

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025.**

Present In Person: Councillors H Llewellyn; R Carrol; P Collins; C Andrews; J Davies; J McCarthy; R Price; D Ingram-Jones.

Present Online: Councillors C Bissex-Foster; S Hamer-Thomas; M Ingram-Jones; J Bissex

Also Present: Mrs H Williams (Town Clerk);

Meeting Chairperson: Councillor H Llewellyn (Mayor)

**1. Gwent Police Report**

Members reviewed the May 2025 police report noting that Crime statistics were up in Aberbargoed and Bargoed wards from April 2025, but remained stable in Gilfach ward; yet Anti-social behaviour statistics were up across all wards.

The report details suggested that the good weather and school holidays could be a possible reason for the slight increases.

Two successful dog warrants reported seizure of dangerous dogs.

Councillor R Price joined the meeting at this point.

Annual statistical comparisons from 2023/24 to 2024/25 showed a 9.7% reduction in crime and in respect of anti-social behaviour, a 13.3% reduction in Bargoed ward; 41% reduction in Aberbargoed ward and 45% reduction in Gilfach ward. Members were very pleased with the overall reductions across the community.

Targeted activity on seatbelts and exceeding speed limits in conjunction with South Wales Fire and Rescue Service is continuing with 14 persons stopped for not wearing seat belts and 12 drivers stopped for speeding.

The ward manager thanked Members for their support in gleaning community intelligence to support the enforcement action of the neighbourhood team.

Upcoming police surgeries:

3<sup>rd</sup> June; 1<sup>st</sup> July; 22<sup>nd</sup> July; 12<sup>th</sup> August – at Morrison's supermarket and Aberbargoed library.

**2. To receive Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Y 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 press or public present.

**5. To note draft unapproved minutes of the last meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025.**

The clerk extended apologies that the draft unapproved minutes of the committee meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 are not yet complete. These will be presented at the June meeting of town council.

**6. To consider options for marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bargoed Town Council and provide instruction to the clerk.**

Meeting Minutes

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Members shared their feelings about noting the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary before the end of 2025. The clerk was instructed to put the item onto the June meeting agenda by which time Members will have reviewed the briefing document provided by the Clerk, and a plan will be established for delivery by the Engagement and Wellbeing Committee (first meeting 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025).

7. To receive items from the clerk as follows:

(i) Advice received from a local Community Interest Company about Christmas Day lunch at Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre.

The clerk advised there will be no Christmas Day lunch at Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre in 2025.

(ii) Correspondence from a local resident.

The Mayor read correspondence aloud which thanked Councillor Bissex-Foster for the work she had done to support the resident in securing a home for her family. Members congratulated Councillor Bissex-Foster.

(iii) Last town centre audit for 2024-25 from CCBC Town Centre Management Team.

Content noted. Members instructed the clerk to establish if there is SPF funding available to make a start on the work on Hanbury Road steps.

Councillor Hamer-Thomas left the meeting at this point.

(iv) Gwent Employer News April 2025 from the Greater Gwent (Torfaen) Pension Fund and LGPS Retirement Factsheet for Redundancy.

Content noted.

(v) Feedback from ACAT on VE Day Event Activities in Aberbargoed.

The Mayor read feedback from ACAT which demonstrated great take up of both the family activity and the OAP activity delivered by the team in celebration of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day. The Mayor attended the event along with a few other Members noting that the community is fortunate to have such an active team of community volunteers eager to deliver such events and activities.

8. To receive communication from Mr Whitehouse about Operation Mincemeat and provide instruction to the clerk.

Members spoke about Operation Mincemeat and the local resident featured. A request for a blue disc to appear on the residential property in Aberbargoed was discussed, however Members felt this would be an imposition as this is a private home. Ward Members advised that Glyndwr Michael is commemorated in the memorial garden in Aberbargoed, and photographs would be forwarded to the Clerk to send to the gentleman making the enquiries.

9. To consider a play about the 1984 Miner's strike and provide instruction to the clerk.

The play delivered by Mr Mellor was discussed at some length, with Members feelings being split on whether or not the subject matter would be well received within the community. The clerk advised that the play was delivered last year in Blackwood Miners Institute, and lasts around 1 hour, at a cost of £500. The performer is touring from May to August.

Members instructed the clerk to contact three venues of Aberbargoed – Arthur Balfour Conservative & Workingmen's Club; Bargoed – Labour Club; Gilfach – Workingmen's Club and ascertain their feelings towards facilitation of this performance. The full council meeting agenda for June will make a decision about whether to take the opportunity forward or not.

This concluded the business of the agenda and the Mayor closed the meeting at 7.45pm