



MINUTES OF THE ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AS A REMOTE MEETING ON TUESDAY 5 JANUARY 2021.

Representatives:

New Brighton Ward

Councillor J McCarron (Chair)
Councillor B Clarke
Councillor R Blanchard

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 Councillor R Marsh, Councillor J Norwood, Councillor GK Mutch

2. Co-option of members

None to consider. It was noted that there are now 3 vacancies on the Council which need to be filled.

Resolved: Candidate packs to be created and vacancies to be advertised, with a direct approach to residents within the community who may have relevant skills to bring to the Council.

3. Declaration of Interests

None.

4. Standing Orders

No review at this time.

5. Financial Matters

a) The following payments were noted:

Invoice number	Name	Details	Amount (£)
Payment voucher	Mared Eastwood	Fridge for office	83.00
Payment voucher	Mared Eastwood	Office equipment	12.99
3	MLandscapeUK Ltd	Quarry clearance	898.14
2	MLandscapeUK Ltd	Work undertaken at Y Bonc	236.39
WEB13206	HCI Data Limited	Website	102.00

7170	Mega Electrical	Christmas Lights - Mynydd Isa	1356.00
7169	Mega Electrical	Christmas Lights – New Brighton	1626.00
M120GX	BT	Telephone and internet	84.64
Standing order	ProVision	Street Lighting	418.99
Total			4818.15

Resolved: The payments were authorised to be paid.

b) The salary and other costs were noted.

c) The bank statement balances were noted.

6. Minutes

Resolved: The minutes for the meeting on 1 December 2020 were approved.

7. Chairman's Report

a) Christmas Drive-by fundraiser update: this event was really well received by the community. There are now more followers on the Facebook site and the journalist is following too. Nearly £700 was raised on the night and the subsequent video of lit up houses reached nearly 3000 people. 180 presents were given out on 6 December, but there was an issue of a back-log of traffic. Maybe warning signs could be considered for next year. Chair thanked Cllr R Blanchard for all her hard work in support of this event, echoed by the rest of the Council with a positive endorsement of "The Village of Lights".

b) It is with regret that Cllr A Henry has resigned her position in the Council due to personal circumstances. She was a well-respected and long-standing member of the Council and both she and her husband, Charlie, were regular attendees at the meetings. It is sad that Covid means we are unable to hold a 'leaving do' but would like to reflect her long-service to be marked.

**Resolved: A framed certificate, card and flowers to be sent to Cllr A Henry.
A rose bush be planted, with a plaque, to honour the service of both Cllr A Henry and her late husband, Cllr C Henry.**

8. Notices of Motion

None received.

9. Brown directional signs for New Brighton Bowling Club and Quarry

It was hoped to have received costings by now, to consider. Not received yet but they are expected soon.

10. Lewis White – fundraising

It was noted that this young person lives within the ward and now needs significant support in order to increase his quality of life. There is already widespread community support and whilst a direct donation to the fundraising account is not permissible, fund-raising events could be considered, with all proceeds raised to go towards the fundraising efforts.

Resolved: That a fundraising quiz be organised, with proceeds to go towards Lewis White.

11. SLA – Street Lighting

It was noted that although we are using Flintshire County Council to repair and maintain the street lights the SLA, which covers from 2020 to 2023 has not actually been signed.

Resolved: That the SLA from Flintshire is signed, to be reviewed again when it is due for renewal.

12. Precept

The draft precept was discussed with some amendments being suggested during the meeting.

Resolved: A further meeting be held for consider and approve the finalised Precept.

13. Planning applications/decisions

Resolved:

a) **Planning application 061788 – accepted subject to there being sufficient parking within the curtilage of the property.**

b) **The residents' concerns be supported and highlight the issue regarding the lack of a safe route to school.**

14. Representative's Report

Has not been received to date. Will be cascaded when received.

15. Committee and group reports.

Cllr M Shepherd wished for her statement to be minuted as follows:

Mr Chairman

I would like to make a statement about the Quarry. At the Amenities committee meeting we came to an agreement that the saplings on the bank should be cleared and the paths through the quarry needed clearing. I did not agree to the complete destruction of the rest of the wildlife habitat in the quarry. I see no useful purpose in having the Biodiversity officer look at the quarry now after the vandalism on the wildlife that has taken place. We are supposed to be increasing the wildlife areas, not destroying them. We have a duty to carry out The Well-being of Future Generations Act where we are supposed to improve environmental and economic well-being.

It is no wonder that we have such an enormous decrease in our insect and bird life when their feeding grounds are destroyed by pure ignorance.

I would like this to be noted in the minutes.

Resolved: Minutes approved subject to the amendments made to include the reference to fly-tipping in the Quarry and the location of the plants to be changed from back wall to back half.

Meeting concluded 9.25

Next meeting to be held 2 February 2021

Precept meeting to be held 19 January 2021