



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

Present: Councillors Miriam Shepherd, Faron Hadfield-Jones, John Holiday, Ian Jolly, Keith Mutch and Rebecca Legge.

Absent: Councillor Roy Marsh and Councillor Jack Morris

In attendance: Sharon Swift, Clerk

1. Apologies for absence

The Clerk had not received any apologies.

2. Members Code of Conduct – Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

3. Chair of Amenities Committee

Councillor Jon McCarron, Vice-Chair was not present so the meeting was chaired by the Chair of the Council, Councillor Miriam Shepherd.

4. Memorial Garden update

The Clerk explained that the garden contractors had commenced work on the hanging baskets and planters. The Clerk was planning to ask both gardening contractors to submit a quote for developing the central feature in the Memorial Garden with appropriate plants and flowers and to have it tidied up by Remembrance Sunday.

The Chair and other members expressed their wish to develop the garden area further, including applying for grants. The Chair told Members about the grants that were available for growing flowers and for growing fruit and vegetables from Keep Wales Tidy, having attended a training webinar with the Clerk and Assistant Clerk. Councillor Paul Jewell provided some information about Flintshare, a project helping communities establish community gardens to grow their own food.

Signed: _____

The Clerk explained that the central feature in the Memorial Garden was full of weeds, unkempt and overgrown. It needed to be cleared and developed into something manageable on an ongoing basis was needed. The Clerk stated that she was meeting the gardeners on Friday 20 June to discuss the planting work and it was agreed to arrange to meet at the Memorial Garden with Councillor Shepherd and Councillor Holiday so that the gardeners could see the central feature and prepare an estimate of the work needed and the cost.

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

The Assistant Clerk reminded Members that at the last Council meeting it was agreed that the planter would be kept black, be located in a suitable place close to her home address and the gardeners be asked to plant it with gold flowers. A plaque would be purchased to recognise Sabrina Fortune's achievements. The Clerk explained that the family of Sabrina Fortune had been in touch and asked that the planter be located close to the Argoed High School.

The Clerk agreed to contact Councillor Hilary McGuill, a Governor at Argoed High School, to see if she could liaise with the Headteacher, Paul Smith, about placing the planter outside the school campus.

6. Quarry matters

Councillor Ian Jolly updated Members about the meeting that had taken place for an hour and a half with the solicitor. He summarised what needed to be done to progress the land registration. Members accepted the cost of £950 plus VAT was unavoidable.

7. Seat Proposed for Mold Road / Park Avenue Junction

The Clerk explained that a seat with arms would be best for this site so that they could be used by older and less mobile residents to help them be seated and for getting back up to standing. The seat had not been ordered yet as the Assistant Clerk was seeking a price from Flintshire County Council for installing the bench.

8. Bike parking at Caffi Isa

A meeting had not yet taken place at Caffi Isa due to the Clerk and Caffi Isa staff being unavailable. The Clerk suggested that contact be made with Flintshire County Council to see if they could assist with locating the Sheffield biking racks at the Mercia Square location and close to Caffi Isa.

9. Bonc

This is a standing agenda item regarding the outstanding land registration matter.

The meeting closed at 18:36pm.

Signed: _____

	ACTION POINTS FROM 18 JUNE 2025 MEETING		
	Action to be completed	By whom	By when
A	Meet gardening contractors with Councillor Shepherd and Councillor Holiday to discuss the central feature in the Memorial Garden.	Clerk, Councillor Shepherd & Councillor Holiday	20 June 2025
B	Consider if the Council meet the criteria for a Keep Wales Tidy Grant for the Memorial Garden.	Clerk & Assistant Clerk	1 August 2025
C	Contact Flintshire County Council about locating the installing the Sheffield biking racks at Mercia Square.	Assistant Clerk	4 July 2025

Signed: _____