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Community Centre  
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27 January 2022

**To: All Members**

You are hereby summoned to a remote meeting of the Community Council, to be held on  
**Tuesday 1 February at 7 p.m.**

### AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Chair's Report
3. Clerk's Report
4. Co-Option of members
5. Declaration of interests
6. Standing Orders
7. Financial Matters

Payments for authority to pay:

Invoice no.	Supplier	Details	Amount (£)	
	Pro Vision	Street Lights Upgrade	418.99	SO
E0600HC5M9	Microsoft	Business Standard x 1	11.28	dd
E0600HBUC4	Microsoft	Business Basic x 13	59.28	dd
No. 5	MLandscapeUK	Gardening contractor- Quarry	690.00	
M133XL	BT	Telephone and internet January	93.91	dd
015012022	Michelle Jones	Gardening contractor, non- Quarry	467.80	
19224	Sabre Guarding Ltd	Annual service for CCTV	720.00	
1941	DM Payroll Services Ltd	Administration of payroll – second half of year	67.50	
TX096569	Flintshire County Council	Street lighting energy Oct-Dec 2021	279.99	
TX096568	Flintshire County Council	Street lighting energy July – Sept 2021	279.99	
<b>Total</b>			<b>3,088.74</b>	

a) Salary and other employment costs for January 2022: £1,888.54

- b) Bank statement balances as at 27.01.2022:  
NatWest Current: £4,606.62  
NatWest Reserve: £57,513.44

8. To approve the Minutes of the meetings held on 4 January 2022

## **MINUTES OF THE ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AS A REMOTE MEETING ON TUESDAY 4 January 2022.**

### **Representatives:**

#### **New Brighton Ward**

Councillor J McCarron  
Councillor GK Mutch  
Councillor J Morris  
Councillor B Clarke  
Councillor G Owen

#### **Argoed Ward**

Councillor J Holiday  
Councillor I Jolly (Chair)  
Councillor H McGuill  
Councillor M Shepherd  
Councillor F Hadfield-Jones (Vice-Chair)

**In attendance:** Clerk Mared Eastwood

1. Apologies  
Received from Councillor R Marsh, Councillor M Bradley and Janet Jones
2. Co-option of Members  
None to consider.
3. Declarations of Interest  
None.
4. Standing Orders  
No changes to note.
5. Chair's Report

I would like to thank all members of council and staff for their work in particularly during this unprecedented pandemic. Everyone concerned have had to learn different ways of working with virtual meetings becoming the 'norm', a feat that had not even entered our minds before March 2020. However, this meant that council could still carry out its duties and community projects throughout.

#### Around our community

##### Floral & Fauna

In the Summer months the hanging baskets and planters made a delightful feature in the Wards.

Grateful thanks to the volunteers who planted the daffodil bulbs, a colourful display for the coming Spring.

A wildflower meadow is under construction on the grassed area behind the Elite studio and plans afoot for similar in the Quarry. Also, attractive bug

boxes are due to be erected in the Quarry, enabling a game for children to find the coloured box.

The one lone mole who was causing mounds in Y Bonc has now been successfully stopped.

Dog walkers in the Y Bonc will be pleased to learn the broken leaning section of fence in the Dog's area is now in hand for repairs. Y Bonc has also been resurfaced. Strimming of the vegetation has also taken place in the Quarry. Also, plans are afoot for a community dog walking group to be arranged.

#### Remembrance

Street Poppies on the lamp posts were placed around the villages and the services for Remembrance Sunday was well attended.

#### Christmas Festivities

The Christmas trees, lights and festivity arrangements were again well received. Council sends thanks to Shangri La for the interesting and unusual display of seasonal creatures placed in their garden.

#### The replacement of Milestones in the community.

As over the years many of the originals had been broken or removed –My Chairman's allowance for this year is donated to the project of replacement milestones to enhance the villages.

#### Platinum Jubilee Celebration.

A working committee is in place and third part representation invited to arrange activities for the celebration.

#### Administration

'Tesco Bags of Help' have confirmed that this council's application for funding regarding the community basic cookery classes for lonely and people on a tight budget has been approved. It is hoped that this will increase public engagement, especially to residents living alone or new to the area.

The office filing system is now more organised, with an index system of the contents of cabinets.

The council has now three new co-opted members in the team -one of who will be helpful in items included in the Welsh Language policy which is now under preparation.

Other policies, relevant to council are also being arranged.

#### Grants

The Council continues to support by giving financial aid to several diverse groups in the community. It considers several national charitable organisations who also seek funding.

#### Community Allotments

Many residents in our community have expressed an interest, it is hoped that at some future date this can be achieved.

#### Volunteers in the Community

Many thanks to all residents to take part in the litter picking (Keep Wales Tidy Scheme)

Volunteers being such a great asset to our community wellbeing.

## 6. Clerk's Report

The Christmas lights have been more consistently on this year, in comparison with previous years, which has made the maintenance work on the feeder pillars worthwhile. Positive feedback has been received for the Christmas trees and the new lights.

We've made enquiries about a different kind of poppy for the lampposts. Even though they are more expensive, they may be less prone to damage. A sample will be obtained for Councillors to inspect prior to a decision being made.

Cllr J McCarron has sent links for schemes relating to vehicle charging points. Further enquiries will be made into the feasibility of the schemes.

## 7. Financial Matters

a) The following payments and invoices were noted:

Invoice no.	Supplier	Details	Amount (£)	
	ProVision		418.99	so
M130LU	BT	Telephone and internet (December)	94.05	dd
E0600GZGGL	Microsoft	365 Business Standard	11.28	dd
E0600GKJYN	Microsoft	365 Business Basic x 13	59.28	dd
EX001063	Flintshire County Council	Summer Playscheme	1,905.20	
	Shangri-La	Drive-by Father Christmas	200.00	
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,688.80</b>	

b) The salary and other employment costs for November were noted as £1,816.90

c) Bank Balances as at 31 December 2021 were noted as:

NatWest Current: £4,089.91  
NatWest Reserves: £62,513.44

d) Budget review – preparation for Precept

The Clerk went through the draft precept request line by line after which it was fully considered and discussed by the Councillors. It was noted that the election costs could represent a significant uplift in the budget, which should be counter-acted, if possible, to mitigate any increase for the residents.

**Resolved: Payments were noted and authorised to be paid.**

**Salary and other employment costs were noted, as were the bank balances as at 31 December 2021.**

**Draft precept proposal, which will give an 0% increase for residents, be approved as follows:**

<b>Precept Breakdown 2022/23</b>				
<b>Detail</b>	<b>2020/21 Actual</b>	<b>2021/22 Estimated</b>	<b>2021/22 Budget</b>	<b>2022/23 Recommendation</b>
Wages and Salaries	£18,267	£21,271	£23,150	£23,500
Staff Training	£0	£0	£300	£300
Payroll	£111	£137.50	£150	£150
Staff Expenses	£0	£0	£300	£150
Councillor Allowances	£2,200	£2,600	£3,350	£3,350
Councillor Training	£0	£30	£300	£300
Councillor Travel and Conference	£0	£0	£200	£200
Audit fee	£300	£336	£800	£800
Insurance and Data Protection	£1,740	£1,412	£2,200	£1,500
Legal and professional fees	£350	£14	£1,000	£1,000
Gardening Contractors	£14,689	£13,500	£13,500	£13,500
Planting	£1,342	£1,558	£1,850	£1,750
Plant containers	£499	£1,664	£3,500	£2,500
Hire of meeting room	£1,500	£1,500	£1,750	£1,750
Telephone and internet	£1,018	£1,061	£1,200	£1,400
Photocopying	£443	£441	£550	£550
Printing, stationery and office equipment	£1,480	£840	£1,000	£1,000
Subscriptions	£173	£231	£240	£240
CCTV	£600	£3,900	£600	£600
Playscheme	£1,743	£1,905	£2,000	£2,000
Christmas Tree and Lights	£2,665	£5,065	£5,000	£4,500
Fireworks	£0	£750	£750	£750
ARC	£9,375	£3,268	£0	£0
Play areas	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
Other maintenance costs	£425	£1,462	£500	£1,500
Poppies for lampposts/poppy wreaths	£105	£230	£0	£560
S137 Grants	£2,000	£1,800	£3,000	£2,000
Street lighting energy	£1,027	£1,120	£1,700	£1,700
Street lighting inspection and maintenance	£501	£1,058	£2,200	£2,200
Street lighting upgrade	£5,028	£4,190	£5,050	£5,050
Election Costs	£0	£0	£0	£5,500
Platinum Jubilee	£0	£0	£0	£1,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£72,581</b>	<b>£76,343.50</b>	<b>£81,140</b>	<b>£86,300</b>

- f) To consider giving the Assistant Clerk access to internet banking:  
General discussion on the requirement to have appropriate cover with regard to access to the banking should the Clerk be unavailable for any reason. Internet banking is working well for the Council currently and is considered to be better than using cheques.

**Resolved: That the Assistant Clerk be set up with access to the internet banking.**

8. To approve the Minutes of meeting held on 7 December 2021  
Consideration of the minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2021.

**Resolved: Minutes of meeting dated 7 December 2021 were approved.**

9. Planning Applications/Decisions  
None received.

10. Representative's Report

None received but contact has been made by a new PCSO Rachel Duddle, who has requested the dates of future meetings. Assistant Clerk will be tasked with sending timely reminders to the PCSOs so that we may receive reports/attendance at meetings.

11. Committee and Group Reports  
None to consider.

Meeting concluded 8.10 pm  
Next meeting to be held 1 February 2022

9. Notices of Motion  
None received.
10. Welsh Language Policy  
To consider adopting the following policy:

## **WELSH LANGUAGE POLICY**

### **Introduction**

Welsh is a living language that is currently more prevalent in some area of Wales than others. Whilst Council business is currently conducted through the medium of English, given the lack of Welsh speakers both on the Council and in the Council offices, Argoed Community Council is committed to encouraging and promoting the use of Welsh in its day-to-day activities and recognises that the Welsh and English languages should be treated equally in the conduct of public business in Wales.

### **1. Policy Statement**

- 1.1 This policy is intended to advise all involved with Argoed Community Council of its commitment to encourage and promote the use of Welsh within our community and allow our Welsh speaking residents the opportunity to interact with the Council in their chosen language whenever possible.
- 1.2 The policy outlines ways in which Welsh may be used in the Council's day-to-day activities, subject to the Welsh speaking abilities of the members and employees at any given time.

### **2. Scope of the Policy**

- 2.1 All employees and members are expected to be aware of and comply with the Policy and promote the use of the Welsh language whenever possible to do so.

### **3. Responsibility for implementation of the Policy**

- 3.1 The Council has overall responsibility for the effective operation of the Policy.
- 3.2 The Clerk, Chair and Vice-Chair are responsible for monitoring and reviewing the operation of the Policy and making recommendations for any changes, to increase accessibility to Welsh in the day-to-day activities of the Council.
- 3.3 Training and resources will be provided when appropriate to support the objectives of the Policy.
- 3.4 A register will be kept of any Welsh speakers in the Council, so that calls and correspondence may be directed to them if need be.

### **4. Correspondence**

- 4.1 The Council will endeavour to ensure that any correspondence in Welsh that is received, either by post or by email, will be replied to in Welsh and within a reasonable length of time.

### **5. Contact by Telephone and Visitors to Council Offices**

- 5.1 When contact is made with the Council either by telephone or in person, every effort will be made to conduct the conversation and/or meeting in Welsh, if requested, subject to the Welsh speaking abilities of the persons present.

### **6. Council Meetings**

- 6.1 Are currently conducted through the medium of English

### **7. Council Publications**

- 7.1 Notices, agendas and minutes, together with any such document that is required to be published by the Council will be available bilingually upon request until such time as they are routinely published on a bilingual basis on the website.

### **8. Social Media**

- 8.1 The Council will endeavour to incorporate more Welsh in its social media posts.

### **9. Monitoring and review of this Policy**

- 9.1 The Council shall be responsible for reviewing this Policy periodically to ensure it meets legal requirements and reflects best practice.

## **11. Playscheme Summer 2022**

To consider the proposal given by Flintshire County Council:

I write to update your Council with regard to our proposals for the delivery of Summer Playscheme 2022.

We are planning delivery for the full school summer-holidays. COVID 19 restrictions permitting, of course.

We have not yet received notification of the level of grant-funding from Welsh Government for 2022/2023. They have indicated that we will be notified soon.

In order to commence recruitment for the summer we need an 'in principle' response from your town or community council for participation in the programme for this year.

I have based costings on the level of grant funding, received from Welsh Government for 2021.

As in previous years, we have a minimum three week offer with the potential to purchase additional weeks 4,5 and 6.

Cost of a 3 week playscheme from Monday 25th July, 2022 – Each location, comprising.

- 15 sessions
- 10 hours per week, per location
- 2 hours Monday to Friday
- AM or PM (10:30 am – 12:30 & 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm)
- Local locations are completely at your Council's discretion.

Cost for 3 weeks – Team on site; Training hours and Supervision. - £1,540.00 Additional weeks can be purchased at a cost of £513.00 for each site location.

Training for the team will include: Paediatric First-aid; Disability Awareness; Risk Management including bespoke training for COVID 19; Dealing with Challenges on site; Safeguarding and Child Protection.

The Flintshire Buddy Scheme will operate during summer playscheme for 2022. The Buddy scheme will provide the necessary support for children and young people with disabilities, to access their own local playscheme. The cost for this will be met by Welsh Government.

Your early response will be very much appreciated and assist us to begin the recruitment process for 2022.

## 12. Planning applications/decisions Received:

**Ref:** 064030 **Date Valid:** 19/01/2022 **Expiry Date:** 16/03/2022 **Case Officer:**  
**Agent:** Great British Communications Ltd, Lapwing House, Block3 Forward Point, Tan House Lane, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 0SL  
**Proposal:** Removal and replacement of 3no. Antenna's. Removal and replacement of 1no. Cabinet with additional ERS Rack. Installation of ancillary equipment.  
**At:** Bronwylfa Farm, Mold Road, Mynydd Isa, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6TF  
**Grid Ref:** 325689 363733 **Area:** Argoed Community Council **Ward:** Argoed

**Ref:** 063956 **Date Valid:** 06/01/2022 **Expiry Date:** 03/03/2022 **Case Officer:**  
**Agent:** CH Design, Athenia, The Green, Northop, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6BD  
**Proposal:** Demolition of Conservatory. Proposed single storey wrap around rear extension & part garage conversion  
**At:** 10 Ffordd Fer, Mynydd Isa, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6XQ  
**Grid Ref:** 325589 364433 **Area:** Argoed Community Council **Ward:** New Brighton



**Ref:** 063920 **Date Valid:** 21/12/2021 **Expiry Date:** 15/02/2022 **Case Officer:**  
**Agent:** Matischok & Ross, Birch House, Hen Lon Parcwr, Ruthin, Denbighshire, LL15  
1NA  
**Proposal:** Proposed extension to the side and rear of the existing dwelling & associated  
works.  
**At:** 36 Snowdon Avenue, Bryn Y Baal, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6SZ  
**Grid Ref:** 326255 364445 **Area:** Argoed Community Council **Ward:** Argoed

Decisions:

**Ref:** 063532 **Area:** Argoed Community Council **Ward:** Argoed **Case Officer:** BMK  
**Agent:** Studio Deevy, Ferndown, Village Road, Northop Hall, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6HT  
**Proposal:** Demolition of existing conservatory and replacement single storey extension.  
**At:** Jomurna, Rose Lane, Mynydd Isa, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6UA  
**Date Valid:** 23/09/2021  
**Decision Date:** 17/01/2022 **Decision:** **Approved**  
**Decision Issued:** 17/01/2022 **Decision Level:** Delegated-Officer

**Ref:** 063589 **Area:** Argoed Community Council **Ward:** Argoed **Case Officer:** BMK  
**Agent:** Mr Binu Kurian, 106 Manor Drive, Upton, Birkenhead, CH49 4LN  
**Proposal:** Erection of a single storey extension to the rear side and a double storey  
extension to the left side of the property.  
**At:** 44 Llewelyn Drive, Bryn Y Baal, CH7 6SW  
**Date Valid:** 30/09/2021  
**Decision Date:** 17/12/2021 **Decision:** **Approved**  
**Decision Issued:** 05/01/2022 **Decision Level:** Delegated-Officer

**Ref:** 063650 **Area:** Argoed Community Council **Ward:** Argoed **Case Officer:** BMK  
**Agent:** ,  
**Proposal:** Proposal of a full length, single story, side extension. Extension to utilize the  
space at the side of the house up to the boundary line.  
**At:** 16 Tir Wat, Mynydd Isa, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6SD  
**Date Valid:** 24/10/2021  
**Decision Date:** 14/01/2022 **Decision:** **Approved**  
**Decision Issued:** 14/01/2022 **Decision Level:** Delegated-Officer

13. Representative's report

None received to date.

14. Committee and group reports

**Minutes of Amenities Committee remote meeting held on Wednesday 26  
January 2022 at 6pm.**

**PRESENT**

**Committee Members:** Cllr I Jolly, Cllr K Mutch, Cllr M Shepherd, Cllr B  
Clarke

**In attendance:** Clerk - Mared Eastwood

1. Apologies:

Cllr R Marsh, Cllr F Hadfield-Jones, Assistant Clerk – Janet Jones

2. Declaration of Interests.

None.

3. Update on the fence at the Bonc

Clerk advised that the contractor now had all the necessary materials in, ready to go subject to the appropriate weather conditions. This should be progressed and finished in the near future.

**Resolved: Update was noted.**

4. Street lighting inspections

Clerk advised that there is a statutory requirement for ACC to have the columns inspected on a regular basis and that no inspections have taken place for a number of years, which could result in the Council being found liable if an incident occurred with the lights. Clerk proposed that all the lights be inspected now as Flintshire County Council has advised they have capacity to undertake the work prior to the end of March and that this would cost in the region of £2,000. There are sufficient funds on this budget line for this work to be done. It was also proposed that, if the work is authorised, that a sum of money is set aside in reserves each year, in preparation for the next inspection.

**Resolved: That Flintshire County Council be instructed to inspect all the Argoed Community Council lights, at a cost of around £2,000 and that funds then be set aside each year, in preparation for the next inspection.**

5. Planters – winter bedding update

Clerk advised that, further to a previous meeting, the gardening contractor has been tasked with outlining options for the Council to consider for winter bedding. Consideration will be given to having a central evergreen plant in the centre of the bigger planters, with bedding/perennials planted around the edges. There then followed a general discussion about where the next new planters may be located.

**Resolved: Update was noted.**

**Window boxes to be considered for the village entry sign at the bottom of Wylfa Hill and on the village entry sign from the Alltami direction, subject to budget.**

**6. House at the bottom of Wylfa Hill**

Cllr B Clarke expressed concern that this house is still deteriorating and is both dangerous and an eye-sore and queried what action is being taken. Cllr I Jolly advised that he had sent a letter to Flintshire County Council, outlining what enforcement action is available to them, but he has not received any response.

**Resolved: Cllr I Jolly to supply the Clerk with a copy of the letter already sent to Flintshire County Council.**

**Clerk to write to Flintshire County Council, reiterating the enforcement action that is available to them and requesting regular updates regarding this property.**

**7. Re-surfacing of Heol Fammau and Moel Gron**

Cllr B Clarke expressed concern about the current state of lack of repair and the potholes on Heol Fammau and Moel Gron. It was agreed that the roads are in a poor state of repair, including Moel Canol and Bryn Clwyd, and also recognised that the roads are on the list for resurfacing, and it is not wanted that the roads are so improved that they come off this list.

**Resolved: Clerk to liaise with StreetScene Area Coordinator to see what interim repairs can be done to the pot-holes without jeopardising the opportunity to have the roads re-surfaced.**

**8. CCTV camera**

Clerk advised that the CCTV service has been undertaken and the system has been updated so the cameras are all working correctly now. However, one issue has been found in that the camera covering the alley-way between the community centre and Elite Studios needs replacing. An alternative, better camera has been recommended with the proposal that the better camera is used to cover the front main door of the community centre and that camera then be used to cover the alley. The quotation received is £200 plus VAT and includes installation.

**Resolved: That the proposal and quote is accepted, Clerk to action.**

**9. Quarry**

Clerk advised that an invoice for £690 has been received for the clearing work that was done in the Quarry over the latter part of last year. It is believed that this represents great value for money. It has been agreed that, in order for a sustainable wildflower meadow to be created in the Quarry, it will need to be strimmed back and raked for 2-3 years, to remove the nutrients from the soil. The same contractor has been asked to provide a quote for two complete strim back and rake per year, together with an additional two strim and general tidy up per year. A quote has been provided for up to £2760.

**Resolved:**                      **That the quote is put forward to full council to consider and that it be accepted.**

**That a quote be requested for the maintenance of the brambles at the top of the cliff-face, the ivy and the small Ash saplings that are growing under the existing tree canopy.**

**Cllrs I Jolly and K Mutch to fix the gate into the Quarry and check the pedestrian gate for ease of disabled access.**

**Clerk to obtain a quote for a sign saying the gate must be kept closed at all times.**

Meeting ended 6.55pm

Next meeting due to be held 16 February 2022