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Community Centre
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26 April 2024

To: All Members

You are hereby summoned to the Annual General Meeting of the Community Council, to be held on **Tuesday, 7 May 2023 at 7pm** at the Council Chambers within Mynydd Isa Community Centre.

Yours faithfully,

Mared 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. Election of Chair for 2024/25
To elect the Chair for this municipal year.
4. Appointment of Vice-Chair for 2024/25
To elect the Vice-Chair for this municipal year.
5. Chair's Allowance and Remuneration Fees
To consider the recommendations of the remuneration panel and set allowances for 2024/25.
6. Appointment of Members to serve on Council Committees and Working Groups
To consider the current committees and working groups and allocate members.

Current committees and groups are:

Amenities: Cllr Ian Jolly, Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones, Cllr John Holiday, 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 Keith Mutch, Cllr Miriam Shepherd.

7. Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies

To consider current representation on outside bodies and allocate members.

8. Future Meeting Dates

To agree the dates of meetings during 2024/25:

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)		

Council Meeting

9. Clerk's Report

To receive the Clerk's report.

10. Co-option of members

To consider the co-option of any potential new members.

11. Declaration of interests

To receive any declaration of interests in the agenda items.

12. Standing Orders

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

13. Review of Risk Assessment

See attached document.

14. Civility of Respect Pledge

Over 1,000 local (parish and town) councils have signed up for the Civility and Respect Pledge.

SLCC and the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) are urging councils yet to sign the Pledge to do so. The sector must continue to stand up against bullying and harassment. The more councils that sign the Pledge, the more significant impact it will have in lobbying the government to re-visit its response to the Committee on Standards in Public Life report on local government ethical standards.

The Pledge allows local councils to demonstrate a commitment to stand up to poor behaviour across the sector and enforce positive changes that support civil and respectful conduct.

By signing the Pledge, local councils agree that it will treat councillors, clerks, employees, members of the public, and representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their roles and that it:

Puts in place a training programme for councillors and staff.

Signs up to the code of conduct for councillors.

Has good governance arrangements in place, including staff contracts and dignity at work policies.

Seeks professional help at the early stages should civility and respect issues arise.

Committed to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens.

Continue to learn from best practices in the sector and aspire to be a role model/champion council.

Supports the lobbying for change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge.

SLCC, the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), One Voice Wales (OVW) and county associations developed the Civility and Respect Pledge to address growing concerns about bullying, harassment, and intimidation within the sector.

Sign the Pledge

<https://www.slcc.co.uk/news-publications/civility-respect-pledge/>

15. Financial Matters

a) Payments for authority to pay:

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: £1,757.14

c) Bank Balances as at 31.03.2024:

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

d) Audit update

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

MINUTES OF THE ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AS A HYBRID MEETING ON TUESDAY 2 APRIL 2024 AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MYNYDD ISA COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Representatives:

Argoed Ward: Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones (Chair), Cllr John Holiday, Cllr Ian Jolly, Cllr Hilary McGuill, Cllr Jack Morris, Cllr Gwilym Owen.

New Brighton Ward: Cllr Rebecca Blanchard, Cllr Paul Jewell, Cllr Rebecca Legge, Cllr Jon McCarron, Cllr Keith Mutch, Cllr Miriam Shepherd.

In attendance: Clerk Mared Eastwood.

1. Apologies

Received from Cllr Roy Marsh, Assistant Clerk – Janet Jones

2. Chair's Report

No new reports.

3. Clerk's Report

- Planters have been ordered to go by the bus-stop on Pren Hill and to replace other, end of life, planters. A site visit has been requested to see if there is a way in which to separate the pedestrians from the cars.
- The second stage of the grant application for the Heritage Trail has been completed and submitted.
- Compiling paperwork in readiness for the internal audit.
- Some Christmas lights have been donated by a local supplier.

4. Co-option of Members

There is no requirement for an election to be held therefore a Notice of Co-option will be published.

5. Declarations of Interest

None to consider.

6. Standing Orders

None to consider.

7. Financial Matters

Payments for authority to pay:

Invoice no.	Supplier	Details	Amount (£)	
#369	Scaffking Ltd	Scaffolding for Quarry	622.80	pd
#14	MlandscapeUK Ltd	Maintenance works in the Quarry	589.00	
51882739	Glasdon	Dog waste bin	218.25	
M159UC	BT	Telephone and internet	116.22	
E0600REFZD	Microsoft	M/soft 365 Business Standard x 1	12.36	pd
E0600REEIW	Microsoft	M/soft 365 Business Basic x 13	76.44	pd

Resolved: That the payments listed above be approved to be paid subject to the sum of £44 on the BT invoice, which is disputed.

Salaries and other employment costs were noted.

The qualified audit and external auditor's comments, read out by the Clerk were noted and accepted. It was also noted that the fixed assets record had been updated and reviewed prior to sending to the external auditor.

8. Fixed Asset Register

The Fixed Asset Register was reviewed.

Resolved: The updates to the Fixed Asset Register were noted and accepted.

9. To approve the Minutes of meeting held on 5 March 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2024 were considered.

Resolved: The Minutes of the meeting of 5 March 2024 were approved.

10. Office Update

Clerk advised that there is office space available to hire at New Brighton Community Centre, which is roughly the same size as the current office, at a cost of £2,750 pa. There is no meeting room equivalent, but the hall would be available to hire. Consideration needs to be given to how hybrid meetings will be facilitated, the CCTV, internet and telephone connections and ICO registration. It is imperative that the security of communications is maintained.

Resolved: Clerk to

- **arrange a meeting for Cllrs Faron Hadfield-Jones and Jon McCarron with a representative from New Brighton Community Centre and ascertain whether a long-term agreement would be required by them.**
- **arrange a meeting with Caffi Isa to discuss CCTV and costs.**
- **ascertain from Flintshire County Council where the Council stands in relation to the lease and the CAT.**

11. Representatives Report

Police report as follows:

- Anti-Social behaviour (ASB), Mercia Drive; over the past 2 months, we have seen a spike of ASB related issues involving groups of youths taking place at the Square and surrounding roads. These incidents have included noise, causing a nuisance, making a mess, abusing members of the public and smoking Cannabis. An increased focus on the area including high visibility patrols and the use of CCTV have reduced the issue, but a further 2 incidents were reported in March. Our approach was initially to engage with youths and educate their behaviour. But in some instances this escalated to us issuing Yellow Cards and Community Resolutions.
- ASB, Argoed Sports and Social Club; additionally, this month we have had a report of similar ASB at the social club. The same approach as above will taken. We will look to identify all individuals involved in ASB and nuisance behaviour and will 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; 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 been several incidents involving the theft of vans across Flintshire South. These have included vehicles taken from secure compounds. 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 Holiday booking related scams and frauds taking place online, as people are looking for their holiday bargains at this time of year. We ask that people remain vigilant and report any suspicions they may have to Action Fraud (0300 123 2040).
 - 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.

Community Speedwatch report as follows:

- They can proceed on a very limited number of sites; they expect to start again within the next week or ten days and will be given a list of sites by GoSafe.

Resolved: The reports be noted.

12. Notices of Motion

None received.

13. Committee or working group minutes

The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 20 March 2024 were considered.

Resolved: The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 20 March 2024 were approved.

14. LAEP Report

Clerk advised that the report had been circulated and there was a deadline of 12 April 2024 for any comments.

Resolved: Report and deadline were noted.

15. Planning Applications for Consideration

Planning applications OUT/000199/24, COU/000159/24 and FUL/000168/24 were considered and discussed.

**Resolved: OUT/000199/24 – no objection.
COU/000159/24 – concerned about the access along the lane towards this site. No demonstrated need for a traveller site within this area.
FUL/000168/24 – no objection.**

This meeting concluded at 8.07pm

Next Council meeting (AGM) at 7pm on 7 May 2024

17. Notices of Motion

None received.

18. Planning applications/decisions

**PROPOSAL: APPLICATION FOR REMOVAL OR VARIATION OF CONDITION
NO. 02 FOLLOWING GRANT OF PLANNING PERMISSION: FUL/000642/23
LOCATION: Land rear of 66A Mold Road, Mynydd Isa, Mold, Flintshire, CH7
6TD**

Is a Departure from the Development Plan	N
Affects a Right of Way	N
Accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment	N

REF: SCO/000250/24
PROPOSAL: EIA Scoping Opinion for Padeswood Hynet Carbon Dioxide
Spur Pipeline
LOCATION: Linear route between the Heidelberg Materials plant
(Padeswood) to Northop Hall AGI
GRID REF: E 326198 N 364493

A request for a scoping opinion for the proposed development described above has been made to Flintshire Country Council. I would be grateful if you would provide your comments regarding:

- The information required for an Environmental Impact Assessment to support a planning application.

19. Representatives Report

To receive any reports from representatives from outside bodies.

Police Report:

- 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.

20. Committee and group reports

To consider the minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 23 April 2024:

Minutes of the Amenities Committee hybrid meeting held at Mynydd Isa Community Centre on Wednesday 23 April 2024 at 6pm.

PRESENT

Committee Members: Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones, Cllr John Holiday, Cllr Ian Jolly, Cllr Jon McCarron, Cllr Keith Mutch.

In attendance: Clerk - Mared Eastwood, Assistant Clerk - Janet Jones.

1. Apologies

Cllr Jack Morris, Cllr Miriam Shepherd.

2. Declaration of interests

None

3. Bench for Park Avenue/Mold Road

Cllr John Holiday advised that he's been approached by residents who thought it would be a good idea to put a bench in the verge on the Park Avenue/Mold Road junction, to allow a rest for those walking to Mynydd Isa Square from the Pren Hill direction. There is a concern that a bench here may attract youths and littering.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Streetscene, get a quote and, if applicable, consult with residents.

4. Office

Cllr Faron Hadfield-Jones gave an update on the recent visit to New Brighton Community Centre, it is considered that the office space is suitable, but an internet connection will need to be installed. Cllr Jon McCarron advised that an alternative option may be at the Beaufort as they have an office space above the reception area and a meeting room that could be made available for the Community Council. The cost quoted for the two rooms is £450 per month. It was noted that NBCC is a community asset transfer and that the Beaufort is a business.

Resolved: A meeting is needed with Caffi Isa regarding the location of the CCTV.

Council is happy to consider both NBCC and the Beaufort options at this stage.

Clerk to contact the Beaufort to get further information.

5. Planters

Clerk advised that 5 planters have been ordered, at a cost of £2,138.40 including VAT.

Resolved: Update and cost noted and approved.

6. Bedding Plants.

Resolved: That a bench be ordered together with a red dog-waste bin. Clerk to arrange for installation.

7. Gardening Contractors

Clerk advised that Michelle Jones has said that she will be discontinuing her gardening services and has agreed to review the tender document with the Clerk, to ensure it is up-to-date and reflects the current work needed within the community.

Resolved: Update noted.

8. Forward work

Resolved: Forward work was noted.

Meeting concluded at 7pm

Next Meeting 6pm Wednesday 19 June 2024