
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT SENGHENYDD COMMUNITY CENTRE,
ON THURSDAY 12TH APRIL 2018

PRESENT:

Chairperson: Councillor D. Berry

Councillors: M. Battle, D. Daniels, A. Diblasi, E. P. Prendergast, T. Richards,
M. Stretch, J. Taylor

Clerk: S. Hughes

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: L. Binding, J. Roberts, P. Yandle

32/2018 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution, and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Clerk.

33/2018 KEEP WALES TIDY – RICHARD PHIPPS

Richard Phipps, a representative of Keep Wales Tidy, attended the meeting to inform Members of ways in which the Community Council can work with Keep Wales Tidy. The following options were discussed:

- Help Keep Wales Tidy to support local Litter Champions;
- Purchase a stock of litter-picking equipment for volunteers to use;
- Sponsor a local community group by providing Keep Wales Tidy kit and insurance.

34/2018 PUBLIC MATTERS

Two members of the public attended the meeting. The following issues were raised:

- (i) Illicit tipping on the road leading from Ysgol Ifor Bach to Senghenydd Rugby Club – the Clerk to report to Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (ii) Vehicles speeding through the Aber Valley – the Clerk to contact the Police and Caerphilly County Borough Council to request traffic cables at Caerphilly Road, Senghenydd.

Members discussed a one-way system at Caerphilly Road and Commercial Street in Senghenydd – the Clerk to ask Caerphilly County Borough Council to look at the feasibility of this suggestion.

- (iii) Litter in the Aber Valley – the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council to ask if there is a full time member of staff who picks up the litter in the Aber Valley.
- (iv) Builders rubbish at Caerphilly Road, Senghenydd – Aber Valley County Borough Councillors have already raised this issue with Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (v) A number of vehicles parked in the rear lane of Caerphilly Road, Senghenydd – Councillor John Taylor to contact the Planning Enforcement Officer and Environmental Health.
- (vi) A resident of St Anne’s Gardens, Abertridwr attended the meeting to discuss the current situation of the wall and to inform Members that he has had his part of the wall repaired. The resident of St Anne’s Gardens stated that the wall was not built to regulation, which Mid Glamorgan County Council/ Rhymney Valley Council were required to inspect and approve. He informed Members that he is going to seek recompense from Caerphilly County Borough Council.

The resident of St Anne’s Gardens informed Members that despite numerous requests he is unable to meet with Tim Stephens, the Development Control Manager for Caerphilly County Borough Council. He also asked Members why they don’t communicate the outcomes of their meetings with Tim Stephens to members of the public – Members responded that they do report back at the following Community Council meetings.

35/2018

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 8th March 2018 were approved as a true record.

36/2018

MATTERS ARISING

- (i) Minute reference: 26/2018 (i)

Aber Valley County Borough Councillors met with Tim Stephens, Development Control Manager for Caerphilly County Borough Council, to discuss the current situation of the wall at St Anne’s Gardens, Abertridwr. They were informed that one resident has repaired their part of the wall and another resident is currently in discussions with plans to repair their part of the wall. Tim Stephens reported that there has been no further movement of the wall. Aber Valley County Borough Councillors asked for the monitoring of the wall to continue and will meet with Tim Stephens again in 3-4 months.

Members reported that the overgrowth on the wall has been cut back, however there is still a part of it which is overgrown. This should be cut back in order for the wall to be properly monitored – the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council.

Members reported the wall opposite number 3 is leaning out and dangerous. Some of the wall has already been repaired/removed but this work needs to be continued further up the wall – the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council.

- (ii) Minute reference: 17/2018 (iv)

The next meeting to establish a ‘Friends of Abertridwr Park Association’ will be held on Wednesday 23rd May 2018.

- (iii) Minute reference: 26/2018 (iii)
Illicit tipping at Top Rock Mountain area – everything that was accessible has been removed.
- (iv) Minute reference: 29/2018 (a)
Potholes at Bryngelli Terrace, Abertridwr – Caerphilly County Borough Council raised 10 individual defects for repair, to be completed by 20th April 2018.
- (v) Minute reference: 29/2018 (b)
The refreshment of double yellow lines at Bryngelli Terrace, Abertridwr has not been carried out as agreed – the Clerk to make enquiries with Caerphilly County Borough Council and inform Councillor A. Diblasi.
- (vi) Minute reference: 29/2018 (d)
Councillor A. Diblasi attended a meeting at Ysgol Feithrin Nursery to discuss funding for a new boiler and costings for bins.

37/2018 **POLICE MATTERS**

There was no representative of Gwent Police in attendance.

Members reported on the following Police matters:

- (i) Members asked the Clerk to contact the Police to ask them to attend the next Community Council meeting.

38/2018 **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

- (a) The Chairperson attended the meeting to discuss the formation of a 'Friends of Abertridwr Park Association' on 3rd April 2018.

39/2018 **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Members reported the following matters:

- (a) Concerns were raised regarding Caerphilly County Borough Council and the Housing Association/United Welsh not taking responsibility for particular issues. Councillor John Taylor to set up a meeting with Councillor A. Diblasi, a representative of the Housing Association, the Environmental Health Officer and the Public Services Officer for Caerphilly County Borough Council.

Councillor J. Taylor informed Members that Lee Carpenter, the Environmental Health Officer for Caerphilly County Borough Council, is willing to attend a Community Council meeting.

40/2018 **CLERKS REPORT**

(1) **Current Financial Situation**

- (a) Councillor E. P. Prendergast has examined and authorised the Community Council's accounts.

Members received a copy of the income and expenditure to date, bank statement number 312 and bank reconciliation – Members discussed and approved the Community Council's accounts.

(2) Income

- (a) No income has been received.

(3) Expenditure

- (a) Members noted the following invoices were paid with approval from the Chairperson in order for payments to be processed before the end of the financial year.
- (i) Caerphilly County Borough Council – £996.95 (including VAT)
Inspection and maintenance costs for the play facility at Hendre, Abertridwr (2017/18)
 - (ii) Caerphilly County Borough Council – £600.00 (including VAT)
Web hosting and maintenance (2017/18)
- (b) Members approved Playworks One payroll administration – Clerk's salary and related costs.

(4) Correspondence

(a) Undercurrents Annual Arts Festival – Financial Assistance

Members considered the request from the Secretary of Undercurrents requesting financial assistance towards the annual Arts Festival to be held on 6th – 13th October 2018.

It was agreed that the Community Council would contribute £1,500 towards the event.

(b) A Foundation for Success and the Caerphilly Basin Masterplan – Public Consultation

Members were informed of the public consultation for a Foundation for Success and the Caerphilly Basin Masterplan.

(5) Any Other Business

(a) Data Protection Regulation

A discussion took place regarding the new General Data Protection Regulation (effective on 25th May 2018) and the appointment of a Data Protection Officer. The Clerk to make recommendations at the next meeting.

(b) Summer Flowers at the Cenotaph, Senghenydd

Members agreed for Councillor D. Berry to organise the summer flowers at the Cenotaph, Senghenydd and for any subsequent costs to be reimbursed.

6. Planning Applications

None

41/2018 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 10th May 2018** at Abertridwr Community Centre. The AGM will commence at 6.30 pm followed by the main meeting at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Signed: _____

Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council