



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 Full Council Meeting 21st September 2022.

Present: Councillors J Bissex; R Price; R Carroll; T Williams; S Hamer-Thomas; D Ingram-Jones; P Collins, H Llewellyn; J Davies.

Also in Attendance: C Jones (Youth Representative); Mrs H Williams, Town Clerk.

Meeting Chair: Councillor R Carroll (Deputy Mayor), Councillor H Llewellyn (Mayor) (from item 2 onwards)

In the absence of the Mayor the Deputy Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised all present of apologies from the expected visitor. The meeting moved on to agenda item 2, apologies for absence.

1. To welcome a visitor from Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) to the meeting and receive a presentation on Community Wealth.

2. To receive Apologies for Absence

The clerk advised having received apologies from Councillor Andrews (away from home); Councillor D Price (health). Councillors Llewellyn and Ingram-Jones have advised of possible late arrival. The clerk requested permission to report further on apologies for absence following the next item on the agenda as the two councillors' arrival is imminent.

Councillor Ingram-Jones joined the meeting at this point.

3. To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate.

The Deputy Mayor read the declaration of interest statement to the meeting.

No declarations received.

Councillor Llewellyn (Mayor) joined the meeting at this point.

The Deputy Mayor welcomed the Mayor and advised of the clerk's request to revisit agenda item 2.

The Mayor took the chair from this point forward.

Item 2 – apologies for absence:

The clerk reported in accordance with standing orders [item 3f] she is drawing Members attention to Councillor Collis having been absent for a continuous four-month period, with his last meeting attendance being 24th May 2022 therefore the full council meeting scheduled for 23rd November 2022 would be the six-month deadline. The clerk explained that Councillor Collis continues to be experiencing several health issues. The clerk reminded the meeting of the Local Government Act 1972 s85 (1) & (2) which states that a councillor will automatically cease to be a member if they have six months continuous absence unless their failure to attend is due to a reason approved by council before the end of the six-month period. The Local Government Act 1972 s85 (3) states there is nothing to prevent a local council from approving a reason for absence in advance.

The clerk requested instruction from council.

The meeting discussed the situation regarding the continued absence of Councillor Collis and unanimously agreed to approve his continued absence on health grounds. Council instructed the clerk to liaise with Councillor Collis and report back to members at the earliest meeting opportunity.

4. To welcome, in accordance with minute reference 06-270722, two young people to the meeting and appoint them as Bargoed Town Council Youth Representatives for the academic year 2022 – 2023.

Unfortunately, one of the young people was unable to be present at this meeting but sends her apologies. Mr C Jones was welcomed by the Mayor who formally appointed him as one of the youth representatives for the 2022-23 academic year.

5. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the Full Council meeting 27th July 2022.

Members noted an administrative error on the draft minutes with the meeting dated being noted as 28th July when the meeting took place on 27th July 2022. The approved minutes to be amended prior to the Mayor signing them.

The meeting RESOLVED to approve the minutes.

6. Press and Public Participation Session.

No enquiries received by the clerk.

7. In accordance with minute ref 12-270722, to consider applications to the small grants programme as follows:

Unique Ref: 220722-06	Bargoed Community Choir	RESOLVED to approve a £250 grant
Unique Ref: 220722-08	Caerphilly Peoples First.	RESOLVED to reject the application on this occasion but to advise the organisation that council will be happy to receive an application in the 2023-24 financial year.
Unique Ref: 220722-11	Bargoed Gardening Club	RESOLVED to approve a £250 grant

8. Mayor's report.

The Mayor reminded the meeting of the informal visits to council from One Voice Wales and the CCBC Regeneration Team in the coming week, and encouraged all members to be present if they are available. He also reminded members of the Well Woman Event being delivered by the Integrated Wellbeing Network at the library in Bargoed on Tuesday 27th September.

A member requested all dates be added to the Teams calendar for Members use.

The Mayor reported on having attended two memorial services upon the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, one at St Margaret's Church in Gilfach, the other with the Bargoed branch of the Royal British Legion at St Gwladys Church, Bargoed at which the bishop officiated.

There have been no anniversary presentations in the past month.

Councillor Ingram-Jones declared an interest in the next agenda item and took no part in the discussions.

9. To consider a vacancy for a Community Councillor Representative to the Caerphilly County Borough Council Standards Committee.

Members reviewed the terms of reference for the CCBC Standards committee and discussed the vacancy for a town & community councils' representative on the committee. Members spoke about the opportunity, but no member felt ready to put their name forward at this time. The mayor requested members go away and think about the opportunity and liaise with the clerk if they wished to put a pen picture together for submission.

10. Items from the clerk as follows:

10.1 To resolve the authorisation of expenditure for the strategic assessment by One Voice Wales at a cost of £420 per day (3 days).

RESOLVED to approve the expenditure.

10.2 Update on minute ref 7.9-270722 in respect of the Arnold Baker handbook and resolve the retrospective authorisation of additional £22 expenditure for the pre-order of edition 14.

RESOLVED to retrospectively approve the additional £22 expenditure.

10.3 To approve an additional fee of £250+vat in respect of the Festive Lighting switch-on event at St Peters Church gardens, Aberbargoed.

RESOLVED to approve the £250 + vat fee.

10.4 To approve additional expenditure of Jubilee grant underspend £650.82 for the Silver Sunday Afternoon Tea event and confirm entertainment requirements. RESOLVED to approve the use of the

Platinum Jubilee underspend to subsidise the silver Sunday afternoon tea event. No entertainment requirements. All remaining budget to be allocated for further OAP activities this financial year.

10.5 To provide initial instruction regarding the operation London bridge requirement for the planting of a memorial tree for Queen Elizabeth II.

RESOLVED to source a well-established native tree. Members to consider locations for the memorial tree and bring ideas back to the next meeting for consideration.

10.6 To receive an update from Good Directions on the pierhead clock and provide instruction to the clerk.

The meeting reviewed the project proposals received from the manufacturer and were greatly enthused by the baseline costs. The clerk was instructed to liaise with Caerphilly County Borough Council to establish what needs to be done next to push ahead with this project as soon as possible. Town Council to consult the public upon confirmation received from CCBC.

10.7 To note Gwent police stats report July and August 2022.

The clerk advised council that a September stats report has now been received. Members viewed the report on screen during the meeting and made a comparison with July/August 2022. Members spoke about anti-social behaviour in Aberbargoed and of the reduction in numbers in Bargoed since criminal prosecutions in recent months. The mayor invited input from the youth representative who broadly echoed the discussion amongst members.

11. To discuss moving forward with a Covid Memorial.

The mayor invited suggestions from members as per agreement at the previous meeting. Councillor Carroll provided a suggestion for the town centre garden at the corner of Hanbury road and Cross street to be developed into a memorial garden with a piece of Welsh Blue Pennant stone, sourced from the local quarry on Bargoed common to be placed in the centre with a plaque to commemorate those residents who fell victim to the Coronavirus.

Members were largely supportive of the proposal and spoke about options for the garden should it be taken forward.

The mayor asked if there were any other proposals for consideration?

No other suggestions were made at this time. The meeting requested Cllr Carroll bring full details of the proposal to council at their next meeting. The clerk was instructed to liaise with Caerphilly County Borough Council to arrange a site meeting.

Members to arrange resident consultation once the agreed proposal has been finalised.

12. To consider budget allocation to the Community Engagement Committee and discuss the availability of community noticeboards across the four ward areas.

The clerk advised the meeting that this item was overlooked at the previous meeting, but as town council has now purchased vinyl banners the budget need may not be necessary. Members considered engagement activity and agreed the noticeboard in Bargoed town centre should be moved to Lowri Plaza. Town council needs to increase its use of the noticeboards with the Community Engagement Committee leading. The clerk to liaise with the new town centre manager to request support with moving the noticeboard.

The mayor advised this concluded business and the meeting was closed at 19.28pm