



Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Argoed Community Council held on Tuesday 19 August at 7:00pm via Teams

Present: Councillors Jon McCarron, Faron Hadfield-Jones, John Holiday, Ian Jolly, Keith Mutch, Rebecca Legge and Jack Morris

Absent: Councillor Miriam Shepherd, Hillyar McGuill, Roy Marsh, Rebecca Blanchard, Gwilym Owen and Graham Palmer

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

1. Apologies for absence

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair Councillor Jon McCarron presided over the meeting. The Clerk confirmed she had received apologies from Councillor Miriam Shepherd, Councillor Graham Palmer and Councillor Rebecca Blanchard who were on holiday or annual leave and that Councillor Hilary McGuill had also sent her apologies. The Vice-Chair stated that Councillor Roy Marsh had sent his apologies because he had another meeting.

2. Members Code of Conduct – Declarations of Interest

The Vice-Chair reminded Members about making any declarations of interest. Councillor Faron Hadfield-Jones made a personal declaration because he knew the individual making the planning appeal at Item 3.

3. Planning applications

Members discussed the following planning applications:

Reference FUL/000629/25 - whilst it was not in the Argoed ward, Members had no objections to it.

Reference FUL/000644/25 – this related to some changes to the original planning application conditions arising from recent landscaping and drainage work carried out during the build. A complete list of the changes was included as part of the application. Councillor Rebecca Legge declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the school site because she was due to commence employment at Mynydd Isa Junior School in September and took no part in the discussions on this matter and left the meeting. Councillor Jon McCarron declared a personal interest due to sitting on the Governing Body of Mynydd Isa Primary School. Members had no comments on the application.

Signed: _____

Councillor Paul Jewell joined the meeting and Councillor Rebecca Legge returned to the meeting.

Reference FUL/000651/25 – the Clerk explained that the application was in the process of being validated by Planning at Flintshire County Council. Councillor Keith Mutch explained that the application documents were now on line. Given that the Clerk had not circulated any of the supporting documents, consideration of this application would be postponed until the 2 September meeting.

Appeal reference CAS-04228-Z4N0J7 – Members discussed this appeal and referred to the document summarising the reasons for Planning at Flintshire County Council refusing the application. Members confirmed that the land where the development was proposed was in a green barrier area between Bryn-y-Baal and New Brighton. Members acknowledged that this area was not in the Local Development Plan and a walking track was also nearby.

Councillor Ian Jolly proposed that the appeal (and proposed development) should be opposed because the proposed development was on land in a green barrier area between Bryn-y-Baal and New Brighton. It was not identified as an area for development in the Local Development Plan and the development would affect the character of an area of open countryside. This was seconded by Councillor Keith Mutch. All members were in favour except Councillor Faron Hadfield-Jones who abstained.

Resolved – that the Council oppose the appeal (and proposed development) because it is proposed for land in a green barrier area, in open countryside.

4. Council meetings

The Clerk summarised the meeting that had taken place on 7 August 2025 with two of the Directors from New Brighton Community Centre. This was a positive meeting. There would be an increase in the rent payable for the Council office and the hall hire, effective from September/October time. The increase would either be the published CPI or RPI rate. Given that RPI included housing costs, Members felt that using this would be unfair and requested that it should be CPI. Members asked that the draft rental agreed be amended to include CPI and a 3-month termination clause.

The Clerk suggested that the amended agreement be brought back to the September meeting for formal agreement.

The Clerk then summarised the situation regarding moving Council meetings to a Monday evening, highlighting that two Councillors would be unable to attend and therefore may have to resign from their position. Other alternatives were considered and Councillor Faron Hadfield-Jones explained that the current internet configuration at Caffi Isa does not allow secure internet access, with only the public Wi-Fi currently being available. This has been explained to Caffi Isa as it may impact on them being able to hire out rooms to other organisations who will want a secure internet connection.

Signed: _____

5. Financial matters

Whilst Caffi Isa have identified the additional equipment that they believe they may need to improve the internet, a formal grant application will need to be submitted if they wish to seek funding from the Community Council. Any application will need to indicate the amount of funding that they are seeking.

The Clerk explained that during the meeting with the Directors of New Brighton Community Centre, they had asked that the Community Council consider financially contributing towards the Summer Fair Community Event on 30 August 2025. Following the meeting they had contacted the Clerk and asked for financial support to provide plastic glasses, decorations for the building and a contribution towards St. John's Ambulance being in attendance. The Clerk clarified that a community events budget existed and that such a contribution should come from this budget, not the grants budget.

Members discussed how much should be donated to support the event. Councillor Hadfield-Jones proposed that £350 should be donated with the Clerk making the purchases of glasses and decorations directly. This was seconded by Councillor Jewell. All members were in favour.

Resolved – that the Council donate £350 (by way of provisions purchased and monies) to support the Summer Fair Community Event taking place at New Brighton Community Centre.

The Clerk also presented the following accounts for payment:

Supplier	Details	Amount (£)
Salaries	Payments and HMRC costs month 5	1,550.85
MLandscapeUK	Quarterly cut of the quarry	590.00
DM Payroll Services Ltd	Payroll services	88.20
Canada photocopying	3 months rental August to October 2025	99.60
	Total	2,328.65

Councillor Hadfield-Jones proposed that the payments be made. This was seconded by Councillor Jolly. All members were in favour.

Resolved – that the accounts for payment be paid.

The meeting closed at 20:21pm.

Signed: _____

SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on Tuesday 19 August 2025 at 7.00pm.

Councillor Faron Hadfield-Jones made a personal declaration in Item 3 and the planning appeal because he knew the applicant.

Councillor Rebecca Legge declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 3 and the planning matter on the school site because she was due to commence employment at Mynydd Isa Junior School in September.

Councillor Jon McCarron declared a personal interest in Item 3 and the planning matter on the school site due to sitting on the Governing Body of Mynydd Isa Primary School.

	ACTION POINTS FROM 19 AUGUST 2025 MEETING		
	Action to be completed	By whom	By when
A	Place deferred planning matter on September agenda.	Clerk	1 September 2025
B	Submit response to Welsh Government planning appeal.	Clerk	21 August 2025
C	Amended NBCC hire agreement to be placed on September agenda.	Clerk	1 September 2025
D	Invite Caffi Isa to apply for financial support to improve the security of the internet.	Assistant Clerk	30 September 2025

Signed: _____