



BARGOED TOWN COUNCIL

Mrs Helen Williams
Town Clerk
The Town Hall
Bargoed Police Station
Hanbury Road
Bargoed
CF81 8XF



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To the Mayor and Members of
Bargoed Town Council.

28th October 2020

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend an Ordinary Meeting of BARGOED TOWN COUNCIL that will be held at **6.00pm on Wednesday 28th October 2020**. The meeting will be held remotely in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020.

The business to be transacted is as set out below:

Yours faithfully,

H S Williams

Helen Williams
Clerk to the Council

Bargoed Town Council Wednesday 28th October 2020

A G E N D A

1 Apologies for Absence

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Clerk.

2. Declaration of interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate.

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Clerk.

3. Police Report.

4. To receive approve and sign the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 30th September 2020 and receive an update from the clerk on item 5.5 of the draft minutes.

5. To receive a verbal report from the Mayor and consider additional poppies.

6. To receive DRAFT Minutes of the Events & Environment Committee meeting 15th October 2020.

7. To receive a report from One Voice Wales area committee and One Voice Wales larger councils committee, and review member representatives on One Voice Wales committees.

8. To receive feedback from the town and community councils' liaison committee

9 Items from the Clerk:

- 9.1 To approve the bank reconciliation and payments list (to be signed by the Mayor) and discuss additional banking services.
- 9.2 To consider items of correspondence.
- 9.3 To consider planning applications.

Case Ref. 20/0739/COU

Site Area: 460m²

Location: 47 - 48 High Street Bargoed CF81 8RD (UPRN 000043164506)

Proposal: Change the use from A1 to D2/A1/A3

Case Officer: Mr M W Jones

☎ 01443 864528

✉ jonesm5@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Bargoed

Map Ref: 315061 (E) 199948 (N)

Community Council: Bargoed Town Council

Expected Decision Level:

Delegated

Case Ref. 20/0733/COU **Site Area:** 378m²
Location: 28 - 29 High Street Bargoed CF81 8RB (UPRN 000043032621)
Proposal: Change the use of first floor from A1 shops to C3 Residential to create 4 No. self-contained flats
Case Officer: Mr C Powell ☎ 01443 864424 📧 powelc2@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Bargoed **Map Ref:** 315125 (E) 199805 (N)

Community Council: Bargoed Town Council **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated

Case Ref. 20/0732/FULL **Site Area:** 1478m²
Location: Gwerthonor House Gwerthonor Place Gilfach Bargoed CF81 8LL (UPRN 000043088497)
Proposal: Erect 1 No. detached bungalow in grounds of existing dwelling
Case Officer: Mr J Cooke ☎ 01443 864347 📧 cookej1@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Gilfach **Map Ref:** 315271 (E) 198354 (N)

Community Council: Bargoed Town Council **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated

Case Ref. 20/0614/FULL **Site Area:** 364m²
Location: 15 Moorland Road Bargoed CF81 8UH (UPRN 000043023682)
Proposal: Erect single storey extension
Case Officer: Mr M W Jones ☎ 01443 864528 📧 jonesm5@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Bargoed **Map Ref:** 314625 (E) 199631 (N)

Community Council: Bargoed Town Council **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated

Case Ref. 20/0827/FULL **Site Area:** 1225m²
Location: Land At Grid Ref 314611 200342 Upper North Road Bargoed (UPRN 000043084916)
Proposal: Erect detached dwelling with integral garage and new access
Case Officer: Mr A Pyne ☎ 01443 864523 📧 pynea@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Bargoed **Map Ref:** 314661 (E) 200342 (N)

Community Council: Bargoed Town Council **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated

Case Ref. 20/0782/FULL **Site Area:** 259m²
Location: 4 Elm Street Aberbargoed Bargoed CF81 9FD (UPRN 000043032764)
Proposal: Erect single storey extension to side of property
Case Officer: Mr M W Jones ☎ 01443 864528 ✉ jonesm5@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Aberbargoed **Map Ref:** 315657 (E) 199946 (N)

Community Council: Bargoed Town Council **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated

Case Ref. 20/0762/FULL **Site Area:** 352m²
Location: 29 Highfield Crescent Aberbargoed Bargoed CF81 9DW (UPRN 000043003684)
Proposal: Erect two storey extension to side and rear
Case Officer: Mr M W Jones ☎ 01443 864528 ✉ jonesm5@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Aberbargoed **Map Ref:** 315822 (E) 200641 (N)

Community Council: Bargoed Town Council **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated

Case Ref. 20/0685/FULL **Site Area:** 1782m²
Location: Land At Grid Ref 316548 200672 Adj To 1 Pen-Y-Waun Cottages Heol-Y-Bedw-Hirion Bedwellty (UPRN 000043085993)
Proposal: Erect 4 bedroom detached dwelling
Case Officer: Miss E Rowley ☎ 01443 864776 ✉ rowlee@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Aberbargoed **Map Ref:** 316548 (E) 200672 (N)

Community Council: Bargoed Town Council **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated

- 9.4 To receive the Independent Remuneration Panel draft report and discuss 2021 budget implications.
- 9.5 To discuss the use of electronic meeting documents.
- 9.6 To set up a sub-committee with delegated powers to complete the consultation on Welsh Government's policy approach to establish regulations on the procedure for preparing Strategic Development Plans (SDPs) and associated matters. [terms of reference emailed to Members]
10. To receive a report on foodbank provision and Covid-19 relief.
11. To receive a verbal report from the chair of the Policy & Resources committee along with draft minutes from the Committee meeting 8th October and its recommendations to council for the draft 2020-2021 budget.

One Voice Wales Area Committee 7th Oct 2020

This was annual meeting and regular committee meeting in one. Jayne Garland from DWR is now Chair with Jo Rao from Maesycwmmer Vice Chair. Both also nominated to attend NEC.

OVW website – details of councils who won awards recently and see projects that demonstrate good practise.

Training modules are being prioritised because Welsh Govt have asked specifically for members to be up-skilled in core areas of Governance, Finance and Employing People. Two free courses per council.

In this area, 2 councils in RCT are not in OVW membership and 7 councils in Caerphilly borough. All other councils are in membership. The committee discussed potential reasons for this – Members lacking understanding of what OVW is there for was offered as one reason, as was cost, also SLCC membership was offered as a potential reason. The committee talked about this item for some time and agreed that OVW is there to support the council corporate whilst SLCC is primarily there to support the clerks. Welsh Government is directing more and more through OVW and the strength of almost 700 of the 735 councils in Wales must not be underestimated.

There has been no developments on the RCT charter due to lots of staff redundancies and Covid becoming the priority.

ABHB Grange Hospital due to open 17th Nov – will become the main A&E dept. Taking all Covid cases there & the Royal Gwent & Neville Hall will continue with all other NHS treatment.

Speakers for future meetings – Policy & Crime Commissioner; HM Land Registry; Future Generations Commissioners office (Sophie Howe); National Lottery

Ceri Mortimer – Gelligaer CC has sourced a manufacturer in Risca for Lamp Post Poppies.

OVW Larger Councils Committee – 14th October

This committee is for councils in Wales with dwellings over 2,500. Bargoed Town Council has 5,437 dwellings and a population of just below 12,000 which makes council one of the larger councils in Wales.

Unfortunately, neither town council representative could attend – this meeting is in the daytime and lasts approximately 3 hours (10am – 1pm)

Clerk attended.

For information: The average precept per band D household in Wales is £80. The highest precept is just under £170. In Blaenau Gwent, the average is £51.73. Bridgend councils have precepts of £60; £90; £133. Landough community council with a population of 2,200 has a precept per band D household of £42.60

The focal points for this meeting were:

- Work of the Welsh Government's Town Centre Action Group
- Development of a Self-Assessment Process for Use by Community and Town Councils
- The future for remote working in relation to One Voice Wales and Council business.

For information: Members have been emailed two power point presentations and a schedule of issues identified by the Ministerial Town Centre Action Group.

There is a move within Welsh Government towards making Town & Community Councils more business-like. Self-assessment & quality standards are one of the key focal points as is town council involvement (or the lack of) in transforming town centres. The update on the new legislation that will give town and community councils the general power of competence, gives 16 & 17 year olds the vote,

allows councils to work together and allows income generation activity amongst other things is that it has had its second reading and is likely to come in shortly after Christmas (due to covid).

It looks likely that OVW has been successful in its work lobbying HMRC about the tax liability on the £150 Members allowance, and that we should shortly be hearing that it will be treated as a flat rate allowance as per the home working allowance of £6 per week. The carers costs however do not look likely to be able to be changed, however the social services minister is looking into this as a policy issue.

This committee is an excellent platform for councils to share good practise and to promote activities they are proud of.

Members might like to consider appointing different representatives to this committee than the area committee to share the opportunities. The daytime, 3-hour long meeting needs to be considered, as does the capacity to feed back to council. The meetings are likely to continue to be virtual even after the virus is over as this appears to be the most effective, environmentally friendly way of working; so good I.T skills are essential for accessing and sharing of electronic documents. The committee needs one representative and one reserve.

Agenda item 9.2

Correspondence

1. Aneurin Bevan CHC seeking views on the areas that should be focused on for their 2021-22 annual plan.
2. One Voice Wales email communication encouraging members to undertake training.
3. Email from a resident regarding anti-social behaviour, lack of community policing, degrading of the town centre.
4. Email communication from an anonymous resident in respect of broken glass and litter underneath the bypass bridge in the country park in Gilfach.
5. Older People's Commissioner Newsletter (forwarded to Members by email).
6. Planning Aid Wales email offering one-year access to "Planning De-mystified" an online training platform on planning from start to finish.
7. Welsh Hearts Cymru email inviting council to apply for a £200 grant towards the cost of a new defibrillator for the community.
8. Email request from a resident seeking Town Council support with a monthly prize for the winning business in the Bargoed Awards.

Agenda item 10.

Rhymney Valley Foodbank (part of the Trussel Trust) – benefits from the national partnership with Tesco therefore, gets a weekly food delivery of approx. 1 tonne of food each week.

CCBC stepped in at the beginning of lockdown, set up a referral line, CCBC community regeneration team take care of the deliveries of food parcels from the food bank to the families. Initially, 2 food parcels were going out each week but now 1 parcel per family. This referral line will be operating until December at the least. Ring the referral line 07825633157 or 07720948030.

From April to 6th October 2020 the number of vouchers responded to from each ward were:
Aberbargoed 67; Bargoed 94; Gilfach 22. Approx 700 people were supported

This represents 26% of the foodbank's activity throughout this period.

Main base is in St Peters Church in Aberbargoed. They are currently looking at how they can have a phased return to their usual operating model once the CCBC support has been withdrawn. This would mean a return to a come & collect model – socially distanced, only for people who have been given vouchers. There would be no walk-in's allowed. The two distribution sites are New Tredegar and Rhymney, but the foodbank is also considering an additional distribution site in Aberbargoed. It is worth noting that the distribution centres will only be open one session per week for collections.

When asked about the sort of assistance the foodbank requires - well-resourced at the moment, secured funding to employ a new operations manager, and have a surplus of food stocks right now. However, this situation could very quickly change, and they feel it is important that a good relationship exists in order that they might be able to come back to council and advise that assistance is needed. Promotion of the referral line to anyone who is in need would be most appreciated, as would the opportunity for the new operations manager to touch base with council on a regular basis.

St Gwladys – Food Bank

CCBC encouraged St G to register with FareShare Cymru who have a network all across Wales. FareShare buy from supermarkets and their suppliers at a reduced cost – either there have been stock issues where supermarkets have bought in too many supplies or the manufacturers have had issues with the printing etc on the packaging/seasonal packaging etc. The charities order food each week from FareShare, some use the food to run luncheon clubs, others sell the food on to raise funds for the charities.

St Gwladys ask for a £2 donation from FareShare clients, they then provide a bag of food containing dried food, tins & fresh food to a value of at least £10 per bag.

Food donations have also been received from the community & from Morrison's supermarket.

Referrals are received from schools, from social workers and from families themselves. Initially the largest number of households were those who were self-isolating; now it is more families who have been made redundant; had hours cut; experiencing benefits issues.

If the families are not already FareShare customers and are experiencing financial difficulties, the food bank provide a free food bag every week, which is dried food and tins.

Miriam explained that the Trussel Trust restricts access to parcels – entitlement is 3 in 3 months, so often support workers are referring families to St Gwladys in the interim period.

From 30th March to end September; St Gwladys Food Bank have delivered bags of food: 361 to Bargoed/159 to Gilfach/152 to Aberbargoed. A total of 113 households in the three Greater Bargoed areas have been supported, often on a regular basis.

The contract with FareShare needs to be renewed in advance once every 3 months at a cost of £780. The service requires volunteer drivers, with expenses costing approx. £50 per month – they have sufficient volunteers, and are now moving towards a model of encouraging food bags to be collected on a Monday (this is a condition of FareShare that the food is distributed on the same day it is delivered to the organisation, for food hygiene reasons).

St Gwladys Church Hall is currently experiencing some financial difficulties with overheads because of not receiving any room hire fees for the use of the hall and needing to cover the FareShare cost in advance every three months. The hall is also having problems with its photocopier and needs to source an alternative.

Covid-19 relief

The Local Government Act 2000 s2 Power of Well-being gives all town and community councils in Wales the discretionary power to *do anything to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of the council's area or anyone in the area, subject to any statutory prohibitions, restrictions and limitations on council powers.*

Unlike the Local Government Act 1972 s137, this power can be used to benefit an individual. [only if council accepts it will enhance the social, economic, and environmental well-being of the area].

Spending under the LGA 2000 Power of Well-being is restricted by the same annual spending limit as s137, which for 2020 is £8.32 per elector (£72,733.44 in total, of which council currently has £60,826.83 of the limit remaining).