

BARGOED TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF BARGOD

General Meeting

MINUTES,

20th February 2019

PRESENT Councillors J Bissex , H Llewellyn, R Carroll, D Price, D Morgan
COUNCILLORS R Horton.

IN ATTENDANCE:- Mrs Helen Williams, Town Clerk

CHAIRMAN
(MAYOR):- Deputy Mayor R Carroll

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Councillor A Higgs(Mayor), Councillor S Horton, Councillor V Stephens (Leader),
Councillor A Collis.

2. Declaration of Interest or dispensations on any items(s).

Cllr R. Carroll declared an interest in Tarragan; Oaklands Hall, all Allotments in
the Greater Bargoed Area and Cartref Community Hall.

Cllr D Morgan declared an interest in Rhymney Valley Young @ Heart,
Tarragan, Greater Bargoed Partnership and Gilfach Community Hall

Cllr D Price declared an interest in Greater Bargoed Partnership and Tarragan.

3. Police report.

Council welcomed PCSO Lesley McKeen as Inspector O'Keefe sent his
apologies. PCSO McKeen asked if members had received the Gwent Police 2
month update briefing. She reported lots of patrols in the Gilfach area, and
over the past three weeks many dispersal notices were issued in Morrisons, also
Rhymney & Ystrad Mynach were covered by these notices. There has been
more damage reported at Morrisons and the store manager is considering to
block the lower floor at night, with lights being switched off and the barrier
lowered to prevent car racing. Inspector O'Keefe is scheduled to meet with A.
Highway and the store manager 23rd Feb. PCSO will raise with the inspector
that members would like a presence at these meetings.
The deputy mayor advised that council leader expressed disappointment that no

police visited the ice rink event. PCSO McKeen will raise this with the Inspector. PCSO McKeen advised of booking vehicles at Cardiff Road lane and also East View terrace for parking on double yellow lines. Businesses at the lower end of town are asking about parking in the bottom car park. Councillor Llewelyn raised an issue regarding anti-social behaviour at Gilfach Levels, and the effect this is having on the bowling green and the allotments. PCSO McKeen advised the police are aware of the issue but will increase patrolling in the area. PCSO McKeen left the meeting at 6.15pm.

The agenda was rearranged as representatives from Bargoed Litter Pickers were not expected prior to 6.30pm

5 To consider the minutes from the last council meeting and whether to approve as an accurate record of the proceedings.

Approved as an accurate record.

Matters arising from the minutes.

7.1 Clerk to draft a template letter for those members who do not wish to take their allowances.

7.3 HSBC mandate is now complete with new signatories. Lloyds bank application is underway. RESOLVED Three people to have online banking access – HL, RC, and the clerk.

10 Councillors Price and Collis confirmed CCBC have decided to continue funding for the ice rink for the 2019 Christmas season, but it will be withdrawn thereafter.

4 To welcome representatives from Bargoed Litter Pickers.

Members welcomed K.Wogan and C.Doyle from Bargoed Litter Pickers. Councillor Carroll declared an interest. Daily Mail awarded the group £10,000 to be spent on environmental projects. Keep Wales tidy are also involved by way of providing insurance to the group. The visitors asked members for suggestions regarding suitable projects on which to spend the money. Members advised of areas in Barged country park that might be suitable for picnic sites and also potentially bird/owl boxes. Further suggestions included the provision of educational materials for schools; the use of the old tennis court area at Heol Fargoed; provision of wild flowers for verges. Members suggested the group consider holding public meetings in order to gain the support of residents, and Cartref community hall would be a potential venue for such meetings. Councillor Carroll advised of an organisation that supplies free saplings to community groups.

Members advised the group should contact Caerphilly County Borough Council leader, Councillor Poole in order to discuss the issue and to obtain information about who is responsible for maintenance of the country park.

The clerk will email Mr Doyle with details of the next council meeting in order for an update to be provided.

Visitors left the meeting at 6.50pm.

6 January meeting item 9.1 Elsbury Christmas lighting.

Clerk advised members a conversation has taken place with Ryan from Elsbury and he is happy to attend a future meeting provided he has prior knowledge of

questions from council. Clerk confirmed receipt of a full inventory of Christmas lights that have been PAT tested and confirmed as working, to be used for the 2019 season.

Members discussed the storage costs of lighting, and Councillor Llewelyn advised of a different supplier currently being used by other local community councils. A discussion ensued, and members RESOLVED that the clerk should contact other community councils for supplier information. Also RESOLVED, arrangements to be made for Councillor Carroll to collect the 9 LED Balls from Elsbury to be stored by Bargoed Town Council.

7 Mayors Business.

No mayors report presented.

8 Leaders Report.

In the absence of the Leader, the Deputy Mayor was asked to advise members of a forthcoming meeting with the Youth Offending Team that he will be attending with the Leader. Meeting to take place next week.

9. Matters reported for a Decision.

9.1 Grant Applications.

Unique Number 02012019 Home Start Caerphilly Borough – clerk to request up to date financial information.

Unique Number 02022019 Aberbargoed Primary School – application declined in accordance with standing order no.111.

9.2 Planning Notifications

No objections/neighbours views.

9.3 Correspondence.

Boverton Nurseries – RESOLVED – stay with the 2 year contract for the provision of hanging baskets.

Kevin Holland – correspondence noted.

Claire Stewart – RESOLVED – refer to Caerphilly County Borough Council for information.

Adele Skinner – RESOLVED – clerk to advise that members do not feel it is the appropriate time but invite her to contact them later in the year.

Welsh Government - correspondence noted.

Wayne David MP – a meeting has been scheduled for Friday 22nd March in the town hall.

BM James Ground Maintenance - RESOLVED – refer to Caerphilly County Borough Council for information.

One Voice Wales – training information noted.

Wales Audit Office – correspondence noted.

Teenage Cancer Trust Cymru - RESOLVED – clerk to advise that members do not feel it is the appropriate time but invite them to contact them later in the year.

Gelligaer Historical Society – RESOLVED – clerk to contact the society and arrange receipt of the donated painting.

Clare Williams – RESOLVED – clerk to advise council is unable to offer financial support as they do not reside within the area of the council.

Adele Skinner – RESOLVED – members to make individual decisions about whether to become involved in the focus group or not.

St Davids Hospice Care – RESOLVED – clerk to advise that members do not feel it is the appropriate time.

CCBC - correspondence noted.

9.4 To receive financial update.

Bank reconciliation and payments list was presented and authorised.

10. To receive Land Drainage Bye Laws from Caerphilly County Borough Council.
Bye Laws received and noted.

11. To receive CCBC Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee report.
Report received and noted.

12. To receive matters arising from the Clerk.

Clerk requested to trial changing office hours to two days instead of three half days. RESOLVED Clerk will be in the office Tuesdays & Wednesdays.

Members discussed internal audit. RESOLVED – clerk to schedule a meeting with Dave Phillips FCCA FCMA. Councillors Llewelyn and Morgan to attend.

Clerk requested members set up a working group to review standing orders and financial regulations. RESOLVED – Councillors Morgan, Llewelyn, Price and Carroll to work with the clerk on this review. The working group will make recommendations to a further meeting of council.

Clerk advised that following feedback from members, recent audit recommendations and giving consideration to County Borough planning committee meetings, and having consulted with the Leader, she suggested a special meeting to be called to consider the draft budget. Members discussed the proposed schedule of meetings and RESOLVED a special meeting to be held 6th March and the next Ordinary council meeting on 27th March 2019. RESOLVED Annual Meeting to take place 1st May 2019. RESOLVED Ordinary meetings for 2019-20 to be the last Wednesday of the month. Clerk to circulate schedule of meetings.

12.1 2017/18 Mayors fund.

Clerk advised of a payment error in 2018 in respect of £50 which will be transferred back to the current account.

Clerk explained 2017-18 Mayors charity monies has yet to be paid to Mayor Horton's two charities. RESOLVED – clerk to make payment to Mayor Horton's nominated charities without delay.

12.2 To appoint an Adjudicator for the local government pension scheme.

RESOLVED – Deputy Mayor to become the Adjudicator and Clerk the lead officer.

12.3 Town and Community Councils Meeting feedback.

Councillor Llewelyn and the clerk provided feedback on the recent meeting and encouraged members to promote the toilet consultation currently being run by Caerphilly County Borough. Closing date 8th March 2019.

12.4 To receive the Public Service Board Bulletin January 2019.
Report received and noted

12.5 To receive the Bargued Town Hall lease from Gwent Police.
Lease document received. Clerk advised of liaison with Gwent Police in respect of rent and a lack of invoices. Members discussed the impending rent review and RESOLVED the clerk to invite Jeff Cuthbert to meet with members to discuss the lease on the town hall.

Date of next ordinary meeting 27th March 2019

Signed  Mayor