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Community Centre
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29 November 2022

To: All Members

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of the Community Council, to be held on **Tuesday, 6 December 2022 at 7pm** at the Council Chambers within Mynydd Isa Community Centre.

Yours faithfully,

Mered Eastwood

Clerk and RFO for Argoed Community Council

The meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting and members of the public and press are welcome to attend, either by attending the meeting in person or remotely by way of Teams. If you wish to attend remotely, please contact the Clerk so that a link may be sent to you.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
To receive any apologies.
2. Chair's Report
To receive the Chair's report.
3. Clerk's Report
To receive the Clerk's report:
 - Preparations for winter
 - Christmas
 - Poppies
 - Laurels in Argoed play park
 - Path in Y Bonc
 - Best Kept Community
 - Budget
4. Co-option of members
To consider the co-option of any potential new members.

5. Declaration of interests

To receive any declaration of interests in the agenda items.

6. Standing Orders

To consider any revision to the Standing Orders and/or Financial Regulations.

7. Financial Matters

a) Payments for authority to pay:

Invoice no.	Supplier	Details	Amount (£)	
	ProVision	Street lighting upgrade	418.99	So
M14311	BT	Telephone and internet (November)	101.96	Dd
E0600L35LG	Microsoft	M/soft365 Business Basic x 13	70.20	Pd
E0600L39HC	Microsoft	M/soft365 Business Standard x 1	11.28	Pd
TY096056	Flintshire County Council	Street lighting April - June	289.65	Pd
TY096057	Flintshire County Council	Street lighting July - September	289.65	Pd
3817	Follyfield Nurseries	Winter bedding	647.78	Pd
	Argoed Sports Assoc'n	Fireworks donation	1,000.00	Pd
	Shangri-La	Christmas donation	200.00	Pd
212022	Michelle Jones Gardening	Aug – Dec: Borders in and around the Square, central feature in Memorial Garden	520.00	
222022	Michelle Jones Gardening	Aug – Dec: Removal of summer bedding and planting of winter bedding and daffodils.	2,374.00	
232022	Michelle Jones Gardening	Aug – Dec: Hanging baskets	1,494.00	
001025	Loggerheads Christmas Trees	Christmas Tree – Mynydd Isa	102.00	
451872	Canda Copying Ltd	Rental of photocopier	99.60	
452242	Canda Copying Ltd	Photocopies	42.25	

b) BT disputed invoice

c) Salary and other employment costs for November 2022: £1,491.58

d) Pay increase negotiated by National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

e) Bank Balances as at 31.10.2022:

NatWest Current: £5,645.15
 NatWest Reserves: £54,776.97

8. To approve the Minutes of the meetings held on 1 November 2022

MINUTES OF THE ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AS A HYBRID MEETING ON TUESDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2022 AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MYNYDD ISA COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Representatives:

Argoed Ward: Cllr John Holiday, Cllr Hilary McGuill,

New Brighton Ward: Cllr Jon McCarron, Cllr Rebecca Legge, Cllr G Keith Mutch, Cllr Miriam Shepherd, Cllr Uzma Sikander

In attendance: Clerk Mared Eastwood, Assistant Clerk Janet Jones
Representative from the Standards Committee and three residents.

1. Apologies
Received from Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones (Vice-Chair), Cllr Ian Jolly (Chair), Cllr Roy Marsh, Cllr Jack Morris, Cllr Gwilym Owen
2. Chair's Report
Chair was absent from the meeting.
3. Clerk's Report
 - CCTV has been useful as assistance has been given to the police in relation to a couple of incidents.
 - The bonfire night has been organised for Friday 4th November 2022 and it is hoped the community councillors will be able to support the event by attending.
 - There has been quite a saga in ordering poppies. The second order of 25 poppies have arrived safely but we are still waiting for the 25 poppies from the initial order to arrive. We have been assured they are on an urgent delivery to us.
 - The Remembrance Service has been arranged for 13 November 2022, thanks to Cllr Miriam Shepherd for her assistance in this.
4. Co-option of Members
None to consider.
5. Declarations of Interest
None.
6. Standing Orders
No changes to note
7. Financial Matters

Resolved:

- a) The following payments and invoices were noted and authorised:

Invoice no.	Supplier	Details	Amount (£)	
	ProVision	Street lighting upgrade	418.99	So
	BT	Telephone and internet	tba	Dd
Refund	Poppy Shop	For out of stock poppies	212.29	Rec-d
12001327036	Poppy Shop	For replacement poppies	249.75	Pd
E0600KP9SY	Microsoft	M/soft365 Business Basic x 13	70.20	Pd
E0600KP34N	Microsoft	M/soft365 Business Standard x 1	11.28	Pd
2382	DM Payroll Services LTd	Payroll Services	67.50	
TY096056	Flintshire County Council	Street Lighting Energy April – June 2022	289.65	
TY096057	Flintshire County Council	Street Lighting Energy July – September 2022	289.65	

b) The salary and other employment costs for October 2022 were noted as £1,644.65

c) Bank Balances as at 30.09.2022 were noted as:

NatWest Current: £2,503.03

NatWest Reserves: £64,757.24

Resolved: That the payments listed be approved to be paid.

8. Payroll provider

Clerk advised that our payroll provider had notified the Council that the charges are due to increase from £135 per annum to £147, an increase of £1 per month. Clerk commented that the service that has been provided has been excellent and responsive.

Resolved: That the increased cost of £147 be approved and the contract continued with the current payroll provider.

9. To approve the Minutes of meetings held on 4 October 2022

Consideration of the minutes of the meetings held on 4 October 2022.

Resolved: The minutes of the meetings dated 4 October 2022 were approved

10. Notices of Motion

Cllr Hilary McGuill expanded on her Notice of Motion by explaining that, with the nights drawing in, there is an issue with a popular cut-through, which leads towards the Argoed High School and ASA in that is very dark along there. It is used a lot by children, especially those who are staying after school for sport. Mared Eastwood and Mark Edwards, our Streetscene Area Coordinator, have volunteered to walk along it to see if it needs a new bulb/new light or for the hedge to be cut back. A meeting has been arranged with the school children to talk to them about walking and cycling routes to school.

It is requested that the Council considers improving the lighting along the path.

Resolved: This decision be deferred until after the inspection walk has taken place, with a view to supporting the improvement of lighting along the path.

11. Notice Boards

Cllr Jon McCarron explained that not all the notice boards are kept up-to-date and thought that it may be a better idea to put generic information in them only, with a link to our website via a QR code. Cllr John Holiday highlighted that not all residents are tech savvy and this needs to be borne in mind. Cllr Hilary McGuill suggested that we put 'which three words' to describe the locations of the defibs.

Resolved: To review the content of the notice boards and create generic information for them.

12. New Brighton Directional Signs

Clerk advised that a flyer has been drafted, to consult with residents about formally adopting the Welsh name 'Pentre Cythraul' for the village of New Brighton. There will then be a report to Flintshire County Council and hopefully a further report to the Welsh Commissioner for Place Names. It has been considered whether a sign just saying 'community centre' could be used, to speed up the process but the two organisations who are match-funding this have requested 'Pentre Cythraul' be included if possible.

Resolved: Ask Streetscene if they have any spare community centre signs that can be used as a temporary measure.

13. Father Christmas and Lights Event – Shangri La

Clerk advised that there isn't going to be a drive-by Father Christmas this year, but Father Christmas will be visiting and will be set up at the back of the house, to bring visitors past all the displays in the garden. A donation towards the gifts has been requested.

Resolved: To donate £200 towards the gifts.

14. Planning Applications/Decisions

None received.

15. Representative's Report

It was noted that no report has been submitted by the PCSO team again, despite requests. It is recognised that the PCSOs have increased their presence in the villages but it is disappointing that they don't then report back.

Resolved: Clerk to chase for the report from the PCSOs and write letter, recognising the good work but expressing disappointment at the lack of report.

16. Committee and Group Reports

- a) The minutes of the Amenities Committee dated 19 October 2022 were considered.

Resolved: The minutes be approved.

Meeting concluded 7.50pm

Next meeting to be held 6 December 2022

9. Policies
To consider the following policies: Social Media, Training and Development; Biodiversity.
10. Biodiversity Action Report
To consider and approve the draft report.
11. Notices of Motion
None received.
12. Planning applications/decisions
None received.
13. Representatives Report
To receive any reports from representatives from outside bodies.
14. Committee and group reports
 - a) To consider and approve the Amenities Committee minutes dated 16 November 2022

Minutes of Amenities Committee hybrid meeting held at Mynydd Isa Community Centre on Wednesday 16 November 2022 at 6pm.

PRESENT

Committee Members: Cllr Ian Jolly (Chair), Cllr Jack Morris, Cllr Keith Mutch, Cllr Miriam Shepherd, Cllr Uzma Sikander

In attendance: Clerk - Mared Eastwood

1. Apologies:
Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones, Cllr Roy Marsh, Assistant Clerk Janet Jones
2. Declaration of Interests.
None.
3. Poppies for lampposts and wreaths

Clerk advised that there continues to be issues with the poppies that have been ordered not being delivered. Another 10 have been received but the final 15 are still awaited. Assistant Clerk continues to liaise with the Poppy Shop regarding this.

Resolved: The report was noted and it was agreed that no discount would be requested due to the ongoing issues given that it is the Poppy Shop and its fundraising is supported by the Council.

Gardening Contractor Update

Clerk advised that MLandscape UK is due to complete the work on the Laurels in Argoed Park on 30 November 2022. Our other contractor is due to have surgery soon and will be contactable to organise others to undertake work only. The planters have been planted up with the winter bedding, for which an invoice in the expected price range has been received. It was commented how well the winter bedding is looking in the planters.

Resolved: To note the report and authorise the Clerk to pay the invoice in the sum of £647.78

Quarry

Cllr Ian Jolly explained how, over the last 10 years, bushes have been allowed to grow at the top of the rock-face and neighbouring residents cut back what grows through onto their property and throw the green waste back into the Quarry. There are also saplings growing out of the rock-face, which are of concern and one growing through the fence at the base of the rock-face. In addition, the trees at the top which had been felled and treated so that they wouldn't re-grow are in fact, coppicing.

Resolved: To obtain a quotation from MLandscapeUK to prune the bushes at the top of the rock-face and remove the tree growing through the fence.

Contact the contractor who felled the trees and request that he re-treats them to prevent further growth.

Contact North Wales Wildlife Trust to obtain advice so that the next stage of the Quarry Management Plan may be decided and agreed.

Sign for the Quarry gate

An update was requested about the sourcing of a sign for the gate to say that it must be kept closed. Clerk accepted that this was outstanding and that a sign remains to be sourced.

Resolved: That the options for a sign be revived, mocked up and brought back for consideration at the next meeting of Amenities.

Meeting ended 6.30pm

Next meeting due to be held on 21 December 2022

b) To consider the Police Report

Sorry I won't be able to make the meeting this evening, I finish at 6pm today.

I have done a quick search for the area and there is nothing really to note. However, there are a few things that I am aware of,

The Book shop community centre- issues with youths causing a nuisance in the area and staff- I have increased patrols in the area, I wonder if Mared has any CCTV of the youths involved.

Cuppa with a Copper- This was very successful, and it was lovely to see the café as busy as it was. I do need to book another event soon.

Argoed school parking- Cllr Hilary has emailed me asking to attend at the school, a number of patrols have been conducted, no major issues really, I've asked a few parked vehicles to move on. as you can imagine, this didn't go down well.