



Minutes of the Council Meeting incorporating the Amenities Committee of Argoed Community Council held on Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 6:30pm at Caffi Isa and via Teams

Present: Councillors Ian Jolly, Miriam Shepherd, Roy Marsh, Jon McCarron, Faron Hadfield-Jones, John Holiday, Jack Morris, Rebecca Blanchard, Rebecca Legge and Keith Mutch.

Absent: Councillor Paul Jewell

In attendance: Sharon Swift, Clerk

The meeting commenced at 6:30pm.

1. Apologies for absence

The Clerk had received apologies from Councillor Jewell.

2. Members Code of Conduct – Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

3. Exclusion of Press and Public

Councillor McCarron proposed that the press and public be excluded from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 because the matters being discussed were both confidential and sensitive. The matter required the Clerk to also be excluded. This was seconded by Councillor Hadfield-Jones. All members were in favour.

Resolved – that the press, public and the Clerk be excluded from the meeting for discussion of a confidential matter.

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

Resolved – that the final salary for the Assistant Clerk be approved and paid.

The meeting returned to a public meeting with the Clerk present.

Signed: _____

4. Accounts for payment

Prior to discussing the payments needing to be made Members confirmed that they would donate on a personal basis to the cost of a memorial plaque to accompany the tree to be planted in memory of the Assistant Clerk. The tree had been donated by North East Wales Wildlife and permission to plant it was being sought.

The Clerk asked Members to approve a payment of £280 to the gardeners for the planting done in the Memorial Garden. Councillor Shepherd proposed that the payment be made. This was seconded by Councillor Jolly. All members were in favour.

Resolved – that the payment to the gardeners be approved and paid.

The Clerk also advised Members that a payment chosen for testing by Internal Audit had been identified as being approved for payment by the Members based on the value excluding VAT. The payment related to the purchase of three Remembrance wreaths. Members noted this and confirmed that the approval would include any VAT due.

The Clerk also raised the matter of the quarry grass needing to be cut. This was discussed in some detail with differing views about it needing a cut. Following a suggestion by Councillor Morris it was agreed that the next Amenities Committee meeting should be held at the quarry to discuss cutting requirements in detail. In the meantime, Councillor Jolly proposed that the grass be cut at the quarry. This was seconded by Councillor Blanchard. All members were in favour except for Councillor Shepherd who did not agree to the grass being cut.

Resolved – that the Clerk arrange for a cut of the grass at the quarry.

5. Bryn-y-Baal Quarry

The Clerk raised the matter of the grass cutting in the quarry and whether the contract should be re-let or given to the other gardening contractors. After a short discussion it was agreed that the other gardening contractors should be asked to do this work for the calendar year 2026, giving it two or three cuts, subject to the Amenities Committee visit in June 2026.

6. Christmas Lights 2026

The Clerk raised the matter of the Christmas Lights Event at Caffi Isa in 2026. Councillor Blanchard explained that she is not available to set up and participate in the 2026 event. Members agreed that a group needed to be formed to organise the event and it should include Councillors, the Clerk and other members of the community. Councillor Blanchard agreed to provide support to this group.

The meeting ended at 7:13pm.

Signed: _____

ACTION POINTS FROM 21 APRIL 2026 MEETING			
	Action to be completed	By whom	By when
A	Make payments.	Clerk	30 April 2026
B	See permission for planting tree.	Clerk	31 May 2026
C	Instruct gardening contractors to cut the quarry grass during 2026.	Clerk	30 April 2026
D	Arrange for the next Amenities Committee meeting to be at the quarry.	Clerk	30 April 2026
E	Set up a group to arrange to organise the Christmas Lights Event 2026.	Clerk	30 June 2026

Signed: _____

