
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT SENGHENYDD COMMUNITY CENTRE,
ON THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2017

PRESENT:

Chairperson: Councillor D. Berry

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

Clerk: S. Hughes

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: L. Binding, E. P. Prendergast

98/2017 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.

99/2017 WHQS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME – BETHAN SMITH

Bethan Smith, Environmental Officer for Caerphilly County Borough Council, attended the meeting to inform Members of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard Environmental Improvement Programme. Members discussed ideas and projects for potential improvements in the Aber Valley.

Consultation to take place with residents, groups and organisations within the Aber Valley between January and March 2018 to get ideas for improving the community – Bethan Smith to send the Clerk a copy of the questionnaire and an online survey link for distribution to Members.

A walkabout in the Aber Valley to be arranged for January 2018 – Bethan Smith to liaise with the Clerk to arrange a suitable date that Members can attend.

100/2017 PUBLIC MATTERS

No public matters.

101/2017 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 9th November 2017 were approved as a true record.

102/2017 MATTERS ARISING

(i) Minute reference: 89/2017 (i)

Councillor J. Roberts, M. Battle and M. Stretch declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.

Members asked the Clerk to invite Paul O' Neill, Senior Youth Service Manager for Caerphilly County Borough Council, to the next Community Council meeting to discuss youth service provision in the Aber Valley.

(ii) Minute reference: 32/2017 (i)

Members discussed the current situation regarding the wall at St Anne's Gardens, Abertridwr and raised the following concerns:

- The safety and monitoring of the wall;
- The footpath is unsafe and members of the public have to walk on the road.
- Further to numerous requests, Members have been unable to meet with Tim Stephens, Development Control Manager for Caerphilly County Borough Council, to discuss the situation and receive the latest safety assessment of the wall.

Members asked the Clerk to take the following action:

- Contact Tim Stephens to ask him to attend a Community Council meeting or provide a convenient date and time to meet with Members.
- Request a copy of the risk assessment and records of monitoring for the wall from Tim Stephens.
- Copy Christina HARRY, Corporate Director Communities for Caerphilly County Borough Council, into the e-mails to Tim Stephens.
- Contact the Press to report the concerns of the Community Council and send the Motion approved by the Community Council on 9th November 2017. Members agreed for Clerk to direct any questions from the Press to the County Borough Councillors.

It was agreed that Councillor J. Taylor will contact Tim Stephens to request a meeting with the County Borough Councillors to discuss the current situation.

(iii) Minute reference: 96/2017 (5) (f)

Financial support for the Aber Valley Christmas Tree Festival is not required from the Community Council this year due to money being held in the Christmas Tree Festival reserves.

103/2017 POLICE MATTERS

There was no representative of Gwent Police in attendance.

104/2017 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chairperson attended the following events:

- Christmas Tree Festival
- YMCA Christmas Fete

105/2017 MEMBERS MATTERS

Members reported the following matters:

(a) The bridge at the West-side, Senghenydd will be re-painted in February 2018.

- (b) An update was received regarding a bus service at Plas Cwm Parc, Senghenydd. Caerphilly County Borough Council has received a small number of responses from residents; however a bus service is unable to start at the moment due to building works taking place in the area.
- (c) Illicit tipping in the lane behind Alexander Terrace, Senghenydd – the Clerk to report to Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (d) A vehicle blocking the lane behind Alexander Terrace, Senghenydd – the Clerk to report to Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (e) The double yellow lines on the junctions at Bryngelli Terrace, Abertridwr are faded – the Clerk to report to Caerphilly County Borough Council.

106/2017

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 308 and bank reconciliation – Members discussed and approved the Community Council's accounts.

(2) Income

- (a) No income has been received.

(3) Expenditure

- (a) Members approved Playworks One payroll administration – Clerk's salary and related costs.

(4) Correspondence

- (a) Llamau – Christmas Appeal

Members discussed a letter from Llamau requesting a donation towards providing a person they support with a Christmas present plus the opportunity to enjoy Christmas lunch with housemates and support staff.

Members agreed to support the request for financial assistance in the sum of £100.

- (b) CCBC – Parking Restrictions, The Square, Abertridwr

Members received an e-mail from Caerphilly County Borough Council advising that the parking restrictions will be assessed when the Aber Valley area wide traffic regulation order is next reviewed. The local community will be given the opportunity to comment on any proposed changes to the traffic order as part of a formal public consultation exercise in due course.

- (c) CCBC – Pwll-y-Pant Roundabout

Members received an update from Caerphilly County Borough Council in response to the concerns raised regarding the improvement works on Pwll-y-Pant roundabout informing that journey times have reduced significantly from

those initially experienced in the first week and that CCBC are governed by statutory legislation, for example, The Control of Pollution Act 1974 in relation to noise. The local authority has statutory duties to protect residents from breaches of this legislation and sets noise levels for different times of the day and days of the week.

(d) Fr Mark Greenaway-Robbins – St Peter’s Church, Senghenydd

Members asked the Clerk to invite Fr Mark Greenaway-Robbins to the meeting to be held on Thursday 8th February 2018 to discuss progress and updates regarding St Peter’s Church in Senghenydd.

(5) Any Other Business

(a) Society of Local Council Clerks – Membership Renewal

Members agreed to renew the membership subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks for 2018 – £115.00.

(b) Section 137 Expenditure – Limit for 2018/19

Members noted the appropriate sum for the purpose of section 137 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for Community and Town Councils in Wales for 2018-19 is £7.86.

6. Planning Applications

- (a) Case Ref. 17/0929/FULL Site Area: 1144m²
Location: 12 Underwood Terrace, Abertridwr, Caerphilly, CF83 4BQ
Proposal: Erect two storey rear corner in fill extension and porches, internal and external modifications to sub-divide existing house into two dwellings, new drive for second home
Applicant: Mr A Ponsford, 12 Underwood Terrace, Abertridwr, Caerphilly, CF83 4BQ

7. Planning Appeals

- (a) 17/0218/FULL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 – SECTION 78
Location: Pen Yr Heol Las Farm, Heol Las, Energlyn
Proposed Development: Erect 2 No. wind turbines 74m tip height
Appellant(s): Mr D T Jones
Planning Inspectorate’s Reference: APP/K6920/A/17/3189669
Start Date: 30 November 2017

107/2017 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 11th January 2018** at Abertridwr Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council