be co-opted back onto the Council.

That a letter is sent to Cllrs Clarke and Henry to remind them of the 6-month rule and for them to be granted an extension, to allow them time to respond.

3. Declarations of Interest

None received.

4. Standing Orders

No changes to note.

5. Financial Matters

a The following payments and invoices were noted:

Invoice no.	Name	Details	Amount
M115VM	BT	Internet and telephone	£87.80 pd
671	Compacc	Payroll July 2020	£16.00 pd
TW095306	Flintshire CC	Street lighting April/May/June 2020	£279.99 pd
0032021	Michelle Jones	Hanging baskets	£1209.60 pd
0042021	Michelle Jones	Additional work not in tender	£942.10 pd
0012021	Michelle Jones	Garden maintenance	£448.80 pd
0022021	Michelle Jones	Planters	£1948.80 pd
Standing Order	Snapfast	Lighting	£418.99 pd
414601/414602	Canda Copying Ltd	Photocopying	£125.66 pd
14327	HH Print Ltd	Door and window graphics	£190.00 pd
712	Compacc	Payroll for August 2020	£42.00
Standing Order	Snapfast	Argoed Lights July 2020 payment	£418.99 pd
Standing Order	Snapfast	Argoed Lights August 2020 payment	£418.99 pd
E0600BNTT6	Microsoft	Business Basic x 3	£13.68 pd
E0600BNXY1	Microsoft	Business Standard x 1	£11.28 pd
E0600BXOLI	Microsoft	Business Basic x 3	£13.68 pd
E0600BXVBL	Microsoft	Business Standard x 1	£11.28 pd
Payment Voucher	Cllr J McCarron	Security lock for office	£36.74
000457	R&B Electrics	Installation of defibrillator at the Griffin	£265.20 pd
Payment Voucher	M. Eastwood	Batteries for hand sanitiser dispenser	£7.00
742	Compacc	Payroll September 2020	£14.00
	NatWest	Bank charges - unpaid item fee	£12.00
	SLCC	Subscription and joining fee	£173.00
	ICO	Annual Data Protection Fee	£40.00
	Amazon	Hand sanitiser and dispenser	£41.84 pd
M116ZX	BT	Internet and telephone	£84.55 pd
528691	Viking	Stationery items	£51.53

Resolved: That the payments and invoices are approved to be paid.

b The salaries and other costs were noted.

Resolved: The pay review was approved, to apply from April 2020.

The Councillor allowances that were added to the grants budget to be paid as listed.

Clerk to provide list of all grants paid this municipal year in next meeting

- c** The bank balances were noted as listed, although the comment was made that they are without context. Assistant Clerk confirmed that the bank mandate to close the HSBC accounts has been sent.

Resolved: Clerk to circulate cashbook spreadsheet with the agenda information pack, to show spend against budget.

6. To approve the Minutes of meeting held on 7 July 2020

Resolved: Minutes approved subject to them recording that Cllr GK Mutch was in attendance and to correct the spelling of Cllr J Holiday's name and that of Llewelyn Drive.

7. To approve the Minutes of meeting held on 9 September 2020

Resolved: Minutes approved

8. Chairman's Report

Vice-Chair welcomed the new Clerk and outlined the new measures being taken to secure the office. Anecdotal feedback from the playschemes is that the parents have been very appreciative of the children being given the opportunity to play outside of the home, that the children have enjoyed themselves very much and that it has been a very useful stepping stone towards the children returning to school.

9. Notices of Motion

None received.

10. Future Meeting Dates

A discussion was held around the proposed date of 12 January 2020.

Resolved: List of proposed dates agreed with the exception of 12 January, meeting is to be held on 5 January 2020.

11. Risk Assessment

Assistant Clerk explained that it has been picked up by Audit that this has not been reviewed. Also, in light of concerns raised in the Extraordinary Meeting on 9 September 2020, now would be a good time to review the risk assessment entirely as some aspects were out of date, because of technology if no other reason.

Resolved: Councillors are to be asked to comment on the current risk assessment in good time, so that these comments may be brought to the next meeting for review.

12. Remembrance Sunday

Assistant Clerk advised that the British Legion in Flint is not distributing wreaths this year and alternative arrangements need to be made. It was advised that the British Legion site is where they got their wreaths but the only ones there currently commemorate VE day. They appear to be at a cost of around £20. It was noted that some delays may be experienced in sourcing wreaths, depending on where they are coming from and due to Covid-19.

Resolved: **Three wreaths are to be ordered when available at a cost of around £20 each. The wreaths are to be for Mold, Mynydd Isa and Buckley and someone from the village, preferably a councillor, to be asked to represent the Council in Buckley.**

13. Planning Applications/Decisions

66a Mold Road – nothing has been received at the office from the residents. It was noted that the developers have been liaising and consulting directly with the residents. Concerns have been raised already regarding trees that may be felled contrary to tree preservation orders and a gable wall being too close to an existing property. A request for assisted bungalows has been made and for the concern surrounding the extra traffic going onto Mold Road to be addressed. It was noted that the sight lines for traffic exiting the proposed development are very bad but that the traffic officers have approved it.

Resolved: **Submit comments about trees being felled contrary to tree preservation orders and concern about the extra traffic and poor sight lines. Request they consider options whereby vehicles going across the flow of traffic is avoided/reduced.**

New Brighton – general discussion around the document submitted by New Brighton Residents Group. The clarification from the planning officer that any previous comments that are still applicable will be taken into account, together with any new comments, and won't need to be repeated.

Resolved: **Submit comments to support the residents' group in their objections and to request a condition that until Welsh Water have addressed the current issue with the foul water drains, no further houses should feed into them.**

40, Heol Fammau – noted that there is no issue with this application.

It was noted that there appears to be a growing issue of residents removing hedges and replacing them with boundary fences which are next to the highway and exceed the height of 1m, without planning permission to do so.

Resolved: **Cllr K Mutch to provide the Assistant Clerk with a list of examples within the ward.
Assistant Clerk to write to Planning for clarification of the rules and ask what enforcement is appropriate.**

It was noted that the planning issue off Well Street is not in the Argoed Ward and therefore has been re-directed to Buckley Town Council.

14. Police Report

It was noted that there have been a number of complaints about hazardous parking on the bend of Park Avenue near Ellesmere Drive, where vans are being parked on the road rather than on the drives that are available. Despite the PCSOs being written to and sent emails there has been no response, which is both disappointing and frustrating. It was noted that there have been other instances reported to the Councillors where residents have contacted the police and received little or no response, in particular the issue of underage drinking and vandalism on Argoed Sports Field.

Resolved: **A letter to be sent to both North Wales Police and Flintshire County Council regarding the hazardous parking.**
 A letter be sent to North Wales Police, copied to the Police and Crime Commissioner, highlighting the lack of response and inaction.
 Request that the new PCSOs are made available to attend future meetings

15. Committee and Group Reports

HR Group Report - After a meeting, the candidates were shortlisted to four to be interviewed. Further to the interviews, a new Clerk has been appointed, to take effect 1 October 2020.

Meeting concluded 20.35pm

Next meeting to be held 6 October 2020