



Bargoed Town Council

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Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 20th September 2023.

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

Also in Attendance: PCSO Bateman (Gwent Police); Mrs H Williams, Town Clerk; Mr T Oliver (Deputy Clerk)

Meeting Chairman: Councillor H Llewellyn (Mayor)

The mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited CSO Bateman to review the Gwent Police monthly report.

1. To receive a report from Gwent Police.

Members listened to the monthly report review and asked the following:

Q: Was the statistical increases due to the school holiday period?

A: in the case of anti-social behaviour (ASB) probably as there were the same children repeatedly being reported. For the crime figures again there are patterns of repeat offenders, but not necessarily linked to school holidays.

Q: Who oversees the ASB repeat offending situation?

A: Crime reduction officer based in Ystrad Mynach.

Q: How does Bargoed compare with other areas such as Caerphilly or Rhymney?

A: It is difficult to compare. In part it depends on the team that is in place – in Bargoed it is an excellent team, but Bargoed attracts large numbers of children due to the facilities that are in place.

Q: What kind of response are officers getting from the parents?

A: Mixed

Q: Has the team noticed any difference at Bargoed park since the recent fire and since the patrols have commenced?

A: Not as much anti-social behaviour now. The police hold keys so access is no longer an issue either. A number of team initiatives are going on eg. Cycling initiative where an officer is out on a bicycle and is offering motorists information and advice following the new legislation on road usage.

A member spoke about ongoing issues with vehicles in the supermarket car park and also late night activity at Bargoed park.

An ANPR camera has been suggested by the police for the issues at the supermarket, but there is no update on this action as yet.

No other questions brought forward by members.

The mayor thanked PCSO Bateman and she left the meeting.

2. To receive Apologies for Absence

Councillor Andrews (CCBC); Councillor Bissex (Health); Councillor D Price (Health); Youth Representative (College). The clerk advised members of continual absence of one member for a period of 5 months and of difficulties in communicating with this member. Members RESOLVED to instruct the clerk to make written representation providing a response envelope. A special meeting to be arranged if necessary.

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

None

4. To welcome Miss Price-Wogan, the new Bargoed Town Council Youth Representative and Mr Timothy

Oliver, the newly appointed Deputy Clerk/Deputy RFO to the meeting.
The mayor welcomed the Deputy Clerk to the meeting and introductions followed.

5. Press and Public Participation Session.

No enquiries received.

6. To receive a verbal report from the Mayor covering communication about anti-social behaviour at Bargoed Park and providing feedback on members attendance at an informal briefing session with 'the Urbanists' who are producing a place plan for Bargoed town centre.

The mayor spoke about supporting the CCBC Bargoed ward councillors by facilitating a meeting at town hall during the first week of recess. Stakeholders involved in recent anti-social behaviour at Bargoed park came together to discuss options to improve the situation and move forward in a positive way. The mayor advised he was shocked at the level of anti-social behaviour, and wanted to congratulate all involved in the meeting as it was very positive. Councillor D IngramJones provided members with information about a recent fire at the temporary stand, and the fence having been cut. Police patrols are now taking place in the area and a request has been made for CCBC to waive rugby club fees due to the high costs being paid by the club as a result of the ASB.

The mayor thanked the member for the additional information and moved on to advise of his attendance at a 50th wedding anniversary for Mr & Mrs Jones in Gilfach; and also to let those members who weren't present know that there was a place planning briefing at the start of recess with the Urbanists who are contracted to draw up a plan for Bargoed. Public consultation is taking place in the supermarket foyer on Friday 22nd September. The general feeling from the briefing was that Bargoed town will evolve into a place to live rather than just to shop.

Councillor D IngramJones advised she has made enquiries about the funding secured by CCBC for Royale Square and has been assured there will be little delay in moving forward with work in this area once the place planning has been completed.

The mayor sought approval from members to re-order the agenda to deal with item 10 next as the member reporting may need to leave for work purposes. RESOLVED.

10. To receive feedback from Councillor M Ingram-Jones on the One Voice Wales Area Committee meeting 19th July 2023.

Councillor M IngramJones reported having received a presentation from the RT Hon Alun Michael JP South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner, at which youth engagement activities were discussed. Successful initiatives were described and will be shared with the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner. He also covered the roles of PCSOs.

The One Voice Wales (OVW) National Executive Committee (NEC) are doing a lot of work on recruitment and retention of Clerks at local councils as this is a huge area of concern with many local councils struggling to attract people to fill vacancies.

Member councils have been asked to share news with OVW.

A council brought the issue of health transport to the meeting asking the NEC to look into difficulties being experienced by residents.

The committee asked members if they could identify issues that are discouraging local people from putting themselves forward to stand for local councils.

Councillor M IngramJones advised she enjoyed the meeting and found it most informative. The next meeting is in a few weeks.

The mayor thanked the member for her report and advised of reverting to the order of business on the agenda.

7. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 19th July 2023.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes. The mayor signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

8. To receive feedback on minute reference 210623-14.3 in respect of correspondence from school children at Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed about picnic benches removed from the park and consider if it is appropriate for town council to authorise expenditure for replacement picnic benches.

Members spoke at length about the current situation with the park. This is not a budgeted activity, neither is it within the current remit of town council. Members RESOLVED not to set a precedent by funding replacement picnic benches at this time.

9. To discuss ongoing complaints from residents regarding traffic management issues and anti-social behaviour in Bargoed town which are having a negative impact on residents' safety and wellbeing and identify a positive way forward.

The mayor invited Councillor D IngramJones to provide the meeting with information on recent correspondence from residents expressing concerns about road traffic, safety, noise and the general state of the town. Councillor IngramJones advised she and another CCBC Bargoed ward member have already met with the police inspector and the CCBC Highways officer to express concerns.

The meeting discussed these issues along with the suggestion of an ANPR camera at the supermarket. Members also spoke about several stakeholder discussions having taken place in the past year without any firm action resulting to their knowledge.

Members RESOLVED to write to CCBC Highways and Gwent Police to make representations; to enquire about the potential for a temporary mobile speed camera for a period of a month; to enquire about the availability of the mobile CCTV van; and to make enquiries from the supermarket about the potential introduction of an ANPR camera.

11. To consider the recommended revised town centre management model and provide town council feedback.

RESOLVED to feed back to CCBC that members are supportive of the change in format for the town centre management model because they feel it brings the management of the town centre closer to the actual traders; it encourages greater involvement and collaboration from local stakeholders.

12. Items from the Clerk:

1. Correspondence:

a) Openreach – installation of fixed line broadband apparatus onto existing BT cabinet in Bargoed. Clerk advised this work has now been delayed.



b) Child & Teenage Cancer & Leukaemia Foundation request support to identify a site and install a clothes bank in the area.

Members instructed the clerk to communicate with the foundation advising them to liaise with CCBC as town council do not have any land of their own. Members recommended areas such as the Hangar Aberbargoed might be suitable for enquiries to be made.

2. Dates for the diary – reminders.

The clerk provided members with an update on events and activities until the end of December, reminded them of the opportunity to attend the OVW conference Saturday 30th September and also the sessions arranged for forward work planning.

3. Planning Applications:

Case Ref.	23/0551/COU	Site Area:	346m²
Location:		Isocount UK Limited Cosyloft House Cardiff	
Proposal:		Road Bargoed CF81 8NY (UPRN 000043088887)	
		Change the use from Office class B1 to residential	
Case Officer:	Joshua Burrows 	07874 641749 	burroj1@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward:	Aberbargoed And Bargoed	Map Ref:	315028 (E) 199183 (N)
Community Council:	Bargoed	Expected Decision Level:	Delegated

RESOLVED no objections

Case Ref. 23/0572/HH **Site Area:** 275m²
Location: 178 Commercial Street Aberbargoed Bargoed CF81 9FH (UPRN 000043032911)
Proposal: Erection of a single story gable fronted porch to the front of the property
Case Officer: Joe Simmons ☎ 07874 641751 💻 simmoj1@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Aberbargoed And Bargoed **Map Ref:** 315734 (E) 199555 (N)
Community Council: Bargoed **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated
 RESOVED no objections

Case Ref. 23/0579/COU **Site Area:** 146m²
Location: 28 West Street Bargoed CF81 8RZ (UPRN 000043023284)
Proposal: Change the use from 3 bed dwelling house to 4 bed HMO
Case Officer: Joshua Burrows ☎ 07874 641749 💻 burroj1@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Aberbargoed And Bargoed **Map Ref:** 314936 (E) 199535 (N)
Community Council: Bargoed Town Council **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated
 RESOVED no objections

Case Ref. 23/0561/LBC **Site Area:** 480m²
Location: Gwent Constabulary Bargoed Police Station 43 Hanbury Road Bargoed CF81 8XF (UPRN 000043046436)
Proposal: Install Solar PV to rear (west facing) roof
Case Officer: Joshua Burrows ☎ 07874 641749 💻 burroj1@caerphilly.gov.uk
Ward: Aberbargoed And Bargoed **Map Ref:** 315118 (E) 199643 (N)
Community Council: Bargoed Town Council **Expected Decision Level:** Delegated
 RESOVED no objections

Case Ref. **Site Area:**
Location: Retain existing shutters and complete works to shop front
Proposal: Mcdonnell Hotel Mcdonnell Road Bargoed CF81 8UD
Case Officer: ☎ 07874 641749 💻
Ward: Aberbargoed And Bargoed **GRID REFERENCE -** 314772(E) 199801(N)

RESOVED no objections
 This concluded the business of this meeting.
 The mayor closed the meeting at 7.26pm