



Bargoed Town Council

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Draft Unapproved Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee Meeting 25th September 2023

Present: Councillors C Andrews; D Ingram-Jones; T Williams; J Bissex.

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Town Clerk; Mr T Oliver, Deputy Clerk (observing)

Meeting Chairman: Councillor C Andrews

1. Apologies for Absence: Councillor M IngramJones (work), Councillor R Price (family).
2. To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate. No declarations made.
3. Press and Public Participation Session. No enquiries received by the clerk.
4. To receive and approve the draft unapproved minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting 22nd July 2022.
Members RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting, but noted that the meeting date was 26th July 2022 not 22nd as per the agenda item.
5. To receive and approve draft unapproved minutes of the Community Engagement Committee Meeting 26th June 2023.
RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting, Councillor D IngramJones moved, Councillor C Andrews seconded.
6. To receive verbal feedback from members who supported the delivery of the first drop-in session held at Bargoed library 6th September 2023, consider lessons learned and authorise expenditure of any additional equipment.
Members reported town to be very quiet that afternoon, and the session had very low attendance. One lady suggested town council might like to look at something for young people, maybe a music related event/activity. The committee talked about ways to improve turn out, RESOLVING to purchase an A frame (up to £60 expenditure authorised) to put outside the venue in the morning prior to the session. Social media other than Facebook is seen to be an important way of reaching younger people. The clerk was instructed to set up an Instagram account for town council and to increase use of twitter. Members RESOLVED to purchase four transparent suggestion boxes for use in the community (maximum expenditure of £80 authorised). The committee will move the boxes around different locations within the community in the hope of collecting lots of varied ideas from the public. Noticeboard issues raised by members. The clerk was asked to investigate long strip magnets to make use easier.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ CEC committee minutes

The clerk sought confirmation from members about the second drop in session. Councillor M IngramJones will be attending and the clerk will request support from the next full council meeting for a volunteer to support the session.

7. To discuss how to move forward in recruiting a second youth representative to town council.
The clerk was instructed to make enquiries with the outgoing youth representative about residency status and to re-circulate the notice with a closing date in time for the November committee meeting. Notices to also go out on social media, website and via the youth forum.
8. To review the draft document on the role of town councillors/questionnaire produced by the deputy committee chair and discuss recommendations for its town council use.
Defer to the next meeting, clerk to invite the deputy chair to work with staff on the document.
9. To receive updates from the chair on:
 - (i) The Dementia Friendly work of the Integrated Wellbeing Network and consider instruction for the Dementia Friendly Bargoed working group.
This item to be deferred to the February 2024.
 - (ii) Information received to date from the CTG group regarding engagement with young people. Information is still awaited from the comprehensive school but the date of 25th November has been pencilled in for a STEM activity in the town centre. The clerk was instructed to email the school for any updates.
10. To receive verbal feedback from members who attended a recent coffee morning at Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre.
Members fed back to the committee that this was not an engagement opportunity as expected. Taraggan Educational Gardens and Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre are currently working together to look at joint working opportunities for the future. Members look forward to receiving feedback as development progresses.

This concluded business of the agenda. The meeting closed at 15.08pm