



## **Cyngor Cymuned Argoed**

**Markham, Argoed,  
Man-moel and Hollybush**

**Clerk/R.F.O. Gwyn L. James.  
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Minutes of Argoed Community Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at Hollybush Community Centre.

1408 To sign the register and receive apologies

1408.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman K. Masson, G. Bineham, D. Briggs, L. Gardiner, A. Jones, G. Lewis, H. Rowlands, J. Watkins, M. Williams and W. Williams

1408.2 Apologies were received from A. Craddock

1409 To receive a presentation from Lisa James from Caerphilly County Borough Council regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy (C.I.L.)

1409.1 Lisa explained that the Borough Council had decided to introduce the C.I.L. and Community Councils would receive 15% or £100 for each new dwelling built within its area. Community Councils would also receive money from any new commercial development. The 85% retained by Caerphilly County Borough Council could be used anywhere within the Borough. It was noted that the north of the Borough had been designated as a "low viability" area which meant that the C.I.L. would not be charged within our area. The Argoed Community area could still benefit from C.I.L. money received elsewhere within the Borough Council area.

1409.2 The Chairman asked why the Borough Council had decided to do this. Lisa explained that an independent group of officers would consider all bids against the fund and make recommendations to the Council. Lisa added that Caerphilly was the first authority in Wales to introduce C.I.L. It was not negotiable whereas Section 106 development charges could be negotiated between the developer and Caerphilly County Borough Council. She added that Section 106 money was never allocated directly to the Community Councils to spend on their own projects. Unspent funds must be returned after 5 years. The Chairman thanked Lisa for attending the meeting.

1410 To receive a report from County Borough Councillor Leon Gardiner.

1410.1 Leon congratulated the Caerphilly County Borough Council Highways Department for the excellent job done during the recent bad weather. He added that the housing external cladding, paths and walls improvement scheme that had been very successful in the Markham area was being extended to include Penylan Road.

The Borough Council has not yet fixed the Council Tax level but Leon thinks it could be a 3% increase. He expressed his concern about the possibility of a

Chemist Shop being opened in the Markham Village and the impact this would have on the existing Pharmacy in the doctor's surgery. A discussion ensued about the pros and cons of whether it was to the benefit of the village or not.

1411 The minutes of the previous meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015 were agreed.

1412 Matters arising:-

1412.1 Minute 1393 – It was confirmed that Lisa Watkins had attended the ARTA meeting to discuss the ARSC group's activities. A public meeting was due to take place within the next week or so.

1412.2 Minute 1394.1 – Mike Williams had received a reply from Chris Evans MP regarding the Planning Application for wind turbines at the caravan park. Concerns were expressed about the illegal burning of rubbish at the site. The Borough Council had investigated this and had put a stop to it.

1412.3 Minute 1394.2 – Leon stated that he was still awaiting a response from the Planning Department

1412.4 Minute 1396.1 – The Clerk was still trying to re-arrange the meeting with Keith Reynolds.

1412.5 Minute 1396.2 – It was stated that the upkeep of the memorial garden was up to the residents of Penylan Road.

1412.6 Minute 1396.3 – Road sign at Manmoel village – Clerk to chase up with Caerphilly County Borough Council – no update on position

1412.7 Minute 1396.4 – Website – it was pointed out that the front page was showing the wrong date for the next meeting. The Clerk confirmed that this had now been resolved.

1413 Correspondence

The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and the required actions **agreed**.

1414 To receive the financial report from the Clerk

1414.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015, showing a total balance of £14,608.28 was **accepted**.

Treasurer's Account	8,095.11	
Unpresented income/cheques	<u>-419.40</u>	7,675.71
Business Money Manager A/C		6,932.57
Bank Balances		<u>14,608.28</u>

1414.2 The schedule of payments provided by the Clerk was **agreed**

## 1415 Delegates Reports

- 1415.1 Markham Primary School – Mike Williams stated that the school was preparing for a school inspection. It was **agreed** that the £350 cheque for the School Prizes should be presented to the Headmaster.
- 1415.2 Argoed Village Hall – Garry Lewis stated that enquiries had been made about the installation of a resuscitation unit at the Hall
- 1415.3 Hollybush Community Centre - Gay Bineham said that there was nothing to report at present.
- 1415.4 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – due to meet next week
- 1415.5 Markham Community House and Leisure Centre – Ann Jones reported that a review of the staff was taking place. The Centre had taken over the running of the gym.
- 1415.6 Access Forum – no meeting.

## 1416 Local Reports

- 1416.1 Argoed – Mike Williams asked if the Clerk could write to Caerphilly County Borough Council requesting that a grit bin be placed at the top of Penylan Road. Also that the grit bit at the bottom of Penylan Road be filled.  
Concern was expressed about the fence that had been constructed at the rear of the former Argoed School which was blocking the Right of Way from Gelynos Avenue to Woodville Terrace.
- 1416.2 Hollybush – Gay Bineham reported that there had been three serious traffic accidents caused by speeding on A4048 through Hollybush Village – it was **agreed** that the Clerk write to Caerphilly County Borough Council requesting a speed survey be carried out to establish the extent of the problem.
- 1416.3 Manmoel – nothing to report
- 1416.4 Markham – Walter Williams reported on the Residents Association meeting that had been held recently. There had been a spate of break-ins to garages and sheds in the village. It was agreed to write to the Police Inspector at Blackwood Police Station asking him to attend a future meeting to discuss the Community Council's concerns

## 1417 Planning Applications - none

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015