

Minutes

PRESENT COUNCILLORS Councillors J Bissex, H Llewellyn, R Carroll, D Price,
L Harding, D Morgan, A Collis, S Horton, J Halvey.

IN ATTENDANCE:- Mrs Helen Williams, Town Clerk.

Also in attendance: One member of the public.

CHAIRMAN:- Mayor R Carroll

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.

Councillor A Higgs; Councillor S Hamer-Thomas; Councillor Stephens;

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.

Councillor Harding declared an interest in planning.

3. Mayor's Report, to include co-option of a new Member to the Bargoed ward.

The Mayor reported the results of the Christmas window display competition as follows:

Barnardos 1st place; Hancocks pies 2nd place; Joint 3rd place went to Simply Be and Clyde Casey.

Trees for the community orchard on the park estate have arrived and now been planted.

Selection boxes were distributed to all the six primary schools, thank you to all who assisted.

Keys to the storage container now returned to the police. A long-term storage solution for the Christmas equipment is still needed to be sourced.

The Mayor invited Mrs Jacqueline Davies to join the meeting and confirm signing her declaration of acceptance of office in the presence of the proper officer. The clerk signed the declaration in the presence of the meeting.

4. To approve and sign the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 25th November 2020.

The meeting considered the minutes of the meeting 25th November 2020. Members RESOLVED to approve the minutes and they were signed by the Mayor in the presence of the meeting.

5. Leader's Report

No leader's report.

6. To receive a verbal report from the Events & Environment Committee chair along with draft minutes of the 19th November 2020 committee meeting.

In the absence of the committee chair, the vice chair reviewed the draft minutes with Members and reported that the committee have planned an ambitious programme of community events and activities for 2021-22. The Mayor advised Members of the tremendous feedback from the public in respect of the community activities during 2020. The floral displays and the festive lights have been very well received. A Member explained residents have reported how community displays have lifted their spirits during the difficult times of the coronavirus. The Mayor thanked the vice chair for providing a brief report to council.

7. **To receive a verbal report from the Policy & Resources Committee chair along with draft minutes of the 1st December 2020 committee meeting.**

The committee chair briefed Members regarding the meeting on 1st December and explained that the members RESOLVED to recommend council establish a health and safety committee at annual meeting, and in the meantime the clerk undertakes refresher training if it can be sourced. The chair explained discussion on the first draft budget which will be revisited in January 2021. Members talked about the considerable uncertainty that town council will be working within going into the new financial year, and the need for contingencies within the budget plans. A Member asked the committee chair for an update regarding item 5 of the draft minutes. The clerk advised of issues contacting one business, and that the next meeting of the committee will have both resumes and quotations for undertaking the work so they might consider their recommendations to full council.

8. **Items from the Clerk:**

8.1 To consider and approve the payments list.

The clerk reported having contacted the bank regarding the missing statement and that a copy is being mailed out to council. In respect of the current statement, it is too early in the month to have received this, however the online bank shows a balance of £46,427.52. The clerk reported the items on the payments list and sought authorisation for reimbursement of the Mayor's expenses in respect of the three prizes for the Christmas window competition of £90. Members RESOLVED to approve the payments list and instructed the Mayor to sign the list. The meeting also RESOLVED to reimburse the Mayor's expenses of £90.

8.2 To consider planning applications.

Councillor Davies declared an interest in one item of planning. The Mayor sought agreement from Members to consider case reference 20/0975/FULL last so that Councillor Davies might leave the meeting during this item.

Councillor Harding left the meeting prior to planning applications being discussed.

Case Ref.	20/0985/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:	Carwyn Powell	☎ 01443 864424	✉ powelc2@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward:	Bargoed	Map Ref:	315125 (E) 199805 (N)

Community Council: Bargoed Town Council

Expected Decision Level: Delegated

A Member confirmed the location of this application as the old Spar shop in the town centre.

Case Ref. 20/0976/FULL **Site Area:** 377m²
Location: 6 Lewis Crescent Gilfach Bargoed CF81 8JU (UPRN 000043031361)
Proposal: Erect part two storey, part single storey rear extension
Case Officer: Mr J Cooke ☎ 01443 864347 📧 cookej1@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Gilfach **Map Ref:** 315242 (E) 198032 (N)

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

Case Ref. 20/0969/COU **Site Area:** 344m²
Location: Unit B2 63 - 65 Hanbury Road Bargoed CF81 8QX (UPRN 000043173624)
Proposal: Change of use from A1 to A3 and change the shop front signage and proposed rear car park
Case Officer: Miss E Rowley ☎ 01443 864776 📧 rowlee@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Bargoed **Map Ref:** 315142 (E) 199787 (N)

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

Case Ref. 20/0898/COU **Site Area:** 614m²
Location: Gwerthonor Social Club Commercial Street Gilfach Bargoed CF81 8JF (UPRN 000043031890)
Proposal: Change the use of the first floor of the public house to ancillary residential accommodation
Case Officer: Miss E Rowley ☎ 01443 864776 📧 rowlee@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Gilfach **Map Ref:** 315250 (E) 198577 (N)

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

A Member advised of curiosity about access to the residential accommodation on case reference 20/0898/COU. Members discussed the way the planning applications are received, and the time allowed for comments. Neighbours views.

Case Ref. 20/0975/FULL **Site Area:** 228m²
Location: Land Within Curtilage Of 17 Llewellyn Street Gilfach Bargoed CF81 8JL (UPRN 000043031245)
Proposal: Erect two bedroom detached house
Case Officer: Mr J Cooke ☎ 01443 864347 📧 cookej1@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Gilfach **Map Ref:** 315366 (E) 198475 (N)

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

A Member commented that it would appear this matter has been on the planning application list several times before. Members RESOLVED to instruct the clerk to email the planning department to enquire about the apparent recurring nature of the application.

8.3 To authorise Member training with One Voice Wales.

The clerk sought permission to arrange Code of Conduct Training for Councillor Davies at the earliest opportunity. RESOLVED to authorise expenditure of £30 for training with One Voice

Wales.

8.4 To retrospectively authorise printer expenditure.

The clerk reported having been using her personal printer since working from home in March and this equipment is now struggling. Following consultation with the Mayor the clerk sourced an economical mono laser printer to overcome printing issues. The clerk asked the meeting to retrospectively authorise the expenditure of £74.98 to reimburse the clerk for the printer, which will be added to the town council asset list. RESOLVED to retrospectively authorise the expenditure of £74.98.

8.5 To confirm council recess for the period 18th December 2020 to 5th January 2021.

RESOLVED to instruct the clerk to update the town council website and social media account to advise of council recess from 17th December 2020 to 5th January 2021.

8.6 To discuss the town council cleaning requests to Caerphilly County Borough Council.

An Aberbargoed Member spoke about some of the issues that have been resolved in respect of cleaning and fly tipping. Members also talked about a recurring issue in the lane to the rear of West Street in Bargoed. Ward Members will be consulting environmental health regarding this recurring situation.

The meeting RESOLVED to instruct the clerk to request the following areas be added to the schedule by Caerphilly County Borough Council:

The bonfire residue at three locations on the Park Estate – Heol CoedCae; Ash Place; Park View.

The steps leading from the car park at the rear of Hanbury Road up into the town centre, opposite the Police station.

The area to the rear of Sannan Street, Aberbargoed.

8.7 To receive and consider correspondence.

All five documents were noted by Members.

A Member enquired about the removal of double yellow lines in Bargoed town centre where parking on pavements has become an issue. A Bargoed ward Member explained that the removal of the double yellow lines was consulted on and additional parking bays have been created throughout the town centre as a result of their removal which will reduce the illegal parking issues in the town centre.

9. To receive Welsh Government Notification of the Appropriate Sum under Section 137(4) (A) of the Local Government Act 1972 – Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2021-22.

The clerk reported having received notification from Welsh Government of the appropriate sum for 2021-22 under section 137 (4) (A) of the Local Government Act 1972 as £8.41 per elector and that she had confirmed the electorate figure as at 1st December 2020 with Caerphilly County Borough Council electoral services department as 8773. Therefore, the spending limit under section 137 and the Local Government Act 2000 s2 is £73,780.93

A Member asked for clarification of the S137 spending power. The clerk explained the power and how expenditure is allocated to the range of other council spending powers before turning to either the Local Government Act 2000 s2 or S137. The clerk provided several examples such to Members to provide clarification.

The Mayor thanked all Members for their contribution to the meeting; wished everyone a Merry Christmas and closed the meeting at 7.05pm.

Date of Next Meeting: 27th January 2021.

Signed: _____