
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

**MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT ABERTRIDWR COMMUNITY CENTRE,
ON THURSDAY 13TH JUNE 2019**

PRESENT:

Chairperson: Councillor D. Daniels

Councillors: M. Battle, D. Berry, L. Binding, A. Diblasi, E. P. Prendergast,
T. Richards, J. Roberts, P. Yandle

Clerk: S. Hughes

APOLOGIES: M. Stretch, J. Taylor

49/2019 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors and Officers were 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.

50/2019 PUBLIC MATTERS

No public matters.

**51/2019 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON
10TH MAY 2019**

The minutes of the Community Council AGM held on 10th May 2019 were approved as a true record.

52/2019 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on 10th May 2019 were approved as a true record.

53/2019 MATTERS ARISING

(i) Minute reference: 46/2019 (i)

Members were informed that the cost for opening, closing and cleaning the toilets in Abertridwr Park, 7 days per week from 1st June 2019 to 30th September 2019 is £3,172.97.

(ii) Minute reference: 47/2019 (a)

Members received a response from Caerphilly County Borough Council advising that a review of the art structure on Abertridwr Square will be added to the schedule of works for this financial year.

- (iii) Minute reference: 47/2019 (b)
Members received a response from Coleg y Cymoedd informing that they are currently using the College building in Abertridwr for archive storage. They have had an enquiry from the Aneurin Bevan Health Board who seem interested in utilising the building, but at the moment they have no further details.
- (iv) Minute reference: 47/2019 (e)
Members were informed that the County Borough Councillors are awaiting the meeting with officers from Caerphilly County Borough Council to discuss the current situation of the wall at St Anne's Gardens, Abertridwr.
- (v) Minute reference: 47/2019 (f)
Members were informed that Caerphilly County Borough Council were unable to clear the illicit tipping and overgrowth at Coedcae Road, Abertridwr due to vehicles parking in the lane and blocking the access.
- (vi) Minute reference: 47/2019 (g)
Members were informed that the Friends of Abertridwr Park Association has had notification that they will be receiving two large self-watering planters for Abertridwr Park. Members were also informed that their Annual General Meeting will be held on 10th July 2019 at 6.30 pm – all Members were invited to attend.

54/2019

POLICE MATTERS

Inspector Gavin Clifton and CSO Megan Kerswell of Gwent Police attended the meeting and reported on the following matters:

- (a) There is a new PCSO for the Aber Valley.
- (b) Warrants have been issued.
- (c) A demand app is used to identify priority areas for policing. The demand app is used to dictate where Police Officers are assigned.

Members Police Matters:

- (i) A lack of Police presence in the Aber Valley.
Inspector Gavin Clifton informed Members that the Aber Valley is not a high priority area as the number of crime or anti-social behaviour reports they have received is very low. Inspector Gavin Clifton highlighted the fact that all crimes and anti-social behaviour should be reported and that they can also be reported via direct message on the official Gwent Police Facebook and Twitter account, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- (ii) Members highlighted a number of serious issues that have recently taken place in the Aber Valley.
- (iii) Vehicles speeding through Thomas Street, Abertridwr. Members suggested the possibility of using a speed gun and was advised to contact the Highways Department at Caerphilly County Borough Council.

55/2018

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chairperson had nothing to report.

56/2019

CLERKS REPORT

(1) Current Financial Situation

- (a) Councillor J. Roberts has examined and authorised the Community Council's accounts.
- (b) Members received a copy of the income and expenditure for 2019/20 and bank statements 326, 327 and 118 – Members discussed and approved the Community Council's accounts.

(2) Income

- (a) The following income has been received:
 - (i) Vivian Vaughan Jones – £100.00. A donation towards the cost of flowers for the Senghenydd and Abertridwr War Memorials. Members were informed that summer flowers have been placed at the Cenotaph in Senghenydd and agreed for any subsequent costs to be reimbursed.

(3) Expenditure

- (a) Members approved the following expenditure:
 - (i) Information Commissioner – £40.00. Data protection fee renewal.
 - (ii) Microshade Business Consultants Ltd – £162.00 (including VAT). DPO service for 2019/20

The following two payments were made prior to the meeting, with authorisation from the Chairperson:

- (iii) Elsbury Access Platforms – £2,130 (including VAT). New Christmas lighting
 - (iv) Terry Williams – £150.00. Internal audit fee.
- (b) Members approved Playworks One payroll administration – Clerk's salary and related costs for Month 2.

(4) CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Senghenydd Waterplay Feature – Financial Assistance

Members received a letter from S.A.L.T. (Senghenydd & Abertridwr Linking Together) requesting match funding for the Senghenydd waterplay feature. They have been notified that the £3,000 grant from Caerphilly County Borough Council will be given for 2019.

It was agreed that the Community Council would support the request for match funding in the sum of £3,000.

(b) Review of Electoral Arrangements within the County Borough of Caerphilly

Members received correspondence from the Interim Chief Executive of Caerphilly County Borough Council regarding the review of the electoral arrangements within the county borough. It listed Aber Valley with no change – 3 Councillors representing 4549 electors.

(5) **APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Members considered the following application for financial assistance and resolved as follows:

- (i) Aber Valley YMCA (Summer Activities) – £200.

Members asked the Clerk to advise the YMCA to contact Councillor A. Diblasi to discuss the possibility of funding from United Welsh.

(6) **A.O.B.**

(a) Internal Audit 2018/19

Members received and approved the internal audit report for the year ended 31st March 2019 and noted the following recommendation contained in the report:

To continue to produce timely and accurate accounting records.

The Clerk addressed the comments listed in the report.

(b) External Audit

Members were informed that the Notice of the audit of accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2019 has been received from BDO LLP, on behalf of the Auditor General of Wales. The notice of appointment of date for the exercise of electors' rights is on display and on the Community Council's website. The Annual Governance Statement was answered by Members and completed at the Community Council meeting. Members approved the annual return and authorised the Chairperson to sign the approval and certification section and agreed for the Clerk to submit the annual return and supporting documentation by 1st July 2019.

(c) Community Cleansing Team

Members received a letter from the Waste Strategy and Operations Manager for Caerphilly County Borough Council informing them that the Community Cleansing Team will be working in the Aber Valley during the week commencing 24th June 2019. Councillor J. Roberts to co-ordinate areas for inclusion on the schedule.

(d) Community Council Presentation Evening

Members agreed to hold a Community Council Presentation Evening on Thursday 26th September 2019. The Clerk to liaise with Councillor L. Binding regarding the format of the presentation evening.

(e) Community Recognition Awards

Members agreed for the Community Recognition Awards nomination forms to be distributed and any nominations to be brought to the next meeting for recipients to be agreed.

(7) Planning Applications

- (a) Case Ref. 19/0355/CLEU Site Area: 4174m²
Location: Llwynceilyn, Bowls Lane, Penyrheol, Caerphilly, CF83 2TU
Proposal: Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate for existing use as a dwelling house

57/2019 MEMBERS MATTERS

Members reported the following matters:

- (a) The Community Allotment Group and Scout Group have offered to arrange the spring and summer flowers for the Cenotaph in Senghenydd next year.
- (b) A resident of the Aber Valley has asked if he can tidy the area around the 'Abertridwr' sign (as you enter the Aber Valley) – Members asked the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council to obtain permission.
- (c) The wall opposite 3 St Anne's Gardens, Abertridwr is bulging and leaning forward – the Clerk to report to Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (d) Illicit tipping at the Top Rock area – Councillor A. Diblasi is liaising with Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (e) Resurfacing at Bryngelli Terrace, Abertridwr – Councillor A. Diblasi is liaising with Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (f) Changes will be made to the double yellow lines in the Aber Valley.

58/2019 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Please note: The date of the next meeting has changed to **Tuesday 9th July 2019** at Senghenydd Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council