



Bargoed Town Council

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Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 24th May 2023.

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

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Town Clerk.

Meeting Chairman: Councillor H Llewellyn (Mayor)

1. Police Report.

Community Officer Nicola Bateman introduced herself to the meeting and moved on to review the recent monthly report from Inspector Thompson. A member enquired about the correct reporting procedure for issues involving asbestos in bins as there have been three incidents in recent weeks, and while members have reported the incidents to Caerphilly County Borough Council, they wondered about reporting the offence. Officer Bateman advised that the Gwent Police social media is probably the quickest way with the inclusion of photographs if possible.

2. To receive Apologies for Absence Councillor Harry (hospital)

3. To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate. Councillor D IngramJones declared an interest in item 18 Planning applications

4. Press and Public Participation Session. No enquiries received.

5. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 19th April 2023. Members RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the previous meeting.

6. Mayor's report.

The mayor reported having attended all but two of the community celebrations for King Charles III coronation, as well as going along to two school events; all of which were extremely well attended. The deputy mayor attended one of the events the mayor couldn't make. Councillor Llewellyn also advised of his attendance at the town centre business networking event which was mainly focused on promoting the new VZTA app for Bargoed, which will be going live on 1st June 2023. The mayor spoke about his feelings that the May Fair was simply outstanding, and he believes it is a fabulous model on which to build future events in the town centre. Finally he reported on his intention to support the floral display competition being encouraged by town centre businesses by providing three £75 prizes from the mayors allowance. He recommended town council make the spare half baskets available for businesses in Bargoed to have on loan from the town council if they wished to participate but had no equipment. Members supported this suggestion and instructed the clerk to communicate with businesses as quickly as possible.

7. To receive a verbal report from the town council Youth Representative along with details of planned youth engagement at Heolddu Comprehensive School.

The clerk advised that the youth representative is in the middle of exams and provided members with information about an engagement event at Heolddu school 15th June 2023.

8. To consider the town centre audit update report and the Town Centre Management Model 2023. Members instructed the clerk to feedback against item 2.17 that they feel the garden space at the corner of Cross Street and Hanbury Road is unsuitable for the memorial garden purpose therefore they will decline the offer of a no cost lease from Caerphilly County Borough Council. In regards to the pilot town centre management model members feel communication between the businesses, CCBC and themselves is better now than it has ever been therefore the pilot model appears to be a positive way forward.

9. To receive a verbal update from the clerk regarding member attendance figures, approve publication and translation of the Annual Report for 2022-23.

RESOLVED to publish the annual report without delay and to engage the services of menterabusnes for translation to Welsh. £500 + vat authorised expenditure for translation. The clerk spoke about an error with Councillor Williams' attendance at full council in November 2022, therefore the figure in the annual report is incorrect. Councillor Williams received the attendance allowance at the correct rate for the number of meetings recorded as being attended, however as there was an error in November 2022 Councillor Williams was paid £20 less than his actual attendance required. Councillor Williams advised he did not wish to receive the additional £20. Members thanked Councillor Williams for his understanding.

10. To consider financial support for the two local Foodbanks – Fareshare Foodbank operating out of St Gwladys Church Hall, Bargoed: Rhymney Valley Foodbank operating out of St Peters Church, Aberbargoed.

RESOLVED to award £1,000 grant to each of the two local foodbanks, payable as per the previous financial year, in two instalments of £500.

11. To consider a request for financial support from:

11.1 Gilfach Ladies Bowling Club. Members instructed the clerk to advise the club either to seek constitution in their own right, or to encourage Gilfach Bowls Club who are the registered charity to apply for a small grant from town council.

11.2 Kids Cancer Charity. RESOLVED to donate £100.

11.3 SSAFA The armed forces charity. RESOLVED to make a £100 donation.

12. To discuss the impending 20mph speed limit for restricted roads that will take effect 17th September 2023 and provide comments for the consultation being carried out by Caerphilly County Borough Council on exception locations.

Members instructed the clerk to communicate that they feel very strongly that the three roads listed for exemptions to the 20mph speed limit are insufficient.

13. To receive a verbal report from the chair of the interview panel in respect of recruitment of a Deputy Clerk/Deputy RFO to Bargoed Town Council.

Councillor Carroll spoke about the arrangements at Cartref Community Hall, advising of five candidates being interviewed Monday 5th June 2023, all but one having already confirmed attendance.

14. To provide town council feedback on the continued use of CCTV Surveillance Cameras in the Bargoed area.

RESOLVED to feed back the following: Members of Bargoed Town Council strongly feel that the statistics from the last year clearly justify the continued need for CCTV provision across the Bargoed Town Centre area. Anti-social behaviour, road traffic issues and low-level criminal activity continues to have a negative impact on the community with local residents' quality of life being adversely affected through no fault of their own. Town Council supports the continued use of CCTV in the area and requests that renewal of the license be approved without delay.

15. To receive draft minutes from the One Voice Wales Area Committee meeting 26th April 2023.

NOTED

16. To receive a verbal report from the town council representative to the One Voice Wales Larger Councils Committee meeting 19th April 2023.

Councillor Williams spoke about having to leave the meeting early, but that the agenda items he attended were largely focused on rural council issues which did not apply to Bargoed Town Council, eg. Horse and cart used for refuse collection purposes. Another area of interest which is being encouraged by member councils is for the installation of smart screens and smart town development. This is something Councillor Williams advised he would be interested in Bargoed Town Council researching.

17. To provide feedback to CCBC in respect of the May Fair 2023.

Members feedback included:

Tremendous positive comments from the public; the picnic benches are a very good idea; Bargoed Town Council subsidising the children's rides are a must for future events as this is what made the event affordable for families; the hook a duck was viewed as expensive and perhaps this could be delivered by a voluntary organisation at future events;

Councillor HamerThomas left the meeting at this point.

Feedback continued:

Some residents advised of having spent over three hours at the event; maybe cars could be spread out a little bit more to allow more space for wheelchairs to move between vehicles and the crowd; the decision to not have food stalls present was an excellent choice as local businesses benefitted from the footfall; public transport should be encouraged to avoid some of the parking issues experienced by residents; maybe liaise with Morrison's to have the underground car park opened for council parking/disabled parking with stewards; the petting zoo was excellent; HMS Wales was well received and it was a shame the cannon couldn't be fired because of the animals; mascots were superb; very good family activities provided and both the gaming station and the giant games went down well.

Members extended their thanks to the Caerphilly County Borough Council Events Team for managing such a fabulous event in the town.

Members suspended standing orders to allow for the final item of business on the agenda to be dealt with.

Councillor D IngramJones left the meeting prior to:

18. To consider planning applications:

Case Ref. 23/0185/CLEU Site Area: 285m² Location: Park Road Repair Services Ltd Park Road Garage Park Road Bargoed CF81 8SP (UPRN 000043023950) Proposal: Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate for existing use for garage to continue as an MOT Station Case Officer: Joshua Burrows ☐☐07874 641749 ☐☐burroj1@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: Aberbargoed And Bargoed Map Ref: 314907 (E) 199606 (N) Community Council: Bargoed Town Council Decision Level: Delegated

Neighbours views to be considered.

Case Ref. 23/0219/HH Site Area: 4422m² Location: Trearth Bungalow Heol Y Cefn Bedwellty Blackwood NP12 0BE (UPRN 000043087208) Proposal: Extend existing garage Case Officer: Abbie-Jane Stokes ☐☐07907 574195 ☐☐stokea@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: Aberbargoed And Bargoed Map Ref: 316533 (E) 199342 (N) Community Council: Bargoed Town Council Decision Level: Delegated

Neighbours views to be considered

Case Ref. 23/0238/FULL Site Area: 867m² Location: Murray's Upper High Street Bargoed CF81 8QY (UPRN 000043032357) Proposal: Erect first floor extension to the rear of property Case Officer: Joshua Burrows ☐ ☐07874 641749 ☐ burroj1@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: Aberbargoed And Bargoed Map Ref:315068 (E) 199876 (N) Community Council: Bargoed Town Council Decision Level: Delegated

Neighbours views to be considered

Case Ref.23/0093/CLPU Site Area: 700m² Location: The Surgery South Street Bargoed CF81 8SU (UPRN 000043024348) Proposal: Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate to change the use of several rooms to a dental surgery class D1 Case Officer: Joshua Burrows 07874 641749 burroj1@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: Aberbargoed And Bargoed Map Ref: 314929 (E) 199675 (N) Community Council: Bargoed Town Council Decision Level: Delegated

Members support the application

Case Ref. 23/0280/FULL Site Area: 297m² Location: Land At Former Central Hall Site Wood Street Bargoed (UPRN 000043167021) Proposal: Erect four bedroom detached dwelling Case Officer: Joshua Burrows 07874 641749 burroj1@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: Aberbargoed And Bargoed Map Ref: 314988 (E) 199464 (N) Community Council: Bargoed Town Council Decision Level: Delegated

Members support the application

This concluded the business of this meeting.
The mayor closed the meeting at 20.06pm