



## Bargoed Town Council

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Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

Present: Councillors H Llewellyn; R Carrol; P Collins; Y Price; J Bissex; J Davies; C Andrews; S Hamer-Thomas (remotely).

Also Present: PCSO N Bateman (Gwent Police); Mr A Thomas (Fire Service); Josh Rffell (Fire Service); Mrs H Williams (Town Clerk); Mr T Oliver (Deputy Town Clerk); Miss E Jones (Youth Representative); Miss E Harding (Youth Representative)

Meeting Chairperson: Councillor H Llewellyn (Mayor)

The Mayor welcome everyone to the meeting.

### 1. To receive a report from Gwent Police

- The Mayor welcomed PCSO Nicola Bateman to the meeting and invited her to share the police report. The Officer highlighted that crimes in Bargoed have significantly increased and that several stolen vehicles have been recovered, most of which were motorbikes. The misuse of offroad bikes still remains a problem and the police service have asked for the help of the community in reporting these issues. To tackle crime in problem areas the Police have set up 'Pop Plans' to create tailored solutions to localised offences. PCSO Nicola Bateman also reported that they have recently been working with the local fire service to engage with local schools. Future engagement opportunities include police surgeries in Bargoed, Aberbargoed and Gelligaer throughout July.
- The Mayor thanked PCSO Nicola Bateman for her report and she left the meeting.
- Members discussed a desire for a more detailed report and instructed the Clerk to contact the Inspector.

### 2. To welcome a visitor from the Fire Station in Aberbargoed.

- Visitors from the Fire Station in Aberbargoed had not arrived at this point so Members decided to postpone this agenda item.

### 3. To receive Apologies for Absence.

**[Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Clerk.]**

- Apologies of absence were tendered by Councillors D Ingram-Jones and M Ingram-Jones (vacation).

4. **To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate.**  
[Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Clerk.]
  - There were no declarations of interests or dispensations.
5. **Press and Public Participation Session. (Members of the public who wish to speak on any item on the agenda should contact the Clerk prior to the meeting).**
  - There was no press or public participation.
6. **To welcome two new Youth Representatives to Bargoed Town Council, Miss Elena Jones and Miss Ella Harding.**
  - The Mayor extended a warm welcome to Bargoed Town Council's two new Youth Representatives and presented them with Town Council broaches.
7. **To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the last Meeting of Full Council 29th May 2024.**
  - The minutes of the Full Council Meeting dated May 29<sup>th</sup> 2024 was received and unanimously approved by Members.
8. **Mayor's report**
  - The Mayor gave a verbal report on the 'Over 60's Summer Party' which was held on June 14<sup>th</sup> 2024. He described the event as 'wonderful' and noted that the Town Council was learning, improving and making every event better. The Mayor highlighted that attendees were very appreciative and commented that food, entertainment and games were very well organised. Members commented that the new afternoon over 60's events are proving to be more successful than the evening events previously organised. The Mayor thanked Members and Youth Representatives for attending and helping. Members commented that it would be useful to actively ask for any dietary requirements when advertising the events.
  - Visitors from Aberbargoed Fire Station arrived at this point so Members decided to pause item 8 and reconvene item 2.
2. **To welcome a visitor from the Fire Station in Aberbargoed.**
  - The Mayor thanked Mr Josh Raffell and Mr Alan Thomas for attending and welcomed their report. The Officers explained their role in responding to fire calls, investigating disused buildings and community engagement. The Fire Service's project of investigating disused buildings was started 3 years ago and adopted a multi-agency approach (working closely with the Police). This is to ensure that surrounding businesses, residential properties, and residents are safe. The Fire Service's Arson Reduction Team works with local authorities to help prevent crime. Properties are revisited on an annual basis to see if there has been any change of use. The Fire Station is also working with the Police to help raise public
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    - awareness of the 20mph speed limit and have visited around 700 homes for fire safety advice/discussion (referral forms for home visits can be found online).
  - Members asked the Fire Officers about the risk of grass fires throughout the summer season. The Officers reported that they have started initiatives in schools but highlighted that most grass fires are deliberately started by people over the age of 24. The Fire Service have also set fire breaks in strategic locations throughout the region.

- The Fire Service asked the Town Council to be keep them up to date on any public engagement opportunities.
- The Mayor thanked the Fire Service for attending the meeting and they left.
- Members decided to reconvene item 8

#### **8. Mayor's report**

- The Mayor attended the Caerphilly County Borough Liaison Committee where the rules of the charter were renegotiated and updated to provide a more conducive working relationship between the two councils.
- Councillor S Hamer-Thomas left the meeting at this point.

#### **9. To receive draft unapproved minutes of the Events and Environment Committee meeting 5th June 2024.**

- The draft unapproved minutes of the Events and Environment Committee held on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2024 were received.

#### **10. To receive an update from the clerk, review and approve a revised NET budget for 2024-2025.**

- The Clerk gave a verbal update regarding the change in budget presentation from gross to net figures due to the recent update in accounting software. The presentation change was unanimously approved.

#### **11. To receive and note the content of the CCBC task and finish group report on resident's parking.**

- The content of the CCBC task and finish group report was received and noted by Members.

#### **12. To consider information from the clerk along with communications as follows:**

- i. **Resident concern about missing bollards in Bargoed town centre**
    - Members received correspondence from a concerned local resident and instructed the Clerk to direct him to the relevant CCBC contact.
  - ii. **Update on A469 works and diversions**
    - The Clerk updated Members on work and diversions on the A469 that will impact traffic in the local community.
  - iii. **Diary updates & training opportunities during August 2024**
    - The Clerk presented training opportunities to Members throughout August and made necessary diary updates.
- The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 19:09