



Bargoed Town Council

Bargoed Town Hall, Bargoed Police Station,
Hanbury Road, Bargoed. CF818XF
Telephone 01443 830184 / 07789321664
E-mail: clerk@bargoedtc.org.uk
Website: www.bargoedtc.org.uk

Minutes of the Events and Environment Committee Meeting 11th November 2021.

Present: Councillors: D Price; J Davies; H Llewellyn; R Carroll; A Collis; P Collins; S Horton; J Bissex; J Halvey.

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Town Clerk; Mr G Davies, Assistant Town Clerk.

Meeting Chairman: Councillor D Price

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 S Hamer-Thomas.

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.

No declarations made.

3. Press and Public participation session.

No enquiries received by the clerk.

4. To approve and sign Minutes of the Events and Environment Committee meeting held on 21st October 2021.

The Committee approved the minutes as a true record of the meeting, Councillor Horton moved, Councillor Bissex seconded. The chair signed the minutes in the presence of members.

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5. **To receive project updates and provide instruction to the Clerk on moving forward with:**

a. Cross Street Garden

CCBC Parks requested details of when Members would like access. Clerk to feed back as soon as possible and liaise with Councillors Davies, Collins and Carroll.

b. Memorial Clock

The clerk advised of feedback from the manufacturer that a date is still not yet available, however they will charge a fee of £180 net for the site visit. Members discussed the fee and RESOLVED to continue with the site visit as soon as possible. The clerk provided Members with confirmation that there are several options for power supplies in the area, but the project cost will need to include infrastructure work as the pavement will need to be dug for access to the power supply. Councillor Carroll elaborated explaining CCBC officers will liaise regarding permission, planning requirements and future generations assessment.

c. Festive Lighting

New figurines have arrived with Elsbury and the schedule looks good for installation over the next week. Work will be required on the power supply in Aberbargoed for the long term, and the tree pit at the Miners heads has cabling requirement for this year. The clerk advised Members that they have factored the cabling into their budget for this year as it was known works. Members discussed future festive lighting requirements and instructed the clerk to include this item on the agenda for the next meeting of the Policy & Resources committee in order that available funds can be allocated. Councillor Davies advised there is a possibility of a brass band playing at the Miners heads during the switch on of the Christmas lights Saturday 27th November.

d. School Christmas activity

The clerk advised Members of the increasing Covid difficulties at the primary schools recommending Town Council delay plans to deliver theatre performances. The clerk reminded the committee that they confirmed selection boxes for each child in the six primary schools. Members instructed the clerk to communicate with the primary schools advising of rescheduling theatre performances.

e. Floral Displays

At a recent site meeting, a request was made for the four concrete blocks to be moved to allow the winter barrel placement. To date this has not happened. Committee chair to contact relevant officers to expedite. The clerk requested information on the planters on the pierhead balcony so that a quotation can be sought for 2022 floral display services. Members discussed the issue advising the planters should be left until further detail is known about the safety of the building. Clerk was instructed to proceed with the 2022 floral display programme.

f. Selection boxes

The clerk requested details of ward members who are dealing with the labelling and distribution of the selection boxes to the primary schools. The clerk advised that in accordance with minute ref 9.1/28102020 permission is required to use the town council debit card for the purchase of the 1200 selection boxes, and a signatory to accompany the clerk for the transaction. Members discussed their requirements resolving the following:

Councillor Carroll – Park primary school

Councillors Collins & Bissex – St Gwladys

Councillor Llewellyn – Gilfach

Councillor Davies – Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach

Councillor Collis – Aberbargoed primary

Councillor Horton – Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Sannan

Councillors Llewellyn, Carroll and Collins to arrange collection from Morrisons and distribute to relevant Members.

Assistant Clerk to liaise with Councillor Llewellyn for allocation of labels.

The committee delegated Councillor Davies to accompany the clerk and RESOLVED to authorise the use of the town council debit card for the transaction.

g. Santa's sleigh

Flyer proofs were shared with the committee and confirmation provided that the literature will be ready for collection on Tuesday 16th November. The clerk sought confirmation of which members were distributing the literature. The committee instructed the clerk to ensure an electronic flyer is sent to each of the primary schools, and an A4 notice to go into the six noticeboards in the community. Members to distribute as follows:

Councillor Carroll – Park ward

Councillors Bissex, Collins – Bargoed ward

Councillor Llewellyn – Gilfach ward

Councillor Davies – Morrisons supermarket

Councillor Halvey – Aberbargoed ward

The clerk reminded members of their instruction from the previous meeting about looking at options for Santa. A lengthy discussion ensued about selection boxes and token gifts.

Members resolved to include 100 items per ward to a maximum of 400. Up to £400 expenditure approved. Councillor Carroll to liaise with the clerk on this item.

The clerk advised the committee of an offer from Santa for up to two members to join him on the sleigh in costume. Councillor Horton to join Santa. Councillors Carroll and Price to follow in a separate vehicle.

6. To receive feedback and recommendations from the environmental working group.

Councillor Collins reported to the committee on behalf of the working group advising that the group have reviewed and updated the environmental action plan, and reviewed the draft environmental policy, making slight amendments to its content. The working group recommends the committee adopt both documents as amended. Members examined both documents RESOLVING to adopt them. Councillor Collins provided the committee with the following recommendations from the working group:

1. Wildflower bombing activities are postponed to March/April with summer flowering seeds being scattered.
2. A fruit & herb garden starter pack applied for from Keep Wales Tidy for the Aberbargoed ward.
3. A project working group be established to draw up a project plan for environmental projects at Bargoed Park with a view to submitting a funding application to the Local Places for Nature programme.

Members spoke about the opportunities for environmental projects and RESOLVED to implement the recommendations of the working group. The clerk to communicate with the primary schools about wildflower bombing activities and to liaise with CCBC regarding landowner permission for the keep Wales tidy application. Councillors Collins, Bissex and Carroll to form a project working group.

7. To consider activities for senior citizens 2022.

The Mayor proposed earmarking existing budget of £3,300 for town council to arrange a day trip for senior citizens in 2022. The committee RESOLVED to approve the proposal as Covid 19 is still impacting on town council ability to deliver activities for this section of the community.

8. To look at project budget requirements for 2022-23.

Members reviewed their draft budget discussing flexibility for the incoming new council, the need to increase Christmas budgets to accommodate pantomime at primary schools, and the commitment to maintain the community orchard for the next 3 years. The clerk advised that the budget for floral displays will be able to be confirmed once quotations have been

received. The committee moved on to discuss budget requirements for festive lighting and the additional infrastructure work that will be needed prior to 2022. Members spoke about holding four reserve figurines to manage any incidence of failures, and of bringing the Park estate onto the same scheme as the rest of Aberbargoed and Bargoed. Power supplies and tree lights at the two trees on Lowri Plaza, Tree lights on Royale square, and spare boxes of icycles were also considered. The committee instructed the clerk to agenda this item for the next meeting of the Policy & Resources committee for the allocation of available funds for this work to be completed during the current council term. Clerk to obtain quotations asap.

9. To receive any new items from Members for consideration at future meetings of this committee.

The chair sought new items from members. Councillor Carroll requested discussion on purple poppies, no further items received. The chair reminded members to liaise with the clerk should they identify any potential project for the committee to discuss at future meetings.

The meeting closed at 19.00pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. M. C.', is written over a horizontal line.