

Draft Unapproved Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 17th June 2026

Present in person: Councillors H Llewellyn; M Roberts; P Collins; M IngramJones; D IngramJones; Y Price.

Present remotely: Councillors S Hamer Thomas; R Price; J McCarthy; C Andrews; J Davies.

Chairperson: Councillor H Llewellyn (Mayor)

Also Present: Mrs. H Williams (Town Clerk / RFO)

Police Report

The Mayor advised of no police report received however the Town Council have received a request to promote the Gwent Police Community Matters scheme with a facility for residents to sign up and receive information firsthand, but also the ability to report issues and provide information to the police.

To receive Apologies for Absence.

Councillor R Carroll (Away); C Bissex Foster (Away).

To receive Declarations of Interests or Dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate. No declarations were made.

Press and Public Participation Session

No enquiries received by the Clerk.

1. To hear from the clerk, receive, review and approve the draft unapproved minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 27th May 2026.

Councillor M Ingram-Jones moved; Councillor Y Price seconded.

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of business and instruct the chair to sign.

2. To receive information from the Mayor regarding the Summer Sport Scheme to be delivered from both the Hangar, Aberbargoed and Heolddu Leisure Centre and the proposal for sessions with the Skateboarding Academy and approve expenditure.

The Mayor provided the following information:

As requested by Members, the summer sport scheme is to be delivered from the Hangar Aberbargoed for 9 days with 30 free spaces per day, and from Heolddu Leisure Centre in Bargoed for the 6 weeks summer holidays with 15 free spaces allocated each day. Additionally, skateboarding sessions will be delivered by the Skateboard Academy on four dates of 20/7; 27/7; 3/8; 10/8 at both Aberbargoed and Bargoed skate parks.

Councillors R Price and S Hamer-Thomas joined the meeting online during this item of business.

Resolved to approve the delivery plans and authorise a total of £8780 expenditure.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19

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3. To receive information from the clerk regarding the Summer Party for older people, consider options and provide instruction regarding dates, catering and entertainment.

The clerk provided Members with an update on issues relating to the Summer event planned for July 2026. Members discussed the circumstances **resolving** to reschedule to Friday 18th September 2026 at the Arthur Balfour Conservative and Workingmen's Club, Aberbargoed; noting the importance of these events for older people's wellbeing.

Catering quotations were considered from three local providers, noting discounts offered and quality of provision in previous events.

Resolved to approve S Grandon authorising expenditure of £1033.50 (catering for 130); £250 artist provided by the venue; venue costs of up to £200 for staffing & cleaning. Prizes for the draw to be provided from annual budget previously authorised by council.

Local Government Act 1972, s.145.

4. To receive the following items from the clerk:

4.1 April 2026 Update on the Bargoed Town Centre Audit

Noted. Councillor D Ingram-Jones advised of also having recently reported new issues relating to concrete blocks, cleaning and weeds throughout the town centre.

4.2 Arrangements for a visit from the area lead of the Youth Service

Resolved to invite the officer to the September 2026 meeting of town council.

4.3 Details of Barnardo's Bargoed award ceremony

Details shared of 1pm at Penallta House on 7th July 2026.

4.4 Platform wellbeing sessions at Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre to December 2026.

Information noted.

4.5 Laptop quotations – Members are required to authorise the purchase of one G9 laptop and one G10 laptop with setup costs totalling £1395 ex vat.

The clerk provided three sets of quotations for the IT equipment including a business account and an Online source and reported that only one provider included installation and set-up for the equipment. Members agreed the need for an additional laptop in the office for working groups to move forward with annual report production and project work.

Resolved to approve E-infinity quotation, authorising £1395 net expenditure.

Local Government Act 1972, s111.

4.6 Festive lighting update and quotations. Members are required to confirm the contractor for the installation, maintenance, storage and testing of both the festive lighting and the cut Christmas tree on Hanbury Square.

The clerk reported that four suppliers were contacted regarding the two year festive lighting specification for the 2026 and 2027 festive seasons. Two full quotations were received, and one "tree only" quotation.

The council reviewed all quotations, noting considerable cost differences.

Resolved to award a contract for the cut Christmas tree on Hanbury Square separately to the festive Lighting Service Provision, and secure the services of JS Lee and Elsbury Access Platforms Ltd. £7178.60 (2026) and £7555 (2027) expenditure authorised.

Local Government Act, 1972 s.144.

5. To receive feedback from Cllr Collins' attendance at the One Voice Wales Cost of Living Crisis

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session of 17th June 2026.

Councillor Collins advised attending the online briefing, which he felt was well attended. The Bevan report, the Anti-poverty alliance and the Welsh Government poverty statement which had been published early in the day were all discussed. He encouraged Members to review the Bevan report. A Winter wellbeing grant was mentioned; examples of repair cafes, volunteer drivers, cwtch dementia cafes and several volunteer-led initiatives were provided. The One Voice Wales cost of living website was referred to during the meeting as was the Facebook cost of living forum. Two Members mentioned having signed up the forum.

Sports Development grants were also discussed along with grants for councils with annual income of less than £25,000.

6. To consider the One Voice Wales Civility and Respect Pledge. Members are requested to commit to working with a culture of civility and respect by signing up to the pledge and registering it with One Voice Wales.

Resolved to complete and sign up to the pledge. The clerk was instructed to register this with One Voice Wales, noting their feeling that all Members should at a minimum be observing the conduct mentioned.

7. To hear from the Engagement Lead and confirm arrangements for the Summer Music Festival. Councillor M Ingram-Jones invited Members to volunteer to support the engagement activity during the Music Festival, noting this to be the last event of the planned consultation on the Town Council priorities and that data analysis work would follow.

Councillors D Ingram-Jones, M Roberts, H Llewellyn, P Collins, S Hamer-Thomas advised of availability. Councillor M Ingram-Jones suggested that Members use the library as their base, but reminded everyone that photographs still needed to be taken.

Councillors Collins, Roberts and Y Price offered to assist with data analysis. M Ingram-Jones to liaise with them after the event.

She moved on to remind Members that the hard copy annual reports they requested needed to be distributed in the community without delay; and that the two fun days delivered by Forces Fitness during August need promotion also.

8. To consider vacancies for minor authority representation on the following primary schools:

8.1 St Gwladys (Bargoed)

Resolved to appoint Councillor M Roberts.

8.2 Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed

Resolved to appoint Councillor R Price.

8.3 Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Sannan

No appointment at this time.

9. To receive Members suggestions for strategic candidate sites and areas of search for the Cardiff Capital Region Strategic Development Plan (SDP) as circulated to Members electronically prior to the meeting.

A Member spoke about the Cardiff Capital Region team seeking sites to develop employment opportunities.

Resolved to advise the following:

Members recommend looking at moving the existing bus station to the South end of Bargoed on the plateau adjacent to the current car park at Morrison's supermarket. This will bring public transport

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closer to the retail area of the town, and free up the existing bus station area for development into a multi-use leisure and community space including the provision of a drive through food outlet, all of which would offer employment opportunities.

In accordance with standing orders, the last item on the agenda is confidential, therefore confidential minutes have been produced for this item.

This concluded business of the meeting.

The Chair thanked all present, and the meeting was closed at 19.23pm

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