



## MINUTES OF THE ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AS A HYBRID MEETING ON TUESDAY 7 MAY 2024 AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MYNYDD ISA COMMUNITY CENTRE.

### Representatives:

**Argoed Ward:** Cllr John Holiday, Cllr Paul Jewell, Cllr Ian Jolly, Cllr Jack Morris, Cllr Hilary McGuill, Cllr Gwilym Owen

**New Brighton Ward:** Cllr Rebecca Legge, Cllr Keith Mutch, Cllr Jon McCarron, Cllr Miriam Shepherd

**In attendance:** Clerk Mared Eastwood, Assistant Clerk Janet Jones

1. Apologies

Received from Cllr Rebecca Blanchard, Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones, Cllr Roy Marsh

2. Chair's Report

The Chair had sent his apologies due to his personal circumstances. A report will be sent out upon his return.

3. Election of Chair for 2024/25

Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones was nominated to continue in his role and elected as Chair for 2023/24.

4. Appointment of Vice-Chair for 2024/25

Cllr Miriam Shepherd was nominated to continue in her role and elected as Vice-Chair for 2023/24

5. Chair's Allowance and Remuneration Fees

The Clerk advised that the councillor allowance has remained at £156 but that councillors must now be paid either £52 per year for the cost of office consumables required to carry out their role or be able to claim full reimbursement for the cost of their office consumables and agreed that the Chair's Allowance should remain at £1,200. Clerk advised that councillors need to indicate in writing if they do not wish to accept the allowance, which may be added to the grants budget, if desired.

**Resolved:** That the Councillor and Chair allowances should remain as they are at £156 and £1,200 respectively.

**That £52 be paid to cover for office consumables.**

**That any allowances not accepted be added to the grants budget.**

6. Appointment of Members to serve on Council Committees and Working Groups  
The members on each committee and group were reviewed.

**Resolved:**

**Amenities:** Cllr Ian Jolly, Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones, Cllr John Holiday, Cllr Rebecca Legge, Cllr Roy Marsh, Cllr Jack Morris, Cllr Keith Mutch, Cllr Miriam Shepherd.

**Grants:** Cllr Ian Jolly, Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones, Cllr Hilary McGuill, Cllr Roy Marsh, Cllr Jack Morris.

**IT Group:** Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones, Cllr Ian Jolly, Cllr Jon McCarron, Cllr Keith Mutch.

**HR Group:** Cllr Ian Jolly, Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones, Cllr Roy Marsh, Cllr Jack Morris, Cllr Keith Mutch, Cllr Jon McCarron.

**Quarry Group:** Cllr Ian Jolly, Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones, Cllr Rebecca Legge, Cllr Miriam Shepherd.

7. Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies  
The current representatives on outside bodies were reviewed.

**Resolved:** Cllrs Jon McCarron and Hilary McGuill to sit as Governors with Ysgol Mynydd Isa.

**Chair and Clerk to sit on North and Mid Wales Association for Local Councils.**

**Cllr Jack Morris to sit on ASA Committee, subject to the ASA's agreement.**

8. Future Meeting Dates  
The proposed dates were considered.

**Resolved:** The dates were agreed as follows:

Proposed Meeting Dates 2024-25:		
Council	Amenities	Grants
04 June 2024	19 June 2024	19 June 2024
02 July 2024	17 July 2024	
03 September 2024	18 September 2024	
01 October 2024	16 October 2024	16 October 2024
05 November 2024	20 November 2024	
03 December 2024	18 December 2024	
07 January 2025	22 January 2025	
04 February 2025	19 February 2025	19 February 2025
04 March 2025	19 March 2025	
01 April 2025	16 April 2025	
6 May 2025 (AGM)		

**That Council meetings commence at 7pm, Grants meetings commence at 6pm and Amenities meetings commence at 6.30pm.**

## **Council Meeting**

### **9. Clerk's Report**

Clerk advised that:

- Five planters had been ordered but this should have been six. The extra planter has now been ordered, subject to approval.
- The new bench and dog-waste bin for Bryn Road, Bryn-y-Baal have been delivered and installation is expected to be completed within the next 2-3 weeks.
- The fence around the football pitch in Wats Dyke Park is completed, signs are needed as residents are exercising their dogs within the fenced area. This will be added to the Amenities agenda.
- A letter has been received in relation to match-funding for our park areas. Members are invited to notify the Clerk of any equipment, etc they wish to be considered for improvement.

**Resolved: The Clerk's report was noted.**

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

None to consider.

### **11. Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

### **12. Standing Orders**

None to consider.

### **13. Review of Risk Assessment**

The Risk Assessment was reviewed, and Cllr Jon McCarron asked if the employees were covered should they be required to work from home during the forthcoming office move. Clerk advised that in that event, a specific risk assessment would be undertaken.

**Resolved: The Risk Assessment was reviewed and approved.**

**14. Civility of Respect Pledge**

The information sent with the agenda was considered and Clerk reminded members of the training they have already received. It was noted that new members have joined the community council since that training was given. There was unanimous support for the pledge.

**Resolved: That the pledge is signed.**

**A copy of our code of conduct is sent again to all members.**

**15. Financial Matters**

a) Clerk gave details on the expenditure incurred as listed below:

Invoice no.	Supplier	Details	Amount (£)	
E0600RRNB8	Microsoft	M/soft 365 Business Basic x 13	76.44	Pd
E0600RRJAB	Microsoft	M/soft 365 Business Standard x 1	12.36	Pd
No.13	MlandscapeUK Ltd	Maintenance at the Quarry	490.00	Pd
3136666	Glasdon UK Ltd	Bench for Bryn-y-Baal	702.00	pd
23699	Amberol	5 new planters	2138.40	Pd
M160&A	BT	Telephone and internet	124.66	
FA021025	Flintshire County Council	Improvements to New Brighton and Wats Dyke play areas	8500.00	
TZ097018	Flintshire County Council	Supply and installation of LED lantern at Moorcroft, New Brighton	237.00	
23837	Amberol Limited	1 new planter	399.84	
470128	Canda Copying Ltd	Photocopying	31.38	
469743	Canda Copying Ltd	Rental of photocopier	99.60	

b) Salary and other employment costs for April 2024 given as £1,757.14

c) Bank balances were listed as at 31 March 2024 as follows:

NatWest Current:	£5,969.29
NatWest Reserves:	<u>£70,211.15</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£76,180.44</b>

d) Clerk advised that documents have been sent to the internal auditor and that the Council will be subject to a full audit by the external auditor this year.

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

**The salaries and bank balances were noted.**

**The audit update was noted.**

**16. To approve the Minutes of meetings held on 2 April 2024**

Consideration of the minutes of the meetings held on 2 April 2024.

**Resolved: The minutes of the meeting dated 2 April 2024 were approved.**

**17. Notices of Motion**

None received.

**18. Planning Applications**

Consideration of planning application FUL/000642/23. Members expressed concern about the difficulty of considering this application due to the difficulty of establishing what removal/variation of planning condition was being requested. The matter has been raised with Flintshire County Council.

Consideration of planning application SCO/000250/24

**Resolved: FUL/000642/23 – no objection**

**SCO/000250/24 – no objection**

**19. Representatives Report**

The following report from the PCSOs was read out:

- Anti-Social behaviour (ASB); the area around the Square and Mercia Drive continues to be a focus for us and we have increased patrols when possible. These ASB incidents have included noise, causing a nuisance, children riding a scooter dangerously, criminal damage and an assault. Where CCTV and other evidenced exists, we will look to identify the individuals concerned and deal with them robustly. We urge parents to ensure they know where their children are, who they are with and what they are doing when they are hanging out with friends in the evenings
- Opportunistic Crime; as with last month, we continue to see regular occurrences of opportunistic crime taking place across Flintshire South. This includes theft from Motor Vehicles (left open), outbuildings such as sheds and bikes/ mopeds left unattended in open access. We encourage all residents to ensure their property is secure.
- Theft of Motor Vehicles; there have also been further incidents involving the theft of vans across Flintshire South. These are sophisticated thefts, which have included the theft of vehicles using cloned key fobs. We encourage all van owners to consider additional security measures for their vehicles, such as steering wheel locks and trackers.

- Fraud and Scams; there is currently a spike in car selling scams, where the victim is asked to provide a deposit to secure delivery of a vehicle. Fraudsters are also targeting WhatsApp group chats, where the victim is encouraged to share their one-time password. Fraudsters then take over the victim's account. We ask that people remain vigilant and report any suspicions they may have to Action Fraud (0300 123 2040).
  - o For information about the latest scams, frauds and other crime related advice relevant to Mynydd-Isa, we recommend signing up to the free NWP Community Alerts. This is quick and easy to do via the NWP website.

Clerk advised that the PCSOs had also recently attended Caffi Isa for Cuppa with a Coppa and will be doing more going forward.

**Resolved: Report was noted.**

**20. Committee and group reports**

Consideration of the minutes for the Amenities meeting held on 23 April 2024.

**Resolved: The minutes for the Amenities meeting of 23 April 2024 were approved.**

Meeting concluded 8.05pm  
Next meeting to be held 4 June 2024