

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26



BARGOED
TOWN COUNCIL

Welcome

This year has been a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when a council, its communities and its local voluntary sector work hand in hand. Our commitment to supporting older people, young people and families has shaped a programme of wellbeing activities that continues to grow in reach, ambition and impact. We also recognise the vital role played by key community venues across the town, whose dedicated volunteers deliver a wealth of diverse leisure and wellbeing activities that bring people together and strengthen local connections.

From expanding access to sporting opportunities to opening new doors into the arts, we've focused on creating spaces where people of all ages can stay active, connected and inspired. Environmental projects have also played a central role, bringing communities together to care for the places they love while building a greener future for the next generation.

These achievements reflect the energy and dedication of our partners, volunteers and residents. Together, we've strengthened community wellbeing, supported healthier lifestyles and created more opportunities for people to thrive. This report celebrates that shared success and looks ahead to the possibilities still to come.



Our Mission

Empowering communities by providing financial support to local groups, fostering economic growth and strengthening partnerships that contribute to a resilient and inclusive society.

Enhancing engagement through transparent communication with residents and businesses, ensuring everyone has a voice in shaping the future of Greater Bargoed.

Championing sustainability by supporting local events and festivals, promoting biodiversity and reducing the Town Council's carbon footprint for a greener tomorrow.

Our Vision

A thriving, sustainable and inclusive Greater Bargoed; an engaged community where individuals and families feel supported, connected and empowered.

We strive to create a healthy, welcoming environment that fosters economic growth, social wellbeing and environmental responsibility.

“Moving forward together towards a positive future”

A Year at Bargoed Town Council from Councillor Collins

What does Bargoed Town Council do for us?

A question often asked, as apparently, the majority of the population of Aberbargoed, Bargoed, Park Estate and Gilfach are unaware of the good works we, as a Council, covering all four wards, actually achieve on an annual basis. Over the past year, we have invested heavily in Major Events, including:

The May Fair, aided by very nice weather, brought attractions, stalls, amusements and fun for all of the family to Bargoed Town Centre. The Summer Music Festival held in July's glorious spell of weather. This was our 2nd such event, and is firmly established now as an annual event. Again, the town centre was closed for the day, and there were plenty of activities and attractions for all of the family, plus, of course, some terrific music from morning to night. Well done to all of the musical artists who performed so admirably.



Sadly, our planned Winter Fair in December, was again cancelled because of inclement weather, for the 3rd year in succession. Alas, not even our wonderful Town Council can control the weather.

May also saw VE Day Celebrations at Bargoed and Aberbargoed.



July brought us an Over 60s Summer Party at Gilfach Workmen's Club, featuring entertainment and a buffet, all funded by your Town Council. Also, during the last week of July, we funded a Forces Fitness Event, over several days, for older children, which proved very successful, and is included for the coming year.

October featured my favourite event of the year. A performance of a one man play set in the 1984 miners strike, (featuring a wonderful monologue by Danny Mellor), 'Undermined'. This was held at the Arthur Balfour Conservative and Workingmen's Club, Aberbargoed - again fully funded by your Town Council. Sadly, the attendance was poor, but those who missed it, missed a real treat. Also, at the end of October, another 'Trunk or Treat' event was held under Morrisons, funded partly by Bargoed Town Council.



December saw Flossy and Boo put on an afternoon of family fun at the Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre on the 14th December with their performance of 'Sleigh Spotters' commissioned through the Arts Council of Wales and funded by your Town Council, including a children's' buffet and one for the adults. A week later an over 60s event was held at the Balfour Club,



Aberbargoed including a wonderful singer (Kathleen Jenkins) and the superb comedian Lenny Dee, (well, I thought he was).



Other major plusses for wards included a very impressive floral display with seasonal planting now, for a year round display, Christmas festive lights, which appear to be improving year on year and poppy displays for Remembrance Sunday.

An exciting new project for Aberbargoed (The Aberbargoed Graig Project) which is progressing nicely and promisingly with the co-operation of locals and both Bargoed Town Council and Caerphilly County Borough Council. Also, another batch of Fruit Trees has been procured for the Bargoed Urban Park Orchard.

February 19th saw Circus Berzercus entertain families at the Arthur Balfour Club, Aberbargoed, for a very enjoyable performance. The kids loved it and, all credit to them, their behaviour was exemplary. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments and the successful event organised by your Town Council. Thanks must go to the Balfour Club for accommodating us.



March 1st, St David's Day, was celebrated with an Afternoon Tea Party for the over 55s at Gilfach Workingmen's Club. We were entertained by a wonderful artist, the singer Rhyannon Stone, who stood in at very short notice, after a late cancellation. Hats off to her for her performance. As always, a splendid buffet was available and enjoyed by all. The afternoon was rounded off with a prize draw donated by your Town Council. Again, our sincere thanks to the staff and committee members of "The Workies".



Saturday 21st March saw the last event of the year, the Bargoed Spring Fair which replaced the cancelled Winter Fair last December. Fortunately, the weather gods looked kindly on us and granted us a lovely Spring day. The town was packed with craft and food stalls and plenty of rides and activities for children and was very well attended.

Your Town Council



"I am very proud to represent the Gilfach Ward both as a Town Councillor and as a County Councillor. I moved to Gilfach in 1997 and now consider myself very much a 'Gilfach Girl'. Being both a Bargoed Town and Caerphilly County councillor means I understand what both councils are responsible for, for example, roads, waste and schools are County and Bargoed Town Council provide a lot of the local events like the Older People events and the Music festival in July. They also provide small grants to local groups and I regularly promote and support organisations that are based in Gilfach."

-- **Councillor Carol Andrews**



"What a pleasure it has been to hold the position of Mayor this past year. I have been able to visit residents on occasions of a wedding anniversary or special birthday, either in their homes or at venues for their parties. To have been able to chat to them over a cup of tea or a dance at a party.

We think of our residents as being ordinary people but that is not the case as I found out when I talked to the 100 year old who during the second world war riveted panels to form the wings of Lancaster bombers. His story was truly amazing. Also the code breaker during the Second World War where I visited and saw her name etched in a brick on the wall of remembrance there. It turns out that our ordinary residents are no so ordinary after all. Most people think they have lived an ordinary life but when you talk to them about their past they all have a fascinating story to tell.

It has been a wonderful privilege.

I have also enjoyed attending the many functions which Bargoed Town Council have either funded or organised, which have all been wonderful also.

Thank you Bargoed Town Council for the privilege of this office."

-- **Councillor Howard Llewellyn**



"It has been a huge privilege to serve as a member of Bargoed Town Council since 2022 and to have had the opportunity to champion new ideas and events for the town. Our Bargoed May Fair was introduced to our events programme in 2023 and we saw the Bargoed Summer Music Festival along our high street in 2024 for the very first time. These new events were thanks to our residents, because you asked for them. We want to know what other great ideas you have, so please let us know what you would like your town council to do for your town."

-- **Councillor Dawn Ingram-Jones**

It is with a heavy heart that we report the sad passing of Councillor Josie Bissex.

A wonderfully warm, welcoming lady, who was passionate about 'her' community of Bargoed.

Fondly known as 'Josie', she served the community as a Bargoed Ward Councillor at Bargoed Town Council since election in 1997 and was very proud of her time as Mayoress from 2007-08.



Josie's passing leaves a huge gap in the Bargoed ward and the Greater Bargoed community; she will be tremendously missed. Rest in Peace Josie.

Your Town Council

Are you interested in getting involved in something new?
Ever thought of becoming a local councillor?

There are lots of ways you can help out or find Volunteering opportunities. Read on to find out more.

Your Community Needs YOU if you :

Are passionate
about your
community?

Have innovative
ideas for the
council?

Want to
help make a long-
lasting change?

Want to do
something
about an issue?

May 2027 is the next Local Council Elections when 16 Bargoed Town Council seats will be filled



What Your Town Council Does

Town Councils play a key role in local life. Councillors are local people who work to improve wellbeing, services and opportunities for everyone.

Your Town Councils provides and manages services such as festivals, family events, floral displays and festive lighting. They also support projects that enhance quality of life, e.g. art & craft groups, warm hubs, neighbourhood planning, youth activities, dementia-friendly groups and environmental initiatives.

They represent local views too—making sure the community has a voice in planning, policing, health services and discussions with government.

“Councillors and Town Councils speak up for their communities, helping to support, improve and shape their future.”

How to Become a Town Councillor

Town Councils rely on committed local people to represent their communities.

You can become a Councillor by standing for election, being co-opted to a vacant seat, or filling a casual vacancy.

Six quick steps to stand for election:

Check upcoming elections in your area:

www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/your-election-information

Submit your nomination to the CCBC Returning Officer.
Wait for confirmation that your nomination is accepted.
Your nomination is published by the principal authority.
Begin your campaign.
Polling day.

Town Councillors are elected local representatives who live or work in the community. Their role is to improve residents' lives by listening to local needs, helping with issues, shaping plans and working with community groups.

Their work focuses on three key areas:

Decision-making

Choosing what services to support, how money is spent and what policies to adopt.

Monitoring

Checking that council decisions are delivered effectively.

Local involvement

Staying connected with residents and organisations to represent community views.

Grants and Donations

Each year, Bargoed Town Council is proud to support the vital work of local voluntary organisations and community groups through grants, donations and practical partnership. These groups play an essential role in strengthening community wellbeing, offering activities and services that reach people of all ages and backgrounds. The funding we provide helps local volunteers deliver a wide range of projects—from social clubs and family activities to arts programmes, environmental initiatives and support services for older residents and young people. Many of these groups operate from much-loved community venues that act as hubs for connection, creativity, and local pride.

By investing in these organisations, we are investing in the people who know our community best. Their commitment, energy, and local knowledge ensure that support reaches those who need it most, and that opportunities for wellbeing, learning, and participation continue to grow. This section of the report highlights the achievements made possible through our shared efforts and celebrates the volunteers whose dedication enriches the life of our town.

Bargoed Town Council runs two main grant schemes through which the majority of its community based activities are delivered.

The first is a small grants programme which gives grants of up to £250 to local and/or voluntary organisations such as sports clubs and community groups who deliver services and activities for the benefit of residents in Aberbargoed, Bargoed, Gilfach and Park Estate.

The second is a discretionary fund where one-off donations or project grants are considered. These are sometimes for specific events such as the D-Day Anniversary where specific grants were offered for local voluntary groups to deliver open access celebration events for the community; or for a one-off activity such as the Forces Fitness activity workshops for Young People.

Members have also supported key community venues with a donation towards their winter overheads as it is recognised that residents rely heavily on the activities delivered by community venues such as the YMCA, St Gwladys' Church Hall, Cartref Community Hall and Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre.

During the 2025-2026 financial year, a total of EIGHTEEN small grants were awarded to the following local groups and voluntary organisations:

Bargoed and District Amateur Boxing Club

Bargoed Male Voice Choir

East View Allotments

Aberbargoed Old Friends

Margaret Street Allotments

Gilfach Ladies Bowls Club

Valley Daffodils

Platform for Change

St David's Foundation

AFC Bargoed

Cylch Meithrin

Oakland Hall Allotments

Aberbargoed Ladies Choir

Bargoed Gardening Club

Heol Fargod Allotments

Welsh Housing t/a Shelter Cymru

Bargoed Welfare Bowling Club

Read through the next 10 pages to see the impact these awards have had in your local community.

Members would like to extend their gratitude for all the image contributions from local organisations that have been included in this report. Thank You for sharing.

A NEW Community Grant Scheme is being launched in May 2026 which will allow for local groups to apply for up to £500 each year.

Please feel free to promote the availability of small grants to any community group or club that you are associated with, provided they deliver their activities for the benefit of local residents.

Application forms can be obtained from any ward Member or via the Bargoed Town Council website.

Community Wellbeing Events & Activities

Bargoed Gardening Club Event



"We would like to thank you for the ongoing support; the evenings were a great success as you can see from the photos"



St David's Hospice At Home Service

St David's Hospice at Home service supports patients who wish to receive end of life care at home, providing a high standard of care so even complex patients can remain at home, if that is their wish. The service enables family members to rest through the night and sleep, knowing their loved one is receiving the very best care.

"Since receiving the grant from Bargoed Community Council in October 2025, our Hospice at Home nurses have supported 14 patients living within the areas of Aberbargoed, Bargoed and Gilfach. This equates to 168 hours of care, our thanks to Bargoed Community Council for supporting St David's Hospice Care."



Bargoed Male Voice Choir

"The Grant we receive helps to cover the cost of Choir insurance, rental to the YMCA for use of their Hall for rehearsals. Also the helps with transport costs when travelling to venues. Last year we travelled to Hereford for a Charity event in Lower Hope Farm. Our mini tour to Dartmouth, representing the Welsh in Song. We also do a lot locally entertaining at Care homes and putting on Concerts throughout the Year."



Wales Air Ambulance



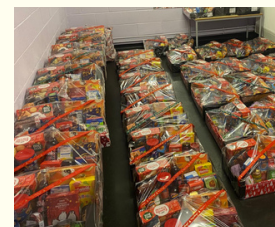
"The Wales Air Ambulance is the only air ambulance charity, based in and dedicated to the people of Wales. We deliver advanced lifesaving medical care 24/7 and rely entirely on charitable donations to keep the helicopters in the air and fleet of rapid response vehicles on the road. Since inception, we have attended over 55,000 missions and are on standby to attend those suffering a life or limb-threatening injury or illness."

Rhymney Valley Foodbank

"Last winter, we were able to provide Christmas Hampers to people in our community living with hunger and financial hardship, thanks to the generous support of our local Town Council and a local business.



For many, Christmas can be a particularly hard time and these hampers helped ease some of that pressure while reminding people that their community cares about them. This was a great example of how working together locally can make a real difference. We are very grateful to both the Town Council for their kindness and support - people often on the margins of our community were not forgotten at Christmas."



Everyone Deserves A Christmas Campaign



"For many people, Christmas can be a difficult and worrying time. Working closely with partners and frontline services allows us to identify those most in need and offer support where it will have the greatest impact. Initiatives like this help ensure families and individuals feel supported and valued during the festive period."



Community Wellbeing Events & Activities

AFC Bargoed

“The £250 grant from the Town Council has helped us be able to sustain providing football for 2 x Senior Teams and 1 x Youth team. The money has gone towards essential equipment (cones, balls, bibs etc) to help all teams.”



Platform



“Summer Wellbeing Event 21st August 2025 @ Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre - many thanks to Bargoed Town Council for the funding donation towards this event. Our latest wellbeing event was another huge success. We were lucky to have lots of organisations in attendance sharing info, freebies & advice to everyone who attended. FREE refreshments, breakfast pastries, toasted items and fresh fruit were available throughout the event. Everyone said they really enjoyed the event and were looking forward to the next one. All organisations said how they found it an ideal opportunity to “network” as well as meeting and supporting the public. In total we had 50+ individuals accessing the event and 14 organisations sharing info, freebies and offering advice.”

Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre Winter Fuel Grant

“The payments have helped us to keep all users of the space warm during these difficult times.”

“Look forward to coming here every week.”

“I’ve made new friends and look forward to meeting them here every week.”

“I thank the Town Council for your ongoing support throughout, not limited to the payments.”

“It’s been a lifeline.”

Self-Care Initiative for Teenagers

This Christmas saw a new project supported by the town council. A total of 90 self-care hampers for young people were distributed. Well done to everyone who became involved in this very worthwhile project.



“A HUGE thank you for your generous donations for our Christmas Hamper Appeal. I was astonished when the pupils came to collect me from class to see!”

Bargoed Boxing Club

“Bargoed Boxing Club would like to thank the Town Council for the grant of £250 which enabled us to purchase headguards, which are necessary for our boxers when taking part in sparring at the gym and competing in boxing shows around the country. Photographs show some of our boxers wearing the headguards whilst sparring, together with photographs of members of the senior section at a circuit training and punch bag session. Also, a photo of a few of our junior members wearing their new club kit. Our membership is increasing week on week. Since September 2024 over 170 adults and young people have trained at the gym and we currently have 35 full members who are now eager and ready to spar and box.”



Community Wellbeing Events & Activities

Bargoed Town Council remains focused on initiatives that enhance residents' lives, promote wellbeing, and build a stronger, more connected community.

St Gwladys' Church Hall



Wellbeing Day
for World Mental Health Day

St Gwladys Church Hall, Bargoed, CF81 8RP

Thursday 9th October 2025
2 - 6 pm

Let's raise awareness together about the importance of Mental Health.

2.10pm: Benefits of music on Mental Health and a sing-a-long (by Side by Side)

3pm: Mental Health talk (by Jolly Brew Crew)

4.30pm: Performance (by Stargood)

5pm: Laughter Yoga (by Thriving Communities)

Various wellbeing activities throughout the event including:

- Art (with Inside Out Cymru)
- Hand massage (with Graceful Therapies)
- 5 Ways to Wellbeing
- and more!

Come and have a chat with:

- Wellbeing Connectors
- Nature Wellbeing Co-ordinator
- GAVO
- Platform
- DEWIS
- and more!

FREE

“St. Gwladys Church Hall continues to be well-used by many and diverse groups from across the community. Within the last year, besides the private parties and long established groups like Slimming World, art and craft and Dance groups, we have opened our doors to new ventures; a weekly Go Connect group for the Social Gaming Network and a Walk ‘n’ Talk group aimed at reaching people with mental health issues.

Maintaining the Hall and ensuring it is a safe, warm and welcoming place is expensive and help from the Town Council has meant that we can keep hire rates at a reasonable cost and in some cases, support free of charge those projects reaching out to the most vulnerable in our town. We are hugely grateful for the support we receive from Bargoed Town Council.”



SGN
SOCIAL GAMING NETWORK

DO YOU ENJOY GAMING?
WANT TO BOOST CONFIDENCE AND CONNECT WITH LIKE MINDED PEOPLE?

COME ALONG TO OUR

BARGOED GAMING SESSIONS

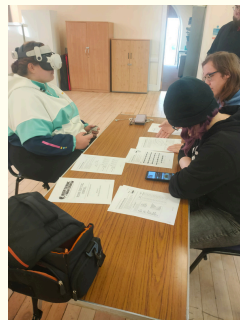
Providing a friendly, safe space to:

- Develop new skills
- Unlock potential
- Gain work experience
- Access new opportunities
- Build friendships
- Boost employability

PlayStation 4 Xbox One Nintendo Switch

@ ST GWGLADYS CHURCH
TUESDAYS:
10.00AM - 1.00PM

Contact us for more info:
hello@socialgamingnetwork.co.uk
07956 946414




WALKNTALK
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP

Monday Brew & Chat
St Gladys Church Hall, Bargoed

☕ Parents & Children 6:00pm - 7:00pm ☕ Main Brew & Chat Evening 7:00pm - 9:00pm

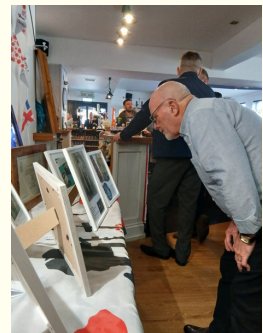
☕ Tea, coffee & biscuits available

A relaxed, welcoming space to chat, connect, or simply be around others. Come as you are. ❤️



Aberbargoed Old Friends

“Just a few lines to thank you for your support of our event following the 2025 Remembrance Parade. This coming together of our community to remember those who sacrificed so much in too many conflicts over the years, continues to grow in size and dedication. Aberbargoed Old Friends were honoured to organise a celebration of those who have served and continue to serve, in all branches of our armed services and asked for stories/photos from the village to create a display, alongside a buffet, kindly funded by Bargoed Town Council. This was something that was very well received by those attending at the George pub, after the parade, and something that we are looking to build on year on year, creating a comprehensive record of our village's history. We believe around 100 people were in attendance over the afternoon.”



Community Wellbeing Events & Activities

Bargoed Town Council remains focused on initiatives that enhance residents' lives, promote wellbeing and build a stronger, more connected community.

ACAT - VE Day (Two VE Day events were held in Aberbargoed:



Children's Event (5 May, St Peter's Church): Around 30 children and 25 adults attended. The children enjoyed traditional games with small prizes, followed by a tea party with jelly, blancmange, sandwiches, crisps, and cakes—some trying blancmange for the first time. A bric-a-brac stall and raffle raised £127 and ACAT donated £100 to the local foodbank. Despite cold weather, the event was very successful.



The organisers thanked Bargoed Town Council for the funding and support noting that attendees greatly appreciated both events.

Senior Citizens' Event (7 May, Balfour Club):

Approximately 72 attendees including local councillors and the Mayor, enjoyed tea and coffee, pass-the-parcel, a chip-shop lunch, entertainment from two local singers and games of bingo. Feedback was very positive, with some calling it the best event yet.



VE Day St Gwladys' Church Hall



VE Day A&A Club



Bargoed YMCA



"I want to thank the Town Council again for supporting us through these difficult times. The grant will support our energy costs so that we can heat this old building sufficiently for our users. This is vital as we support the Local Health Board in providing clinics and exercise classes for people with long term health issues including heart failure and long-term pulmonary issues. We have to ensure that the space is safe for them. We also support craft classes for parents and older people which require higher heating.



We know the importance of energy saving; we have installed solar panels with a Lottery grant and we are hoping for funding to install insulation as currently most of our heat is going straight out through the roof. We are part of a project with other YMCAs to distribute information about energy saving and we have also distributed warm packs to a variety of organisations including churches, community centres, social services, dementia services and various health groups. I have included some pictures of people with their packs. We are going to continue this work in the next financial year and are planning to hold regular energy surgeries where people can come for advice on reducing their usage and costs."



Community Wellbeing Events & Activities

During 2025-26, offerings from Bargoed Town Council included grant funding for several new initiatives to try and alleviate the cost of living difficulties being felt across the community.

Cartref Community Hall

“Great support off our town council helping us to keep our hall nice and warm for our old age ranging from 60 to 95 years. Much appreciated help with our heating bills. The town council goes above and beyond helping our older people have a place to socialise and have good cooked meals. Without this support Christmas parties where fifty older people attended and Galantine events wouldn't be possible.”



Valley Daffodils

“Valley Daffodils would like to say a sincere thank you to Bargoed Town Council for their grant donation of £250. This enabled us to host a Hawaiian Theme Evening which proved to be a great success. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening and a wonderful evening was had by all individuals and parent/carers who attended. We are very grateful for the support, which helps us continue to provide inclusive and engaging activities for our community.”



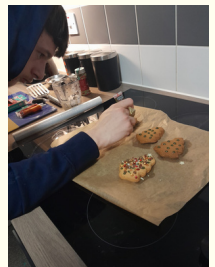
Gilfach Ladies Bowls Club

“Many thanks for your generous support. The grant has significantly helped our transport costs for away games.”



Llamau, Bargoed

“We would like to take this opportunity to thank Bargoed Town Council for supporting us with a Funding Grant again this Year. Your generosity makes a huge difference to those we support over the festive period, this can be a particularly difficult time for a lot of our YP's who do not have the opportunity to spend Christmas with their families. This year we were able to provide 2 Christmas lunches with all the trimmings for 19 young people, provide Christmas cookie backing activities and provide them with small token gifts. A heartfelt thank you from us all at Llamau Bargoed.”



ACAT Christmas Event

“The pre-Christmas event that ACAT held in the Balfour on Wednesday 26th November was a huge success - 67 people attended. The hall was decked with decorated Christmas jars and table cloths. Bro-Sannan Welsh school, 55 children, sang while the deputy head accompanied them playing the organ. The children had made Christmas cards which they handed out to the pensioners. The parents of both schools were invited to listen to their children with mince pies, chocolate mini rolls, tea and coffee provided.

We would like to thank Peter Collins and Yvonne Price for attending and an a big thank you to Peter and Bargoed Council for providing the short fall of selection boxes for the children as Bro-Sannan altered the number of children from 25 to 55 the night prior to the event.”

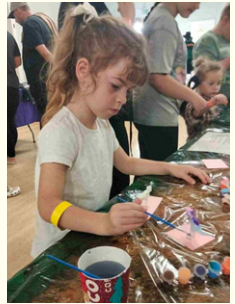
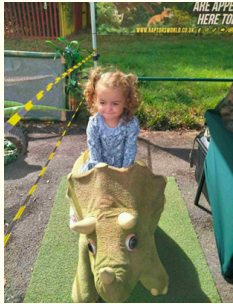


Collaborative Wellbeing Events

Bargoed Town Council is proud to collaborate with local voluntary organisations and community groups through practical partnerships. The funding we provide helps local organisations deliver a wide range of activities and events. This section of the report highlights the achievements made possible through collaboration and shared efforts to enrich the lives of residents and benefit our town - local businesses, catering, crafts and artists.

ROARsome Fun at the Bargoed Community Dinosaur Event

Bargoed Community Centre came alive on Tuesday 26th August as 247 children—and their families—enjoyed a packed day of dinosaur-themed activities delivered by the Parent Network, proudly funded by Bargoed Town Council. Originally planned for 200 children, demand quickly exceeded expectations, and even with a few returns, every space was filled. An additional 47 walk-ins were welcomed on the day, with activities flexed so every child could take part. Families praised the smooth organisation, especially the two time-slot system, which ensured children had plenty of time to explore all activities. Younger children enjoyed dedicated play areas, while older ones immersed themselves in interactive dinosaur fun. Over 300 hot dogs were served, keeping everyone fuelled throughout the day. The event also helped connect families with local support organisations, adding extra value beyond the entertainment. With excellent feedback and a fantastic turnout, the dinosaur event stands as a great example of community spirit in action—a truly roarsome day for Bargoed.



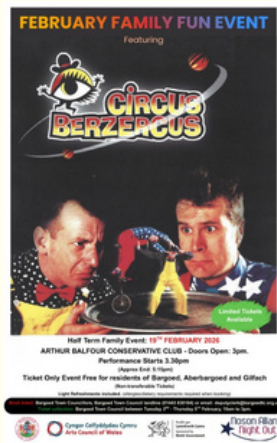
Trunk or Treat Event

“Spooktacular fun at the Trunk Or Treat event at Bargoed Morrisons underground car park. What a fantastic event as always!!!! Well done to the organisers, everyone who dressed up and decorated their cars and, of course, those that attended the event. I hope we see Trunk Or Treat in Bargoed every year as it's something people really look forward to now. Thank you to Bargoed Town Council for sponsoring the event.” 🎃 🧛 🧟 🧑🎃



Circus Berzercus Event

112 people of all ages attended the event at the Arthur Balfour Club in Aberbargoed and it was a great success! Thank you to the Arts Council of Wales and Night Out Scheme for your support.



Collaborative Wellbeing Events



Flossy & Boo Sleigh Spotters

Sleigh Spotters is a magical interactive show from the minds of Flossy and Boo, suitable for all ages. It was great to see the joy on the faces of the children at this wonderful festive event held at Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre. It was a great success! Thank you to the Arts Council for Wales and Night Out Scheme for your support.



Undermined - a one man play by Danny Mellor

"Well done Bargoed Town Council for bringing Danny Mellor all the way down from Yorkshire today just for us. He was absolutely brilliant in his one-man play 'Undermined'. He was so passionate! From the poster I wasn't sure what to expect but it was hilarious, sad and made me angry at times. I laughed and was a bit teary - very emotional if you lived through it.

The Miner's Strike lasted a whole year and they really struggled. I worked at the DHSS at the time and all we could give them was milk tokens for their children. Large parts of the UK were decimated, killing off coal mining and wrecking manufacturing. Harrowing times that we should never forget!"



Collaborative Wellbeing Events

During 2025-26, Bargoed Town Council provided the funding to commission three events, delivered by local organisation, to encourage older people to leave their homes and socialise:

Over 60s Summer Party at Gilfach Workmen's Club - 18th July 2025
Festive Social - Arthur Balfour Club in Aberbargoed - 19th December 2025
St David's Day Party at Gilfach Workmen's Club - 1st March 2026

Over 60s Summer Party

A wonderful afternoon with entertainment and a buffet, enjoyed by the 89 adults who attended the Summer Party at Gilfach "Workies"



Festive Social



68 adults attended the Festive Social and were entertained by a wonderful singer, Kathleen Jenkins and the superb comedian, Lenny Dee.

St David's Day Party

St David's Day was celebrated with an Afternoon Tea Party for the over 55s with 69 adults attending. We were entertained by a wonderful singer, Rhyannon Stone, who stood in at very short notice after a late cancellation. Hats off to her for her performance. As always, a splendid buffet was available and enjoyed by all. The afternoon was rounded off with a prize draw donated by the Town Council.



"A really lovely afternoon. Thank you for all your hard work"

"Good Buffet
Good Artist
Great afternoon
Well done Bargoed Town Council"

"Brilliant afternoon. Looking forward to the next one"



"Really Good Afternoon. Singer was great, right choice of songs for those attending. Buffet was good. Thanks to everyone for all the hard work in organising the event!"

Sports and Activities for Young People

We are proud to celebrate the success of two major funded initiatives that expanded opportunities for children, young people and families across the community. By investing in free access to sport and leisure, the council helped support wellbeing, encourage active lifestyles, and strengthen local connections.

Bargoed Town Council Community Sport Scheme

Heolddu Sport Scheme
21st July - 29th August (Mon/Fri)
To check your eligibility for free spaces email Dale Lewis on sport@caerphilly.gov.uk

Aberbargoed Hanger
For children of Aberbargoed FREE activities. 10am-2pm, 30 free spaces, first come first serve.
18th 19th 20th 21st 22nd August (Mon/Fri)
26th 27th 28th 29th August (Tue/Fri)
Ages 7-12
Free

Parents must complete a consent form prior to their child taking part

Sponsored by Bargoed Town Council

Summer sports schemes at Heolddu Leisure Centre and Aberbargoed Hanger were subsidised through the provision of 450 free child spaces.

Sessions at Heolddu Leisure Centre in Bargoed were extremely well received, with 296 out of 300 free spaces used. Families enjoyed high-quality activities during the school holidays without worrying about cost and the initiative helped raise awareness of the excellent facilities available locally. The council also funded a vibrant nine-day programme at The Hanger offering a mix of sports, games, and wellbeing activities. Engagement was strong with 187 total participations recorded and 92 different young people took part.



Bargoed Community Council is delighted to share the fantastic success of our funded Forces Fitness Health, Well-being and Resilience sessions that supported confidence, teamwork, resilience and positive routines, helping reduce the risk of isolation and inactivity during the school break. Across 3 full activity days, 75 local residents took part—including 69 young people—and the feedback was outstanding. Participants rated sessions and instructors 5 out of 5, with 100% saying they had fun and would love to take part again. Tug of War, obstacle courses and tyre runs were among the clear favourites. Comments like “It was amazing and very fun” and “I would love to come again” show just how much these sessions meant to our young people. With such enthusiasm we look forward to bringing more opportunities in the future.

Free Skateboarding Lessons in Bargoed and Aberbargoed parks

FREE SKATEBOARDING LESSONS

BARGOED AND ABERBARGOED SKATEPARKS

4TH, 11TH AND 18TH AUGUST

PRE-BOOK TO SECURE A SPACE (OR TURN UP IF WE HAVE SPACES)

FUNDED BY BARGOED TOWN COUNCIL

SEE DATES AND TIMES ON THE LINK OR QR CODE

WWW.SKATEBOARDACADEMY.UK/BOOKING

Bargoed Town council sponsored community skateboarding sessions in partnership with Sport Caerphilly. Children from Bargoed, Aberbargoed and Gilfach attended for free. The sessions were run by Skateboard Academy UK.

“Learning how to skateboard is difficult and requires perseverance and resilience. This can help children to develop a positive attitude to challenges in life.”



Free Monthly Games Club

Caerphilly Table-Top & Gamers Society were funded by Bargoed Town Council to provide free gaming sessions at Bargoed library. The timetable included boardgames and STEMHOUR.

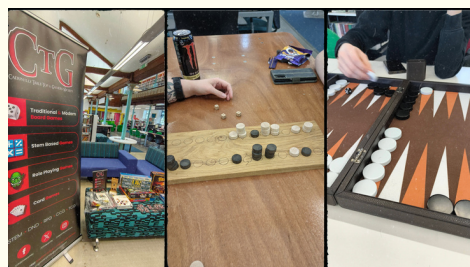
“Thanks to Bargoed Town Council funding to help make these session free for all!” – Vik Yadh

CTG

Games Board Games Magic Party Hero Quest

07.06.2025 | 05.07.2025
20.09.2025 | 11.10.2025
15.11.2025 | 13.12.2025

https://www.facebook.com/CTGCaerphilly



Sports and Activities for Young People

Workshops: Salvaged Creations Wales, I-Make, CIC

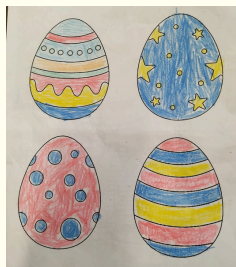


“Both events were well attended and we received lots of positive feedback. Children and young people were given a task, however, were encouraged to put their own stamp on it, and sometimes this meant them being so creative it went 'off task' slightly, but that was ok, as the children were happy. In The October half term we made recycled scarecrows and at Christmas time, we made recycled wreaths. We definitely felt the funding was worth it, not only in the sense of creativity, but also in terms of learning about recycling and looking after the environment.” – Gemma & Layton, Salvaged Creations

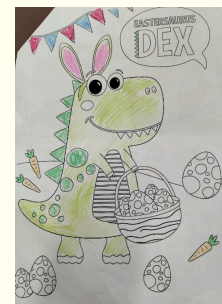


Bargoed Town Council are proud to have supported competitions that provided a lot of fun, brought the community together and encouraged footfall in Bargoed town centre.

Easter Activity Trail Prize Giving 🐣



The activity took place throughout the Easter holidays and participants followed the clues around the town centre and coloured in an Easter picture. Congratulations to the winners and runners up who each received a Easter hamper prize for their efforts, which were kindly donated by Bargoed Town Council.



Bargoed Art Competition Prize Giving



To celebrate the festive season, local children aged 4-11 years were invited to design a colourful festive scene that featured Bargoed town centre.

The winner of the competition also had their artwork displayed in a prominent shop window location in the town.



Festive Window Decoration Competition



“CCBC’s Town Centre Team were delighted with the positive response to the Christmas Window Dressing Competition for businesses and Bargoed Christmas Art Competition for children. Such activities boost footfall, encourage higher dwell time and bring the local community together. Bargoed Town Council’s generous contribution towards the prizes helped incentivise participation, particularly the Window Dressing Competition which saw a record number of entrants this year, and is an excellent example of collaborative working.”

Christmas 2025

Bargoed Town Council provides **FESTIVE LIGHTING** displays across the Greater Bargoed community - Aberbargoed, Bargoed, Gilfach and Park Estate.

Our displays include:

- Aberbargoed - lamp post figurines throughout Aberbargoed, a Christmas tree at the bus stop interchange, icicles and artificial Christmas tree at St Peters church.
- Bargoed - lamp post figurines at the traffic lights near Morrisons, lamp post figurines and cross street lighting in Bargoed town centre, a cut tree on Hanbury Square, festoon lights around and in the rear trees at the miners heads and tree lights at Royale Square and St Gwladys church.
- Gilfach - lamp post figurines throughout Gilfach to outside the Capel Hotel and an artificial tree in Gilfach Memorial Garden.
- Park Estate - the roundabout and living Christmas tree at the community centre on Park Estate.



Other festive activities include:

- Provision of a selection box: for every primary school aged child (including home schooled children); foodbanks; children in hospital (via Gwent police community support officers); for distribution by Aberbargoed Fire Service Santa's Sleigh Ride.
- Grant funding to support Operation Santa which provides Christmas gifts to looked after children.
- Donations to the two Foodbanks (one in Aberbargoed and one in Bargoed).



Sadly, our planned Winter Fair in December was again cancelled because of inclement weather, for the 3rd year in succession. The town council is looking into alternatives for the community to be able to come together to celebrate 2026 festivities.



Environmental Projects

We recognise the difference it makes to residents to have their local surroundings looking pleasing and continue the commitment to using bulbs, shrubs and flowering planting to improve the community. The improvements to an individual's wellbeing is continually being fed back to Members of the Town Council from all sections of the community.

Year Round Floral Displays in 2025-26

Our displays included barrier baskets at:

- Aberbargoed - the bus stop interchange.
- Bargoed - at Lowri plaza and Upper High Street.
- Gilfach - the bridge entering from the South and the bridge at the centre of the village.



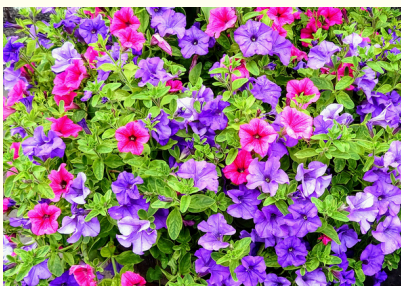
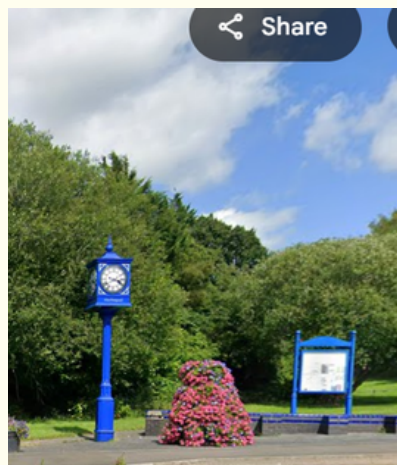
Recycled barrels at:

- Aberbargoed - the bus stop interchange.
- Bargoed - throughout the whole town centre.
- Gilfach - the island opposite the Capel hotel.



- Beehive Planter at Aberbargoed central interchange.
- Floral Fountain Planters at Royal Square in Bargoed.
- Three Octagonal Planters at Hanbury Square in Bargoed.

“As we drove through the village, the flowers looked gorgeous, such a great homecoming.”



Environmental Projects

Protecting biodiversity is one of Bargoed Town Council's priorities.

Aberbargoed Graig Orchard and Environmental Project

A local resident of Aberbargoed, who is a keen environmentalist and entomologist, has been active in setting up this project and sought the assistance of Bargoed Town Council, Caerphilly Borough Council and Glo i Natur to co-operate in the planning and funding issues involved in this major environmental venture situated at the top end of Commin Road. Thus far, he has cleared a large tract of overgrown land and his efforts have been very commendable and achieved with our financial help and the involvement of local volunteers. Bargoed Town Council have agreed further funding for fruit trees and will continue to monitor the progress and future needs of this highly important venture.



Cylch Meithrin, Aberbargoed

"The grant has allowed us to enhance the outdoor area to build a mud kitchen. We used bark, soil, stones in tyres to create an area outside. The area is still in working order but this has allowed the children to enhance their exploration skills and curiosity."



Yew Steet Park in Aberbargoed - food growing area volunteers



The four raised beds at this location needed a little TLC earlier last summer so, in June, town councillors arranged for a tonne of topsoil to be delivered to the site. With the able assistance of staff and students of the Hangar in Aberbargoed, the beds were weeded, refilled and replanted on a glorious summer's morning. The volunteers agreed to adopt this project and to maintain the beds including litter picking. Tools were donated by Bargoed Town Council and everything appeared to be progressing well. Sadly for us -- fortunately for them -- the Hangar secured funding to develop their own garden on their premises so were not able to continue with the Yew Street Project. We wish them well with their exciting new venture.

The ongoing maintenance of the beds and orchard has attracted the interest of a local resident who is working on a different environmental project close by and hopes to involve local volunteers to promote the upkeep of this important and valuable asset to the community.

Bargoed May Fair 2025

The collaboration between Bargoed Town Council and Caerphilly County Borough Council to host an annual events programme for Bargoed Town Centre, its residents and local businesses has proved invaluable. The partnership has enabled crucial financial support to be secured, allowing the delivery of an enhanced events programme directly to the local community; ensuring the events team are not only achieving project goals but also supporting the town centre team and their collaborative work with local businesses. Events draw in crowds, directly benefiting restaurants, retailers and hospitality businesses. They create vibrancy, transforming public spaces into hives of activity whilst improving the town's image.



“Marvellous day and well organised as always! It was a lovely turnout and it was great to see so many people in the town, with lots of different people too. It was just like the old days in Bargoed, and my shop did really well too during the event.”

– **John Griffiths (JDS Antiques)**



“We were very busy and it was nice to see so many people in town! It was great having the road closed to traffic, which encouraged visitors to walk through the town. There was a nice mix of stalls selling a good range of products, and the nice weather brought everyone out too. Thank you to CCBC for putting the picnic tables outside our shop, which definitely helped our business on the day.”

– **Anthony Strinati (The New Continental Café)**



“Barnardo's in Bargoed would like to thank everyone who attended the event and who came in and supported our charity. The atmosphere in Town was wonderful and it made a great difference to our normal Saturday in Bargoed. We raised extra income because of the support from our community who came out and supported us so thank you all for helping us in Changing Childhoods, Changing lives of the children and young families we support.”

– **Judith Voyle (Barnardo's Bargoed)**



“Another fantastic event delivered by probably the best event and support team in Wales!” – **Sian's Emporium Ltd**

Gwent Police (via Facebook):

Caerphilly North Neighbourhood Team attended the Bargoed May Fair yesterday. The team had a stall at the event to provide crime prevention advice and materials, as well as offering the children colouring and activity packs. Those in attendance also had the opportunity to try on police uniform and look around the police car.

Bargoed Summer Music Festival 2025

It was a hot one for our Bargoed Summer Music Festival and what a day it was!!!! Fantastic bands and brilliant entertainers; a craft market with lots of goodies and treats; shop stalls, charity and community groups getting involved; and many residents and visitors joining in with the fun which went on into the night at local venues. It was wonderful to see our town so busy. A brilliant day and we can't wait for next year's music festival!



“Oakdale Silver Band would like to say a big thank you to Caerphilly County Council for inviting us to celebrate their music festival at Bargoed.” – **Oakdale Silver Band (via Facebook)**

“We had our opening day on Saturday and we were incredibly busy. The footfall through the door was great, with people of all ages, and the feedback we had was absolutely fantastic!” – **The Darts Dungeon**

“These events are desperately needed here in Bargoed to give shops a boost in trade and encourage people into town. Thank you to all those who helped organise this event.” – **Judith Voyle, Barnardo's**

“Seeing happy smiling faces is priceless to me. This what music is all about, bringing joy, happiness and loads of dancing.” – **Russell Jones, Jr. (via Facebook)**

“It was the busiest day we've had in a while, our music space was great and all the bands were well-supported by spectators. It was great to see people in town and the event has grown since last year.” – **Emporium Snooker Club (The Snooks)**

“Great day was had by all and we saw a big increase in footfall. The sensory spaces were well-used and people took advantage of our cool space, given the scorching hot weather. Visitors also joined in with our Summer Reading Challenge too!” – **Bargoed Library**



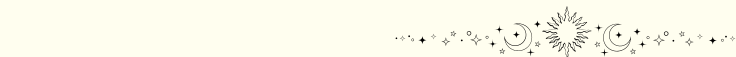
Bargoed Spring Fair 2026



What a lovely day it was at Bargoed Spring Fair 2026! The sun was shining! 😊 So much to do! 🎪 So much to see! 🐰 So much to eat! 🍪🍷 So much FUN! 🎉

Everyone was smiling! 😊

The town was busy all day and members of Bargoed Town Council met with lots of residents and visitors - thanks to everyone who completed our Priorities and Community Cinema Consultation surveys. It was also lovely to see Nick Smith MP supporting our event.



This event was jointly funded by Bargoed Town Council and Caerphilly County Borough Council and was thoroughly enjoyed not just by our own community but also families from far and wide.

The Town Council made good use of a vacant property on Hanbury Road where a hub was open for the day. Town Councillors were present for the duration of the Fair to answer questions and collect opinions and ideas of what residents want us to deliver in the future. We talked to a lot of people and received excellent feedback confirming it was another successful event jointly delivered by CCBC and Bargoed Town Council.



Financial Information as at 31.3.2026

Members Attendance

	FC	PR	EW
CA	11/14	5/9	7/7
JB	9/11	2/2	5/6
CBF	10/14	8/9	
RC	14/14	8/9	
PC	14/14	9/9	
JD	11/14	6/9	
SHT	12/14		5/7
DIJ	11/14		7/7
MIJ	10/14		7/7
HL	14/14	9/9	5/7
JMc	14/14		5/7
RP	7/14		0/7
YP	10/14	9/9	

F = Full Council Meeting;

PR = Policy & Resources Committee;

EW = Engagement & Wellbeing Committee;

Cells with no content indicate no committee membership.

Payments to Members

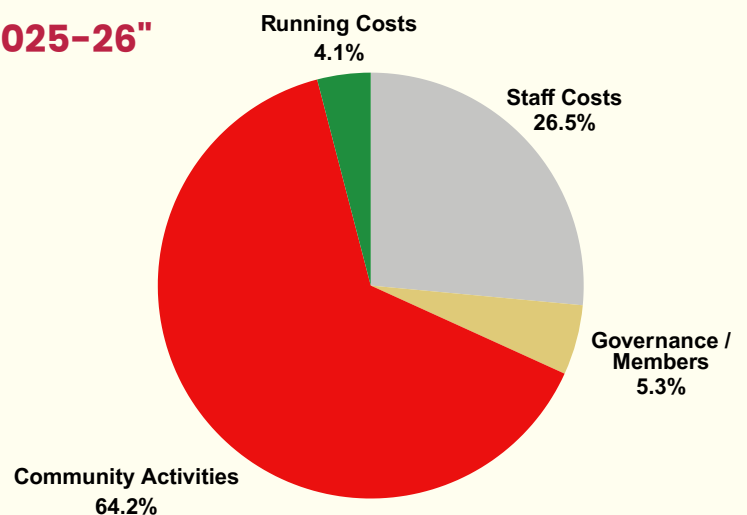
Total Work From Home	Total Consumables	Senior Role Total	Mayor's Personal Payment	Deputy Mayor Personal Payment	Total Financial Loss Payments	Total Travel Costs	Total Care Costs	Total Attendance Allowance	Grand Total	No. of Members declined WFH	No. of Members declined Consumables
1378.00	459.33	500.00	0	0	0	0	0	1890.00	4227.33	4	4

The primary income for a local council is the 'precept', which is the element of council tax that is paid to the council. In addition, local councils **may** have other sources of income such as bank interest, grants and donations.

For 2025-26 the **precept** was £224,240

Receipts		Payments	
Precept	224,240	Staff Costs	53,093
Bank Interest	3,968	Governance/ Members	10,655
VAT	7,699	Community Activities	128,655
Total Income	235,906	Running Costs	8,124
		VAT	7,130
		Total Expenditure	207,658

“Over 30% increase in Community Activities in 2025-26”



How to keep up to date with what is going on in your community

Gilfach Ward

Carol Andrews
CllrAndrews@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07522222109



Howard Llewellyn
CllrLlewellyn@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07435976289

Bargoed Ward

Sue HamerThomas
CllrHamerThomas@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07852907435



Joshua McCarthy
CllrMcCarthy@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07512697999

Dawn Ingram-Jones
CllrIngramJones@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07484754559



Chris Bissex-Foster
CllrBissexFoster@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07710961042

Aberbargoed Ward

Megan IngramJones
CllrM-IngramJones@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07854423908



Yvonne Price
CllrYPrice@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07496004479

Jacky Davies
CllrDavies@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07538825316



Peter Collins
CllrCollins@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07887397664

Park Ward

Reg Carroll
CllrCarroll@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07428158848



Rhyanon Price
CllrRPrice@bargoedtc.org.uk
Tel: 07494468521

Events and Activities are promoted on:

Website: www.bargoedtc.org.uk

Facebook: #bargoedtc

Instagram: @bargoedtown

Follow us on either Facebook or Instagram or both.

Residents are able to contact the Town Council through using the CONTACT US section on the website [Contact us - Bargoed Town Council Bargoed Town Council](#) or via the Town Councillors (telephone numbers and email addresses above).

Bargoed Town Council

Town Hall
Bargoed Police Station
Hanbury Road
Bargoed
CF818XF

Town Clerk/RFO: Helen Williams

clerk@bargoedtc.org.uk

Deputy Clerk/Deputy RFO: Christopher Gapper deputyclerk@bargoedtc.org.uk

Telephone: 01443 830184

Open 9am-3pm Wednesdays.