



## Bargoed Town Council

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### **Draft Unapproved Minutes of the Events and Environment Committee Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

Present: Councillors R Carroll; S Hamer-Thomas; P Collins; DT Williams.

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Clerk; Mr T Oliver, Deputy Clerk; Mrs S Richards and Mrs G Thorburn (Aberbargoed Community Action Team); Mrs R Watkins (Murray's).

Meeting Chair: Councillor P Collins

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Events and Environment Committee Meeting and invited Members to introduce themselves to the two visitors from ACAT.

1. To receive a visitor from an Aberbargoed voluntary organisation with a briefing on a Community Scarecrow Trail.

Mrs Richards and Mrs Thorburn introduced themselves and provided a comprehensive briefing on how their organisation has been running a Community Scarecrow Trail Competition in the village of Aberbargoed for the past two years. This usually takes place for a two week period in October, finishing at the end of the half term holidays, with a cup awarded to the winning shop and certificates issued to each participating child.

Councillor Carroll temporarily left the room.

The two ladies provided examples of the themes used, the promotional materials and showed a scrapbook of images collected throughout the competition.

Councillor Carroll rejoined the meeting.

The ladies advised they have considerable support from both Aberbargoed primary schools with entrance forms, certificates and promotional notices being printed for them. In return the ladies give a short talk to the children at both schools explaining the history behind the scarecrow whilst simultaneously promoting the competition.

Members thanked the visitors for their attendance and they left the meeting at 1.20pm.

The chair sought comments from the meeting, and Members were unanimously in favour of town council delivering this activity in Bargoed Town Centre. The clerk was instructed to agenda the item for discussion by committee after Annual Meeting.

2. To receive Apologies for Absence: J Bissex (appointment); D IngramJones (work); Y Price (away); R Price (away).
3. To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate. No declarations received.
4. Press and Public Participation Session – no enquiries received by the clerk.

5. To receive an update from the clerk on community activities and events:
- (i) D-Day commemorative service & coffee morning.  
The deputy clerk reported that arrangements have been made with the Bargoed branch of the Royal British Legion and St Gwladys Church & hall. The commemorative flags have also been ordered. The service will take place Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 10am-10.30am, and a coffee morning for veterans and their families will follow in the church hall from 10.30-12 noon. A light buffet lunch will be provided.
  - (ii) Dementia Friendly Event / Singing for the Brain  
This Dementia Friendly Bargoed event will take place during Dementia Action Week on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May at St Gwladys Church Hall Croeso Café from 10am through to 12 noon. Members are being asked to encourage any families with relatives living with dementia to come along and enjoy the music and activities.
  - (iii) Bargoed Easter Trail  
The trail is now active and will run throughout the school holidays. Additional entry forms are available at the town council should Members wish to distribute them.
6. To discuss members requirements and authorise expenditure for the OAP Summer Party.  
The deputy clerk briefed the committee on Gilfach workingmen's club having been secured for Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024 with the event running from 2.30pm through to 6pm, at a cost of £100 (for room hire and table decorations). Three catering options were presented for consideration by members resulting in a RESOLUTION to engage the services of Lakeview Café catering for 90 people at £9.95 per head. £895.50 expenditure authorised for the catering. The clerk reported on the original artist not being available but a local Gilfach based artist has been contacted and is prepared to perform should members wish to proceed. RESOLVED £200 authorised, Mr A Coughlin to perform.  
Members moved on to the additional entertainment authorising 2 full games of bingo with line prizes and a 3<sup>rd</sup> game to be full house only. The clerk was instructed to purchase 5 x £20 shopping vouchers and 4 x £10 shopping vouchers to provide prizes for the bingo. A prize draw using the entrance tickets also to consist of shopping vouchers 7 x £20 authorised. Total expenditure of £280 authorised for shopping vouchers from Morrisons and Iceland.
7. To discuss provision of funfair rides at Bargoed Summer Music Festival and consider budget for the event.  
The deputy clerk provided an update on arrangements to date drawing attention to the unexpected costs of the music and overheads for the event. Members have been asked to consider allocating £3,000 of the earmarked reserves for events 2024 to top up the Summer Music Festival budget. Members have also been asked to consider removing the subsidy on the funfair rides for this event.  
The committee discussed their options commenting that the funfair element of this event is an additional feature, as the main focus of the event is the music whereas both the May Fair and the Winter Fair are aimed at full family activities, at which the funfair is a larger part. Members RESOLVED to allocate an additional £3,000 to the event but not to support a reduction in the fees for the funfair rides.
8. To receive a local business and discuss arrangements for Bargoed in Bloom.  
Members welcomed Mrs Watkins from Murrays at 2.05pm and introduced themselves. The chair thanked her and her family's business for setting up and running the Bargoed in Bloom competition in 2023, and for their offer of running it again in 2024.

The chair advised that one or two businesses have returned the town council's half baskets that they had on long term loan, and that there are several half baskets available should any town centre business wish to have them on long term loan for the Bargoed in Bloom initiative. He also confirmed that the prize money of 3 x £75 has been authorised by members, and town council will be happy for the competition organisers to invoice the town council for this sum at their convenience.

Mrs Watkins confirmed the competition is a shop window display competition, but that when the judging takes place it is expected that the judges at least pop in and speak to the owners. She advised an independent judge needed for the competition, and while she has one local celebrity to contact, any suggestions for alternative judges would be welcomed, as would support with promoting the competition.

The clerk advised that the local press have already started promoting Bargoed in Bloom initiatives, and that the craftwork displays will aim to be out at roughly the same time as the living floral displays 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024.

Mrs Watkins explained that the hope is that the Bargoed in Bloom initiative could be extended to develop a best dressed festive window display in the pre-Christmas period. The chair advised this was something town council have been discussing, and that it could be timed to be in place between the festive lighting switch on market Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November and the town centre Winter Food and Craft Fair Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

The chair thanked Mrs Watkins for attending the meeting and she left at 2.20pm.

Members spoke about promoting the availability of half baskets for the competition, circulating other town centre activity information to town centre businesses, and thinking about potential judges. Marketing and promotion of the Bargoed in Bloom initiative will be a jointly delivered element of the competition.

The Chair thanked the Committee for their attendance and closed the meeting at 2.30pm