



## **MINUTES OF THE ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AS A REMOTE MEETING ON TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2020.**

### **Representatives:**

#### **New Brighton Ward**

Councillor J McCarron (Chair)  
Councillor GK Mutch  
Councillor R Blanchard  
Councillor R Marsh

#### **Argoed Ward**

Councillor J Holiday  
Councillor I Jolly (Vice-chair)  
Councillor H McGuill  
Councillor Miriam Shepherd  
Councillor F Hadfield-Jones

**In attendance:** Clerk Mared Eastwood

### **1. Apologies**

Received from Cllr B Clarke, Cllr A Henry, Cllr R Marsh, Cllr J Norwood, Cllr J Holiday.

### **2. Co-option of Members**

None

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Received from Cllr J McCarron and Cllr R Marsh with regard to agenda item 10.

### **4. Standing Orders**

No changes to note.

## 5. Financial Matters

a The following payments and invoices were noted:

Invoice no.	Name	Details	Amount
Payment voucher	Cllr J McCarron	Replacement barrel lock for office door and materials for installation of new locking system	£28.81
E0600C7L H8	Microsoft	Business Basic x 3	£13.68
E0600C7L Y1	Microsoft	Business Standard x 1	£11.28
VP316835 70	BT	Telephone and internet	£85.23
17420	DCM Surfaces	New playing surface at the Bonc	£18,841.20
FW021125	Flintshire CC	Match-funding for park improvements	£5,000.00
750	Compacc	Payroll for o/s Cllr allowance	£7.00
Payment voucher	Mared Eastwood	Poppy wreaths	£53.97
		<b>Total to pay</b>	<b>£24,041.17</b>

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

b The salaries and other costs were noted.

c The bank balances were noted as listed

d Cllr M Shepherd provided some information regarding Triodas Bank in that, although it does not pay much interest, it is an ethical bank which supports good works within communities. It was noted that it is well-established and that the Green Party in Belgium uses it. Clerk advised that the advice from Flintshire County Council is that there are no restrictions as such on what banks the community council may use.

**Resolved: Clerk to make further enquiries with a view to developing investment principles.**

e The wording required for the NatWest banking mandate was considered

**Resolved: The Authorised Signatories in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in section 1.3, be changed in accordance with section Authorised Signatories and the current mandate will continue as amended.**

6. To approve the Minutes of meeting held on 15 September 2020

**Resolved: Minutes approved.**

## 7. Chairman's Report

It has come to light that the school is not doing anything for Halloween this year. It was considered whether the Community Council could arrange anything by way of community engagement.

**Resolved: Clerk to create a quiz/treasure hunt or some other suitable activity, which can be downloaded from the website ready for half-term.**

## 8. Notices of Motion

None received.

## 9. Risk Assessment

- a) Clerk gave an update to explain that the original risk assessment document needs to be re-typed as the original cannot be located. This should be available to be discussed and approved at the next meeting.
- b) Clerk gave update to advise that hand sanitiser now installed and the risk assessment nearly complete to allow for two people to be working in the office, which has also been registered on the NHS Track and Trace app.

**Resolved: That the Track and Trace material from Flintshire County Council may be publicised on Argoed Community Council's social media and website.**

## 10. Planning Applications/Decisions

The planning decision was noted. It was also noted that the associated documents for the planning application were not yet on the website.

**Resolved: That the planning application 061156 be brought forward for consideration at the next meeting.**

It was noted that there are more examples of new fences over 1 metre in height immediately adjacent to the highway. It is understood that planning permission is required for fences such as these, which are over 1 metre high.

**Resolved: Cllr K Mutch to provide the Clerk with a list of examples within the ward.  
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.

## 11. Police Report

The Clerk gave an update to advise that a report has not yet been requested but will be circulated once received. It was reported that there has been anti-social behaviour at the grounds of Argoed Sports Association and damage has been caused. The sergeant is

now being very helpful. It was also reported that there is also a growing problem around Wats Dyke Park with parties and broken glass being left.

**Resolved: That the PCSO be asked to join the meetings/provide regular updates.**

## **12. Committee and Group Reports**

The minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting on 30 September 2020 were considered.

**Resolved: The minutes were approved.**

Quarry – it was noted that the Harvest Service was filmed at the Quarry recently

**Resolved: That a tender invitation be sent for the saplings to be removed, the roots to be destroyed to ensure no re-growth. The work needing to be done on the trees in the Bonc should be included with this tender.**

The gate at the Bonc – it was noted that there has been some consideration of ways in which this access could be made safer with regard to restriction of ease of use by toddlers. It was concluded that the installation of a strong clasp as an additional locking mechanism may be the solution.

**Resolved: Clerk to liaise with Aura to risk assess the proposed clasp.  
Return the sign advising to keep the gate shut to the top of the gate.**

Planters – the suggestion to replace the rotting planters with a high specification recycled plastic planters was considered a good idea, together with the rolling programme of replacement.

**Resolved: Clerk to proceed with costing out replacement planters.**

Memorial Garden – it was noted that the resident who is the usual trumpeter for Remembrance Sunday will not be available this year and so an alternative will need to be considered. The vicar has advised that he is willing to conduct a Zoom service this year and will arrange everything, although the names of those who wish to attend need to be submitted.

It was also noted that we have no graveyard within Argoed and there is no way of remembering people who have lived and died here. It was considered that there needs to be something local to remember people by. It was noted that there have been projects previously, to get a proper memorial and means to remember local people and it was thought these should be revisited.

**Resolved: That the gardens are tidied up in readiness of the service.  
Clerk to contact the vicar, to make arrangements for the service.**

## 5 year plan -

There was a general discussion about facilities for cycling within the community. It was noted that Sandycroft, with only one school, has a 20mph speed limit whereas there are three schools within Mynydd Isa and Bryn-y-Baal with a 30mph limit.

There was a general discussion regarding picnic tables in the Quarry with a query as to whether this would encourage the use of alcohol and anti-social behaviour. It was recognised that whilst the area should encourage bio-diversity, it is also a public space that should be an open area for the general public to enjoy rather than tailored for a section of the public. It was agreed that there needs to be a balance between the needs of the public, nature and the neighbours.

**Resolved: That the objective for the Quarry is for it to be a floral meadow with accessible pathways, where bio-diversity is also encouraged.**

**Resolved: Clerk to make further enquiries regarding the possibility of expediting the introduction of a 20mph limit on the village roads via safe routes for school.**

**Resolved: Clerk to enquire about Dial-a-Ride.**

Meeting concluded 20.50pm

Next meeting to be held 3 November 2020