



Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting of Argoed Community Council held on Thursday 22 May 2025 at 6:30pm at New Brighton Community Centre and via Teams

Present:

Argoed Ward: Councillors Faron Hadfield-Jones, John Holiday, Ian Jolly and Keith Mutch

New Brighton Ward: Councillors Miriam Shepherd and Rebecca Legge

Absent: Councillors Roy Marsh, Jack Morris and Paul Jewell

In attendance: Sharon Swift, Clerk and Janet Jones, Assistant Clerk

1. Apologies for absence

The Clerk and Assistant Clerk have not received any apologies. Councillor Miriam Shepherd agreed to take the Chair role.

2. Members Code of Conduct – Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

3. Memorial Garden update

Members discussed the state of the Memorial Garden and specifically the central feature which is overgrown and in need of clearance and re-planting. The Clerk stated that a discussion needed to take place with the successful gardening contractor as to whether any work could be incorporated as part of the general maintenance work whether this was an ad-hoc additional piece of work that they needed to quote for.

The Clerk explained that the draft gardening contract would be presented to the Council meeting on 4 June for approval. Members agreed that work needed to commence as soon as possible. Councillor Hadfield-Jones proposed that the contractor should be asked to start the gardening work as soon as possible and a start date could be agreed prior to the signing of the formal documentation. This was seconded by Councillor Shepherd. All members were in favour.

Resolved – that the gardening contractors should be contacted and a start date for the maintenance work agreed.

Signed: _____

4. Update on Smart Water Scheme

Members explained that they had not received any details about this scheme but wanted to promote it in the community. The Clerk suggested she contact the local PCSO and crime prevention officers to see if they could attend the community centre to offer crime prevention advice.

5. New Argoed Community Council signs at New Brighton Community Centre

The Assistant Clerk explained to Members what the cost of installing the signs would be (by the supplier). Councillor Mutch proposed that the signs should be ordered and installed. This was seconded by Councillor Holiday. All members were in favour.

Resolved – that the Community Council signs should be ordered and installed.

6. Update on Golden Planter to celebrate Sabrina Fortune's Paralympic achievement

The Assistant Clerk explained that a quote had been obtained for the gold paint from Buckley Coatings. This would be okay to apply to a recycled plastic planter. Councillor Holiday confirmed that he was willing to paint the planter. Members differed in their views of where the planter should be located, either in Bryn y Baal or at Mercia Square shops.

The Clerk sought clarification that Sabrina was happy with the commemoration planned. Members acknowledged that this matter had been ongoing for over six months and it was sensible to contact the family about it again. The location of the planter would need to be agreed with Flintshire CC. Councillor Hadfield-Jones proposed that the Sabrina Fortune's family should be contacted to re-affirm the agreement to a commemorative gold planter. This was seconded by Councillor Shepherd. All members were in favour.

Resolved – that Sabrina Fortune's family should be contacted about the commemorative gold planter being placed in a suitable location to celebrate Sabrina's paralympic success.

7. Quarry matters

Councillor Jolly provided some background to the Quarry situation. The Clerk confirmed that the land registration needed to be completed as a matter of urgency and that Councillor Jolly should meet the solicitor directly to share his documentation and wealth of knowledge. Councillor Hadfield-Jones proposed that Councillor Jolly, the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk should arrange to meet with Councillor Shepherd. All members were in favour.

Resolved – Councillor Jolly, Clerk and Assistant Clerk meet with the solicitor as soon as possible.

Signed: _____

8. Signage for Post Office facility in New Brighton

The Assistant Clerk explained to Members that the Post Office is only at New Brighton Community Centre for half an hour and is changing to a Tuesday (from a Monday) soon. The Clerk highlighted the risks associated with a moveable piece of street furniture to promote the Post Office and updated Members about the condition of the noticeboards owned by the Community Council. The Clerk highlighted the noticeboard at New Brighton and Bryn y Baal were beyond repair and currently unusable. Councillor Holiday suggested that new noticeboards should be purchased and the availability of the Post Office could then be promoted on them.

Councillor Hadfield-Jones explained that a review of the noticeboards and where they were located was needed to consider how many were needed, particularly with the developments in social media. It was agreed to put this matter on the agenda of the next Council meeting on 4 June 2025.

9. Seat proposed for Mold Road / Park Avenue junction

Councillor Holiday stated that a seat for the grassed area on Park Avenue, adjacent to the Mold Road junction, had been discussed by the Community Council. The Clerk suggested that this matter also be placed on the agenda of the next Council meeting on 4 June 2025.

10. Bike parking at Café Isa

Councillor Holiday updated Members about the Sheffield biking racks and the need for them to set more securely in the ground. Following a discussion it was agreed that the Clerk and Councillor Holiday would arrange to meet at Café Isa to progress the matter further.

11. Bonc

Members explained that there was an outstanding land registration matter with the Bonc. Members and the Clerk agreed that this would remain an agenda item but would not be pursued until the Quarry matter was concluded.

The meeting closed at 20:00pm.

Signed: _____

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	ACTION POINTS FROM 22 MAY 2025 MEETING		
	Action to be completed	By whom	By when
A	Arrange for gardening contractors to start the garden maintenance work.	Assistant Clerk	23 May 2025
B	Ascertain if the gardening contract includes the clearance and replanting of the central feature in the Memorial Garden.	Clerk	31 May 2025
C	Contact the local PCSO about crime prevention events in the local community.	Clerk	17 June 2025
D	Instruct company to order and install Community Council signage.	Assistant Clerk	23 May 2025
E	Contact Sabrina Fortune's family about the commemorative planter.	Assistant Clerk	23 May 2025
F	Arrange a meeting with the solicitor to progress the quarry matter.	Assistant Clerk	17 June 2025
G	Arrange a site meeting at Café Isa about installing the Sheffield bike racks.	Clerk & Councillor Holiday	17 June 2025

Signed: _____