



MINUTES OF THE ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AS A REMOTE MEETING ON TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 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

In attendance: Clerk Mared Eastwood

Presentations were received from:

Mark Edwards, StreetScene

- He has been given a grant to do a footpath gateway into town and the footpaths between Wylfa roundabout and the Griffin will be cleared and then slurried, both sides of the road, all metal furniture to be levelled.
- Numerous complaints of dog-fouling have been received, in particular by the Bonc and by the Quarry. Enforcement have been asked to spend more time in the Mynydd Isa and Buckley area.
- A number of people have been prosecuted for parking across driveways in Wats Dyke Avenue, enforcement has been issuing notices and fines and will be continuing to have a presence there once or twice a week.
- Operatives have commented that the area around Mynydd Isa Square is cleaner than usual.
- There is a new speed camera near the Griffin. It is one of the new ones, which are very sensitive and has good visibility at night. It will take around 2 months to get feedback, but he'll report this back to the Council when received.
- Patching work has been authorised for Chambers Lane and along Bryn Road. Heol Fammau, Bryn Clwyd and another road from that area has been put into the matrix for re-surfacing. They will get scored against other roads in Flintshire and then ranked to be done as and when budget becomes available.
- He'll ask for a transport technical team to assess for the feasibility of a 20mph limit. Suggest that an email is sent from the Council to request the support of FCC.

Andrea Gill, New Brighton Community Centre

- NBCC now has 13 groups which use the Centre on a regular basis.
 - They have recently held a Halloween event, which was very successful and well received by the residents.
 - A wildflower garden has recently been installed by the Bowling Green with help from local volunteers.
 - They have received a grant and looking to do a Christmas event – would it be possible for New Brighton to have a rooted Christmas Tree?
 - LED lights have been fitted outside the Centre, which can be changed to reflect the celebration at the time of year.
 - A coffee machine has been installed in the foyer.
 - They hold a community bar, open between 6.30 and 9.30 every Friday evening.
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1. Apologies

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

2. Co-option of Members

None

3. Declarations of Interest

Received from Cllr J McCarron and Cllr R Marsh with regard to agenda item 14.

4. Standing Orders

No changes to note.

5. Financial Matters

a The following payments and invoices were noted:

Invoice no.	Name	Details	Amount (£)	
M11865	BT	Telephone and internet	84.55	Pd
TW095918	Flintshire CC	Street lighting energy	279.99	
E0600CHY8B	Microsoft	Business Basic Office 365	13.68	
E0600CHXBM	Microsoft	Business Standard Office 365	11.28	
Payment voucher	Mared Eastwood	Tete-a-Tete daffodils x 500	74.89	
417608	Canda Copying	Photocopying (colour)	26.80	
417607	Canda Copying	Photocopying (black and white)	104.26	
14519	Snapfast	Argoed lights	418.99	pd
		Total	1093.64	

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

- b) The projected salary and other costs were noted.
- c) The bank balances were noted as listed

6. To approve the Minutes of meeting held on 6 October 2020

Resolved: Minutes approved.

7. Chairman's Report

Residents in New Brighton have been working with Cllr Roy Marsh to encourage the Post Office to run a mobile service from New Brighton Community Centre on a weekly basis. This was considered to be an excellent idea and hopefully the service will be well-supported, especially in the run up to Christmas.

Resolved: Clerk to send a letter of support to the Post Office.

8. Notices of Motion

None received.

9. Risk Assessment

Clerk gave an update in relation to draft amendments to the risk assessment.

Resolved: The proposed amendments are agreed, subject to a copy of the signed minutes need to be kept in the fireproof safe in addition to being backed up on the Cloud.

10. Audit Update

Clerk advised that a number of queries have been made by the external auditor, which will be responded to.

11. Review of ongoing work on behalf of the Council

It was noted that some Councillors had requested some way of monitoring which resolutions had been actioned and a way of measuring progress. It was considered that it would not be practical to have the action list as part of the full Council meeting but that a monthly report, sent the Members, would be beneficial.

Resolved: Clerk to issue a monthly action report so that Members may monitor progress and choose particular items for a detailed report during a meeting when appropriate.

12. Payroll

The previous payroll provider withdrew their services on no notice. Clerk produced two new options for consideration.

Resolved: That the payroll provider Diane Malley be instructed.

13. Christmas

a) Trees

Clerk updated to say gardener had not been able to supply quote for trees this year, but prices had been received from last year's supplier, for trees of various heights. The request from New Brighton residents that they could have a rooted Christmas Tree was considered.

Resolved: That two 12' trees be ordered for this year and to research options for a rooted tree, for consideration on behalf of New Brighton residents.

b) Lights and other celebrations

Cllr R Blanchard requested if a drive/walk-by could be considered this year. A car-route through Mynydd Isa and New Brighton was suggested, with a synchronised switch on of the lights. Shangri La are also going to host a 'drive-by' Father Christmas, using litter-pickers to maintain appropriate social distances. Clerk advised that a quote to install the lights had been requested, together with the specification for replacement lights for the New Brighton Christmas Tree as the ones used previously no longer work.

Resolved: That there will be a synchronised switch on of the Christmas Lights at 6pm on Sunday 6 December 2020 and arrangements made to encourage residents to register and be included in the drive-by route.

To contribute £200 towards the gifts being given by the 'drive-by' Father Christmas

Authority is given to the Amenities Committee to source replacement lights for the New Brighton Christmas Tree with an expected cost of around £600.

c) Dinner

The practicality of holding a Christmas Dinner in the current pandemic climate was considered.

Resolved: That the Dinner be deferred until restrictions are lifted or eased and we have warmer weather.

14. Planning Applications/Decisions

Cllrs J McCarron and R Marsh declared a personal interest with regard to planning application 061849

061920 - It was considered that these two proposed houses would need a splay onto the main road and this splay would overlap the footpath, which could create a

safety issue. There is a question over the ownership of the access road and the lack of parking was noted.

Resolved: To object to this application on the basis we believe we own this land, there is insufficient provision for parking and concerns regarding the safety of a splay.

061899 – It was noted that as this property is on a corner, it is imperative that they have sufficient parking on their own land.

Resolved: To object on the grounds of insufficient parking, in contravention of the WG guidelines for parking, and that the proposal is out of character with other properties in the immediate area, notwithstanding the amendments to the original application.

061849 – There was discussion around the parking provision and how the conversion would impact on the character of the properties in the immediate area.

Resolved: To object to the application due to the concern regarding parking provision and that the converted property would not be in keeping with the character of properties in the immediate area.

15. Police Report

The report supplied by the PCSO was noted.

16. Committee and Group Reports

- a) The update that the position of Assistant Clerk had been offered, and rejected on the basis the candidate had been offered another position which was better paid and closer to home.

Resolved: It was agreed that the recruitment of a new Assistant Clerk be deferred for the time being and that alternative options for staffing the office be considered for an temporary period.

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

Resolved: The minutes were approved.

Meeting concluded 20.55pm

Next meeting to be held 1 December 2020