



Bargoed Town Council

Minutes of the Events and Environment Committee Meeting 24th November 2022

Present: Councillors R Carroll; J Davies; R Price; T Williams; J Bissex

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

Meeting Chair: Vice Chair Councillor J Davies

1. To receive Apologies for Absence

Councillor D Price (unwell), Councillor D Ingram-Jones (unwell), Councillor P Collins (unwell)

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

No declarations made.

3. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the Events & Environment Committee meeting 13th October 2022.

Councillor Carroll moved, Councillor Williams seconded.

The minutes were signed by Councillor Davies at the meeting.

4. Press and Public Participation Session.

No enquiries received

5. Chair's Remarks.

In the absence of the chair, the vice chair expressed thanks on behalf of the chair to Councillors Carroll and Collins for all their hard work in the community, particularly in respect of the displays of poppies put out for the remembrance tide.

6. To receive an update from the clerk on:

- festive lighting,

the clerk provided members with information about the switch on of the festive lights, the picket fence and a few issues having been experienced in the installation. Contractors recommend town council purchase additional figurines in red & white to ensure Gilfach ward has flexibility moving forward.

- school selection boxes,

All primary schools have received their deliveries, just the home-schooled supplies still to be collected from the town hall. The assistant clerk is liaising with officers. 17 cartons of selection boxes remaining, which members resolved at a previous meeting to donate to two local foodbanks.

- Aberbargoed fire station Christmas tree and suggestion for Santa's sleigh, consider authorising expenditure and retrospectively authorise the emergency expenditure for icicle bulbs of £403

Members considered a suggestion from the fire service but felt it was too late for this year as arrangements are already in place and funds already used. Members spoke about the remaining selection boxes RESOLVING to donate six cartons to be delivered to each of the two local foodbanks and the remaining 5 cartons to be donated to the fire station. Councillors RC & JD to deliver to RV Foodbank and Cllrs TW & RP to deliver to Fare share Foodbank and Aberbargoed Fire station. The clerk advised members of the icicles brought down across the highway and emergency expenditure of £403 was incurred. Members RESOLVED to retrospectively authorise expenditure.

- authorise a grant to the Bargoed branch of the Royal British Legion.

Members RESOLVED to make a grant of £100 to the Bargoed branch of the Royal British Legion.

7. To consider the costs and recommendations from Caerphilly CTG for delivery of STEM gaming activities in Bargoed library.

RESOLVED to secure the services of Caerphilly CTG for the delivery of a monthly tabletop and gaming session at Bargoed library for 11 months of 2023 (August being left clear for the reading challenge); and a one-off Comic con event to be delivered in April 2023. Members authorised £2,200 expenditure for the 11 monthly sessions and up to £3,000 for the event.

8. To discuss the arrangements for CCBC Winter Food and Craft Fair, draw up a volunteer rota for supporting Santa & his magical sleigh and authorise expenditure for volunteer light refreshments to be available at the town hall.

Clerk instructed to liaise with remaining town councillors outside the meeting to complete the rota and to let members know what costumes are at town council for members use if they wish. RESOLVED £40 expenditure for light refreshments for Santa and volunteers. Remaining labelling to be completed Tuesday 29th November 11am at town hall. Enquiries to be made with old spar shop for provision of the snow globe if the weather is inclement.

9. To receive confirmation of arrangements for the OAP Afternoon Tea & dancing in March 2023, discuss catering, entertainment requirements and authorise initial expenditure.

Assistant clerk confirmed a provisional date Friday 3rd March 2023. RESOLVED as follows: Clive's bakery in Aberbargoed to be approached for a quotation for the refreshments; (cakes, scones, sandwiches, crisps required, with tea & coffee). Catering for 125 people. 3 hours – afternoon tea; bingo & prize draw (local supplier vouchers); dancing for last hour.

**10. To discuss recommendations from the town council youth representatives about:
- dancing sessions**

Members and staff to research dancing provision – Cllr Williams to visit Aberbargoed group for information. Costs and options to be obtained for potential taster sessions in the community centre on the park estate.

- alternative month for outdoor cinema

Planning for outdoor cinema to commence in April for an early October 2023 date in St Gwladys car park – not a Friday or a Saturday due to the Snooker Club activity. Find a half term date maybe. Engage with local businesses to encourage their involvement.

- revision clubs

Councillor Davies to liaise with Bargoed library for information.
and consider contracting with local organisations for delivery of some of the activities for young people.

11. To review and edit the draft environment report and biodiversity action plan 2022 prior to recommending its publication to full council.

Members edited the report and action plan during the meeting confirming it ready for circulation to all members of town council. Full council will be recommended to publish the report at their December meeting.

12. To consider the Community Amenities, Environment & Events Budget requirements for 2023-2024 and discuss King Charles Coronation weekend.

Members reviewed the 2022-23 budget noting initial requests to full council to be as follows:
Festive Lighting & Power £18,000; Floral displays £15,000; Orchard & Community gardening £3,500; OAP activities £5,000; Library events £1,600; Christmas activities £6,000; Geocache £1,000; Remembrance £575; Roller Rink £15,000; Young People £9,000; Volunteers £500; New activities/event development £30,000.

Members spoke at some length about fireworks displays, the environmental duty, public benefit and the increasing costs RESOLVING to recommend to full council that this event does not get staged by Bargoed Town Council again.

Members moved on to talk about King Charles' III coronation weekend. Members considered it to be difficult to provide 'party events' across all four ward areas and considering the cost-of-living crisis it would be unwise to commit considerable funds to token gifts. The meeting instructed the clerk to liaise with local contractors to obtain prices for bunting installation in the four ward areas and to research suppliers & seek quotations for stocks of bunting.

This concluded the business of this agenda.

The vice-chair thanked all for their contribution and closed the meeting at 13.17pm