



## Bargoed Town Council

Bargoed Town Hall, Bargoed Police Station,

Hanbury Road, Bargoed. CF818XF

Telephone 01443 830184 / 07789321664

E-mail: [clerk@bargoedtc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@bargoedtc.org.uk)

Website: [www.bargoedtc.org.uk](http://www.bargoedtc.org.uk)

### Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Present: Councillors J Bissex; R Price; R Carroll; T Williams; P Collins, H Llewellyn; J Davies; M Ingram-Jones; D Ingram-Jones (late arrival); D Price (late arrival); C Andrews (late arrival).

Also in Attendance: Inspector L Thompson; Sgt R Thomas (Gwent Police); Mrs H Williams, Town Clerk.

Meeting Chair: Councillor H Llewellyn (Mayor)

The mayor welcomed the three visitors to the meeting and invited Inspector Thompson to present her report to members.

#### 1. Police Report.

Inspector Thompson explained she has changed the format of her monthly report slightly to provide more context to the statistics. Anti-social behaviour issues have seen a slight reduction since the last meeting which is quite positive. Antisocial behaviour at Morrisons has reduced but there have been a few incidents of fuel theft in recent weeks. One or two issues in Park View with detentions for assaults. There will be a new period of 'Your Voice' starting from the end of the month. The pre-Christmas traffic campaign was very positive, particularly the low numbers of drivers failing breath tests. Inspector Thompson explained the team activity in the Rhymney area on drugs initiatives have led to very positive outcomes, and this activity has a bearing on the Aberbargoed & Bargoed communities as individuals travel down the valley if their activity is not stopped in Rhymney. Four police surgeries have been delivered and the town safe patrols are continuing on a Friday and Saturday evening. This week is national neighbourhood policing week, and officers have been in the community engaging with young people on marking up new bicycles; the work on Gelligaer common (fly tipping and off road bikes) continues. All vacancies have now been filled on the neighbourhood team. The inspector asked members if the town hall could be used to deliver a monthly open evening for the team to receive councillors, members of the public and officers from other organisations. Members were very keen to support open evenings.

Councillor D Ingram-Jones joined the meeting at this point.

The mayor asked if the meeting had any questions for the police officers.

Q:A member asked if there was a plan for increased police presence during the rugby season from February onwards.

A:The team are advised of key dates throughout the year and there will be increased activity monitoring vehicles and driving under the influence etc.

Q:Is the underground car park at Morrison's still being monitored for car meets?

A: Yes, the keys to the barriers are also held by the team.

Q: Is there any update on the bowls club in Gilfach?

A: No, unfortunately the investigation is still ongoing.

There were no further questions.

The police officers both left the meeting at this point.

#### 2. To receive Apologies for Absence

Councillor S Hamer-Thomas (work); Councillor M Harry (unwell).

County ward members will be arriving late.

3.To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate.  
Councillor R Carroll declared an interest in agenda item 9.  
Councillor R Price declared an interest in agenda item 9.

4.To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the Special Full Council Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023.  
Councillor Collins moved, Councillor D IngramJones seconded. Members RESOLVED to sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting.  
The clerk drew attention to an error on the signed full council meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 where Councillor Williams reported his attendance at the One Voice Wales Larger councils committee meeting, the minutes did not record him being present at the meeting.

5. Press and Public Participation Session.  
Ms Emily Janes, Observer Newspaper was present at the meeting.

6. Mayor's report.  
Councillor Llewellyn spoke about taking the CTG lead to visit St Gwladys Bargoed primary school and meeting with the children. The school is the largest in the area with almost 480 children. The new games club at Bargoed library was explained to the head and she expressed the schools' thanks to the town council for the activities they deliver for the children. A hand made thank you card was presented to the mayor on behalf of the school. The first session of the games club is this coming weekend and the deputy mayor will be in attendance. The mayor will be present at the second session in February.  
The mayor reminded members if they attended the CCBC business network events in Bargoed library please could you complete the feedback form as soon as possible to help shape future delivery of these events.  
Second reminder for all member is that the workshop to complete the strategic assessment from the session with One Voice Wales is at the town hall Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 from 12.30pm-1.30pm. All members should try to be present.

7. To receive correspondence.  
Three items of correspondence were reported by the clerk as follows:  
i) Thank you letter from Wales Air Ambulance for the grant in December 2022  
ii)Request for a statement in support of the continued use of CCTV in Aberbargoed  
- Aberbargoed ward members have provided a supporting statement.  
iii) Copy of a response letter from CCBC to local residents who produced a petition about the lack of museum in Bargoed, along with a copy of the response sent to CCBC expressing an interest in a meeting to discuss the opportunity of a temporary exhibition of items from the winding house museum.

8. To receive draft unapproved minutes from the Events & Environment Committee meeting 12th January 2023.  
Members noted the content of the draft minutes. The vice-chair asked if anyone had questions. Members spoke about the committee decision not to fund activities in the car park underneath Morrison's in the future along with the low take up of the roller rink. The vie-chair advised the meeting that a working group will be looking at pre-Christmas activities early in 2023 as a new approach has been identified as being needed.

Councillors R Carroll and R Price left the meeting prior to item 9.  
9. To consider applications to the Bargoed Town Council Small Grants Programme (as circulated electronically prior to the meeting).  
RESOLVED to award a grant of £250 to the Knit and Natter club at Cartref Community Hall.  
Councillor R Price re-joined the meeting.  
RESOLVED to award a grant of £250 to Oakland Hall Allotment Association  
Councillor R Carroll re-joined the meeting.

10. To receive a verbal update from the clerk, consider the draft 2023-24 budget proposals and approve the precept demand to be made to Caerphilly County Borough Council.

The clerk advised members that following their instruction from the special meeting the spreadsheets have been updated and free reserves predicted at the end of financial year are marginally higher than when members looked at the first draft budget. Moving on, the clerk advised members of the instruction from the Events and Environment Committee to liaise with CCBC about their draft list of events for 2023. The response being there may be an opportunity to deliver an event on behalf of Bargoed Town Council if the funds were available. The clerk spoke about the impact on the precept if members chose to add extra funds to the budget for another event. Members considered their options noting their ability to maintain the existing level of community activities with the provision of support for the cost-of-living crisis and not raising the precept more than absolutely necessary. Members RESOLVED to make a precept demand to Caerphilly County Borough Council of £171,746 for the financial year of 2023-2024, which equates to a band D precept of £46.45, a rise of £5.99 a year, 0.12p per week.

The clerk was instructed to instruct the Policy & Resources Committee to look at a possible reallocation of reserves for an additional event.

The mayor advised that in accordance with Standing Order 11, the meeting papers for this committee are confidential, therefore this agenda item is not open to the press or the public, he thanked Ms Janes for attending and she left the meeting at this point.

Councillor D Price joined the meeting remotely at this point.

11. To receive confidential draft unapproved minutes of the Human Resources and Staffing Committee meeting 19th January 2023.

Members noted the content of the draft minutes. Councillor Carroll advised the meeting of a change of circumstance for the Assistant Clerk which necessitated relocation and his subsequent resignation from the post. Confirmation has been received from the IWN lead that the remaining funds of £1674 will be used in the delivery of wellbeing activities in the area and not clawed back by the health board.

Councillor Andrews joined the meeting at this point.

The mayor advised this concluded business of the agenda and thanked everyone for their input.

The meeting was closed at 19.20pm