



Draft Unapproved Minutes of the Events and Environment Committee Meeting 2nd October 2024

Present: Councillors R Carroll; S Hamer-Thomas; P Collins; D IngramJones; Y Price.

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Clerk.

Meeting Chair: Councillor P Collins

1. To receive Apologies for Absence.

Cllr R Price (work)

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

Councillor HamerThomas declared an interest in agenda item 12.2 in respect of the Parent Network.

3. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the Events & Environment Committee 3rd July 2024.

Councillor Carroll moved the minutes as a true record of proceedings with Councillor Y Price seconding. The committee instructed the chair to sign the documents.

4. Press and Public Participation Session.

No enquiries received by the clerk.

5. To receive information from the clerk on the craftwork displays; carry out an evaluation of the Bargoed in Bloom 2024 initiative and provide instruction to the clerk in respect of members requirements for 2025.

Members spoke about the importance of continuing with the Bargoed in Bloom initiative as it is a positive wellbeing activity that has gained the involvement of several voluntary organisations across the community. The committee considered the living floral displays, the flower wall trial, traders windows and the column wraps. Members unanimously resolved to maintain the same scheme for the living floral displays with the autumn planting regime included. The clerk was instructed to liaise with the contractor to secure quotations for next year's budget planning, and to facilitate a meeting with the senior town centre officer for CCBC and accompany Cllr D IngramJones in discussing the craftwork displays for next year. Members resolved to run a best dressed shop window 2025 scheme across the community in line with the Bargoed in Bloom initiative with 3 plaques.

6. To discuss arrangements for the Scarecrow Trail in Bargoed, consider any additional task requirements and authorise expenditure as necessary.

The clerk advised that so far eleven traders have signed up to participate in the scarecrow trail in Bargoed town centre. Members will visit other traders over the next few days to encourage more involvement.

7. To advise the clerk of any member requests or requirements for the following:

7.1 Festive Shopping Event 21st November 2024 – No specific requests from the committee.

7.2 Winter Fair and Music Parade 7th December 2024 – including Christmas Tree switch on – characters as per the 2023 request and also the silver band and salvation army band to both be invited to take part in the Christmas tree switch on at the end of the event.

7.3 VE Day 8th May 2025 – expenditure resolution required – RESOLVED to deliver the same as the DDay event with a £500 budget. Flags, a church service and light refreshments. Liaise with the fish kitchen to enquire if they would like to be involved.

8. To confirm the date 3rd March 2025 for the St David's Day Event at Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre, and discuss refreshments and entertainment requirements. Members request the event is held on Saturday 1st March 2024 if possible. Primary schools to be contacted, Samantha Morley to be approached to sing and also Bargoed Community Choir. Refreshments to go into the lounge area rather than the main hall. Youth Representatives to be asked to recruit volunteers to help with the refreshments. Budget of £1,600.

9. To receive an event report from the Parent Network on the recent Pirate Picnic in Gilfach and provide instruction to the clerk for inclusion in budget planning for 2025.

Members noted the event report and commented on parking being problematic in that venue. Feedback has been very positive and the event is most worthwhile delivering again next year. The committee instructed the clerk to secure the services of the Parent network suggesting the field at the Hangar in Aberbargoed to be a better venue with adequate parking and the possibility of use of toilets. £2,000 budget allocation.

10. To discuss participation statistics from the CCBC Sports Development Team on the Summer Sports Scheme along with information from the clerk on October Sports provision, and provide instruction to the clerk for 2025 budget planning.

The committee spoke at length about ways of effectively using the subsidised spaces on the sports scheme. Some members felt strongly that benefits should not be the preferred method adopted while other Members felt the means tested benefits are the most favourable if post codes are to be discontinued. The committee instructed the clerk to communicate to officers at CCBC that the same level of funding as 2024 will be maintained for 2025 and for officers to make suggestions about how they feel spaces can be fairly subsidised.

11. To delegate members for laying remembrance wreaths and confirm instruction for lamp post poppies.

Mayor will lay a wreath with Gilfach primary school at the memorial garden in Gilfach; and will attend the war memorial at St Gwladys Bargoed on Sunday 10th November.

12.10pm the clerk left the room and returned at 12.12pm. Cllr Carroll left the room at the same time, the meeting resumed at 12.14pm. Cllr Y Price delegated to lay the wreath at the service in Aberbargoed if it goes ahead. Cllrs Carroll, Collins and Y Price will liaise 4th November 2024 with community volunteers to put out lamp post poppy displays and unknown soldier figurines. Deputy Clerk instructed to liaise with St Gwladys church about accessing the crypt to collect the figurines and Cllr Carroll will arrange to collect the wreaths.

12. To discuss correspondence received from:

12.1 Usborne Books Partner – instruction required – Cllr Y Price stepped out of the meeting 12.22pm and returned 12.23pm, the meeting continued by instructing the clerk to liaise with primary schools to gauge their opinions regarding the substitution of selection boxes with books.

12.2 Parent network – resolution required – Cllr Hamer Thomas left the room. The parent network reached out to all community councils to seek support in funding and providing selection boxes for their annual pantomime outing. As the network has already received a small grant for their Trunk or Treat Event members discussed the possibility of providing selection boxes. The clerk was instructed to contact the network to establish how many children are involved, where they live, what funds have been secured etc. Item to go onto the next agenda for a resolution. Cllr Hamer Thomas returned to the meeting.

13. To receive information from the chair on environmental projects including:

13.1 Food Growing Areas – the chair advised of having met with keep Wales tidy officers with no expansion pack available for the community orchard due to uncertainty of the housing development in the area, and of benches available for Yew Street park. Members resolved to request two heavy duty recycled plastic seating benches and top soil for the beds. The clerk was instructed to seek permission from CCBC along with a quotation for the installation of two concrete plinths to support the benches.

13.2 Daffodil bulb distribution – resolution and instruction required by the clerk. – Cllr Y Price left the meeting room 12.43pm and returned at 12.44pm – the meeting continued – RESOLVED to distribute the daffodil bulbs to the six primary schools as soon as possible.

13.3 Labels on Planters on Hanbury Square – resolution and instruction required by the clerk. A tree services business used the planters for unapproved promotional purposes. These labels have now been removed. RESOLVED to order 12 Bargoed Town Council logo round labels for the planters. Cllr Y Price left the meeting 12.47pm and returned at 12.48pm – the meeting continued -

13.4 Beds around the Miners Heads on Hanbury Square – instruction required by the clerk. Members resolved to instruct the clerk to write to the senior town centres officer to formally raise the issue of maintenance of the flower beds around the miners heads as continual complaints are being received from the public about how this area is bringing the town down.

14. To receive feedback from the clerk on an information gathering meeting held with representatives from St Gwladys Church Hall, Bargoed.

The clerk provided members with a synopsis of the state of flux at the church hall with some wellbeing projects having been closed down. The committee resolved to continue to support the foodbank and to consider the pre-Christmas event at the next meeting. Officers were requested to continue to offer guidance to the volunteers at the church hall whenever assistance is sought.

The Chair thanked the Committee and closed the meeting at 13.01pm