



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 16th March 2015 at Markham Miners' Institute.

1428 To sign the register and receive apologies

1428.1 Community Councillors present: Chairman K. Masson, G. Bineham, D. Briggs, A. Craddock, L. Gardiner, A. Jones, G. Lewis, H. Rowlands, J. Watkins, M. Williams and W. Williams

1428.2 Apologies were received from PCSO Jeff Dugmore

1429 The Chairman welcomed Mrs Liz Waters who is the Practice Manager for the Markham Medical Centre. Mrs Waters explained the impact that the proposed pharmacy would have on the doctor's surgery. The surgery only provides prescribed medicines; there are over 2,500 patients registered at the surgery with over 1,500 dispensary patients. The proposed pharmacy will result in the doctor's practice losing 2 full time staff and a health care assistant may also be lost.

The Chairman asked what Mrs Waters wanted the Community Council to do. Mrs Waters said that the deadline for objections was now passed; a petition has been signed by several hundred people wanting the surgery to retain the pharmacy. She did not believe there was enough business in Markham to support two pharmacies.

Cllr Gay Bineham said that she had received a letter from the Health Board stating that she is not entitled to be on the Markham list because she lives in a "urban" area. Mrs Waters said that patients are being forced to re-apply for the service. She added that no response has been given to the appeal as yet. The matter was with the Welsh Assembly.

Cllr Walter Williams wanted to know what would happen if the new pharmacy opens and then in a few years it fails. Mrs Walters confirmed that the doctor's practice would be allowed to employ a pharmacist in the future.

The Chairman asked why the health care service will have to go if the doctor's pharmacy is stopped. Mrs Waters explained that the dispensing income helps to fund extra staff within the doctor's practice.

Cllr Gay Bineham was concerned that there was no qualified pharmacist at the doctor's practice and felt that an independent pharmacist would benefit the village as a whole. It was stated that it was Welsh Government policy that there should be no doctor's surgeries dispensing prescribed medicines.

Cllrs Leon Gardiner and Walter Williams proposed that the Community Council support the retention of the doctor's pharmacy.

The votes were 5 in favour, 3 against and 3 abstentions.

1430 To receive a report from County Borough Councillor Leon Gardiner.

1430.1 Leon reported that Penylan Road is to be resurfaced. He also mentioned the Community Fund created by the Wind Turbine development at Oakdale.

1431 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th February 2015 were agreed.

1432 Matters arising:-

1432.1 Minute 1426.1 – Cllr Mike Williams reported that volunteers were not allowed to maintain the memorial garden at the bottom of Penylan Road.

1432.2 Minute 1422.3 – it was reported that the fence blocking the right of way has been reinstated. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Caerphilly County Borough Council.

1432.3 Minute 1426.4 – Christmas Lighting – agreed the Clerk ask Elsbury Plant what voltage supply was needed at Markham Miners' Institute.

1433 Correspondence

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

1434 To receive the financial report from the Clerk

1434.1 The financial position of the Community Council as at 16th March 2015, showing a total balance of £9,742.68 was **accepted**.

Treasurer's Account	3,417.15	
Unpresented income/cheques	<u>-608.02</u>	2,809.13
Business Money Manager A/C		6,933.55
Bank Balances		<u>9,742.68</u>

1434.2 The schedule of payments provided by the Clerk was **agreed**

1434.3 The Clerk submitted a detailed budget for 2015/16. After a brief discussion it was agreed to accept the report. It was further agreed that the Clerk write the Secretary of Markham Residents Association advising them that the Community Council could no longer afford to pay for the MUGA lighting.

1435 Delegates Reports

1435.1 Markham Primary School – Cllr Garry Lewis reported that the school inspection may be deferred until the new academic year.

1435.2 Argoed Village Hall – Cllr Mike Williams reported that the hall is booked every day of the week.

1435.3 Hollybush Community Centre - Cllr Gay Bineham reported that music classes had started at the centre.

1435.4 Joint Liaison Committee Meeting – The Clerk had not attended the meeting

1435.5 Markham Community House and Leisure Centre – it was reported that the centre manager had handed in her notice.

1435.6 Access Forum – Cllr Garry Lewis reported that at the last meeting it was noted that Penyfan was the most popular park in the Borough. The Council has set aside £37k for footpath improvements.

1436 Local Reports

1436.1 Argoed – Cllr Leon Gardiner reported that Magazine Lane was scheduled for re-surfacing.

1436.2 Hollybush – nothing to report

1436.3 Manmoel – the Chairman reported that the chevrons on the double bend were missing and needed to be replaced.

1436.4 Markham – Cllr Walter Williams reported that he had written to Cllr Tom Williams who is Chairman of Caerphilly County Borough Council's Transport Committee requesting that double yellow lines and a 20 mph zone be created around the Markham Primary School. It was agreed that a request be submitted to Caerphilly County Borough Council to erect a "Residents Parking Only" sign at the car park to the rear of James Street. Cllr David Briggs reported that an Easter Bonnet parade is being held in Markham School on 27th March.

1437 Planning Applications - none

Signed.....Chairman of Argoed Community Council 20th April 2015