



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 21st September 2015 at Argoed Village Hall.

1486 To sign the register and receive apologies

1486.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman Walter Williams, D. Briggs, L. Gardiner, A. Jones, G. Lewis, K. Masson, and M. Williams

1486.2 Apologies were received from Councillors G. Bineham, H. Rowlands and J. Watkins

1486.3 A letter of resignation was received from Adrian Craddock.

1486.4 An application to join the Community Council was received from Mr Darren Williams of Markham. Mr Williams signed the declaration of acceptance of office which was witnessed by the Clerk.

1487 To welcome Chris Evans M.P.

1487.1 Mr Evans spoke of the murder in Argoed which had happened over a year ago. He said that the First Minister had suggested creating a memorial garden or playground as a lasting memorial to the young woman who had lost her life. He spoke of visits by Bertie Ahearn and Carwyn Jones to Risca Comprehensive School. He said that it was important to stress to children their potential to do well.

He continued by referring to the excessive charges on the Severn Crossing. He believes that it should be free. He felt that the toll was discouraging businesses from coming to Wales. His priorities were jobs and business growth for Islwyn. Cllr Mike Williams asked whether the Sirhowy Arms could be used for sports facilities. Mr Evans said that the building could not be used for public purposes. He asked the Community Council to think about projects which could create a lasting memorial.

Cllr Garry Lewis spoke of the shortfall of funding for the re-development of the former Markham Colliery Site. Mr Evans suggested that the Borough Council consider Heritage Lottery Funding or the Post Code Lottery Fund. He suggested inviting a spokesman from the Heritage Lottery to speak to the Community Council.

Cllr Williams said that there was land suitable for the creation of an allotment. The Chairman said that Adult Learning classes in the Leisure Centre were being stopped because of lack of funding. The Chairman also commented that the Police 101 telephone service was not working.

Mr Evans was thanked for attending the meeting.

- 1488 To receive a report from Cllr Leon Gardiner.
 1488.1 Cllr Gardiner reported that Abernant Road was due to be re-surfaced. Handrails are to be fitted at Markham Bungalows. He spoke of the dumping of tyres on Manmoel Common. He also said that trees had been cut down on the Hollybush to Markham stretch of the cycle path.
 1488.2 Cllr Mike Williams said that refuse collectors were not leaving the bins outside the correct houses.

1489 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th July were agreed.

1490 Matters arising:-

- 1481.4 Minute 1481.7 – Cllr Keith Masson reported on the meeting with Argoed Residents for a safer Community that he had attended together with Cllrs David Briggs and Garry Lewis. Cllr Masson had offered to attend future meetings on an ad hoc basis.
 1481.5 Minute 1484.3 – Meeting with Cllr Keith Reynolds regarding planning development in Manmoel – Cllr Masson to report back to a future Community Council meeting.

1491 The schedule of correspondence provided by the Clerk was received and the required actions **agreed**.

1492 To receive the financial report from the Clerk

1492.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 21st September 2015, showing a total balance of £17,243.58 was **accepted**.

Treasurer's Account	11,176.35	
Unpresented income/cheques	<u>-868.25</u>	10,308.10
Business Money Manager A/C		6,935.48
Bank Balances		<u>17,243.58</u>

1492.2 The schedule of payments provided by the Clerk was **agreed**

1493 Delegates Reports

- 1493.1 Markham Primary School – Cllr Garry Lewis had been appointed Chairman of the Governors.
 1493.2 Argoed Village Hall – nothing to report
 1493.3 Hollybush Community Centre – Cllr Briggs reported that the ground clearance had been completed.
 1493.4 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – The Clerk reported on the Declaration of Interest requirements.
 1493.5 Access Forum – Cllr Garry Lewis attended a conference in Builth Wells

1494 Local Reports

1494.1 Argoed – Cllr Mike Williams reported that a quiz night was due to be held.

1494.2 Hollybush – no report

1494.3 Manmoel – Cllr Keith Masson reported that the chevrons on the double bend to the south of the village were still not reinstated correctly. He also wanted to know when the results of the speed monitoring would be available.

1494.4 Cllr Masson proposed that Cllr David Carter Chairman of Planning on Caerphilly County Borough Council be invited to a future Community Council meeting.

1494.5 Markham – Cllr David Briggs reported that the power source for the Christmas Lights at Markham Institute was almost complete.

1495 Planning Applications

1495.1 Retain conservatory to front of 76 Abernant Road – planning appeal notice

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 19th October 2015