



Bargoed Police Station  
Hanbury Road  
BARGOED  
CF818XF

Website: [www.bargoedtc.org.uk](http://www.bargoedtc.org.uk)

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

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

Also Present: PC D Evans (Gwent Police); Miss E Jones (Youth Representative); Miss E Harding (Youth Representative); Mrs H Williams (Town Clerk);

Meeting Chairperson: Councillor H Llewellyn (Mayor)

The Mayor welcome everyone to the meeting.

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

The Bargoed ward manager, PC Evans, reviewed recent statistics with Members noting a steady reduction in crime figures over the past few months. Members spoke about how encouraging this reduction is and asked if any reason had been identified by the team. PC Evans explained nothing obvious that has become apparent. A Member advised of an electrical theft having been reported this month in Gilfach ward. Moving on to review anti-social behaviour statistics, it was noted that there is still an increase in reported issues with incidents of note including youths climbing on the scaffolding at the Hangar in Aberbargoed and drunken behaviour in Gilfach. It is anticipated that works at the Hangar will finish at the end of July and officers are hopeful of a reduction in ASB statistics thereafter.

A Member advised of several reports of theft of refuse bins in Aberbargoed and PC Evans encouraged the Member to have these reported to Gwent Police via social media in the first instance so they can be recorded accurately.

The community engagement activities over the month were detailed by PC Evans including involvement at the recent music festival in Bargoed. A member sought information on whether there was any anti-social behaviour after the event had finished, when the night time provision continued. PC Evans advised there were no issues and the event has been recognised as being very positive for the community.

Prior to leaving the meeting PC Evans invited Members to email the team if they would like to participate in any street surgeries in their wards.

The mayor thanked PC Evans for his attendance.

### **2. To receive Apologies for Absence.**

Councillor J Bissex (hospital inpatient); Councillor Y Price (family emergency); Councillor M IngramJones (sick).

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

No declarations recorded.

### **4. 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).**

No enquiries received by the clerk.

### **5. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the last Meeting of Full Council 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024.**

Councillor Carroll moved the minutes as a true record of proceedings and Councillor Andrews seconded. The meeting RESOLVED to accept and sign the minutes.

### **6. Mayor's report**

Wonderful music event despite unexpected unsettled weather, with most impressive music artists. Most probably one of the best events the town has had. Very good social media response.

The Mayor spoke about having represented Bargoed Town Council at a very well organised opening ceremony for Bargoed Post Office which went extremely well.  
He made members aware of invitations to attend the Community Wellbeing Event at Tarraggan Educational Gardens between 10.30 and 1.30pm Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and the Bargoed & District Art Exhibition at Llancaiach Fawr Manor 12 noon Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

#### **7. Youth Representative's update on activity since the last meeting.**

Ella and Elena reported on having spoken to teachers in school about distributing forms to younger students to seek their opinions, and also a new club that is being set up through the senior leadership team at Heolddu Comprehensive School. The youth representatives explained their roles on the senior leadership team with one being appointed deputy head and the other having an engagement role encouraging greater debate amongst younger students. Both youth representatives reported having attended the recent Engagement and Wellbeing Committee meeting and the discussion about opportunities for engaging with students at both Lewis School and Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Rhymni which the deputy clerk will be working on with them.

Councillor Ingram Jones expressed her congratulations and excitement at the range of ideas being brought forward by the youth representatives for Bargoed Town Council youth engagement.

#### **8. To receive draft unapproved minutes of:**

**a) Policy & Resources Committee meeting 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024.** Chair reviewed the meeting minutes for those members who don't attend this committee.

**b) Events and Environment Committee meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 and confirm request for engagement support from the Engagement and Wellbeing Committee.** Chair reviewed the meeting minutes noting it was a long meeting, and committee members expressed a need for caution about the participant numbers if further events are to be delivered from the Gilfach venue.

**c) Engagement and Wellbeing Committee meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 and confirm ward locations for additional noticeboard quotations to be sought by the deputy clerk.** Chair reviewed the minutes and explained the move from Dementia Friendly Communities to Age Friendly Communities; and the plan to look at a potential engagement event at Morrisons and the youth representatives ideas for engagement with young people. The chair advised Members are required to confirm their agreement on the locations for additional noticeboards in the ward area: Members started debating various locations and RESOLVED to request the committee revisit this item to bring forward costings and suggested locations to the next meeting for confirmation of requirements. The chair advised there is a need for a Park ward member to attend the meeting. RESOLVED Cllr R Price to join the Engagement and Wellbeing Committee.

#### **9. To consider the redundant office furniture and provide instruction to the clerk.**

RESOLVED to advertise the desks for sale at £50 and £30 respectively.

#### **10. To receive feedback from the town council representative to the One Voice Wales Area Committee meeting 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024.**

Defer to September meeting as the delegate is unwell.

#### **11. To receive information from the clerk on:**

##### **a) the amended arrangements for switching on the festive lighting 2024.**

The clerk updated members that the community festive lighting with the exception of those surrounding the miners heads and the cut Christmas tree on Hanbury square will all come on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024. There will be a switch on ceremony at the tree on Hanbury square at the end of the music and lighting parade Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December as part of the winter fair event.

##### **b) the large events schedule for 2025.**

The clerk advised of a draft events schedule having been received with a request for an indication of available funding from town council by the end of August 2024. The tentative dates are May Fair 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025; Music Festival 12<sup>th</sup> July 2025; Winter Fair 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Members spoke about funding for large town events and the pressures on Caerphilly County Borough Council budgets noting significant cuts needing to be made. The clerk reminded members that they do not commence budget planning for 2025-26 until the Autumn months and that some of the large event funding allocated for 2024 was brought forward from the cancelled event the previous year, so caution is advised at this point.

Members spoke about the importance of the events programme for the town and the wider community, and their commitment to seeing the three events continue. Members RESOLVED to instruct the clerk to advise

the CCBC Events Team to work on the basis of a tentative decision to maintain the same level of contribution to the three events in 2025 as the 2024 events, ie two collaborative events £19,000 May Fair and £19,000 Winter Fair; and the Bargoed Town Council Music Festival £23,000. Members will confirm their actual budget for each event once their 2025-26 calculations have been completed for the precept.

**c) the pirate picnic arrangements.**

The clerk explained that due to delays in confirming the use of the desired location the Parent Network have pushed the picnic back to Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024. The event will be delivered from 12 noon through to 2pm at Gilfach Welfare field, near the Capel Hotel.

**d) the flower wall and Bargoed in Bloom reminder.**

Members were asked to encourage usage of the flower wall over the next two weeks, from 10am to 4.30pm and to use the #bargoedinbloom24 for social media posts. The organiser of the shop window competition has advised that they no longer wish to run the displays as a competition but will continue to encourage business participation in the Bargoed in Bloom initiative. The trader has made arrangements with St Gwladys Church to display the wheelbarrows that they engaged the primary schools in planting in the church gardens.

**e) the town council recess arrangements.**

The clerk confirmed that the town council will be in recess with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024 until 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024. Staff will be on administrative duties until 15<sup>th</sup> August and on annual leave thereafter.

**12. To debate opportunities for community environmental projects in each ward and provide instruction to the clerk on research to be undertaken, resident engagement and land owners permission/grant funding to be sought.**

The mayor spoke about Gilfach Fargoed allotment and a desire for the town council to explore opportunities with the allotment officer. RESOLVED to instruct the clerk to arrange a meeting with the allotment officer.

Members spoke about wildflower planting areas – Margaret street in Gilfach and the need for areas to be identified for bulb planting.

Due to absence of the full cohort of town councillors, the meeting RESOLVED to defer this item to the September meeting of full council to allow further research to be conducted by Members.

*In accordance with Standing Order 11, the minutes of the HR and Staffing Committee are Confidential, therefore the following agenda item is not open to the public.*

**12a. To receive confidential, draft unapproved minutes of the HR & Staffing Committee 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024.**

Confidential meeting minutes have been produced for item 12a.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 19:30pm