
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT SENGHENYDD COMMUNITY CENTRE,
ON THURSDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2018

PRESENT:

Chairperson: E. P. Prendergast
Councillors: M. Battle, D. Berry, A. Diblasi, J. Roberts, M. Stretch, J. Taylor,
P. Yandle
Clerk: S. Hughes

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: L. Binding, D. Daniels, T. Richards
Gwent Police

74/2018 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.

75/2018 PUBLIC MATTERS

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

- (i) Ongoing issues regarding illicit tipping (builder's rubbish) on the land behind the Windsor Hotel – Councillor J. Taylor to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council Property Services Department for an update.
- (ii) Ongoing issues regarding mounds of earth being dumped on the mountain area and access being blocked to the common – Councillor J. Taylor informed that Caerphilly County Borough Council is working with National Resources Wales to resolve the issue.
- (iii) Brambles on the walkway at Caerphilly Road, Senghenydd – Councillor J. Roberts to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council for an update as he has previously reported this issue.
- (iv) Parking on the pavement at Caerphilly Road, Senghenydd – the Clerk to inform the P.C.S.O.
- (v) All the rear lanes in Senghenydd are being used to dump rubbish and illicit tipping – Councillor J. Taylor requested a list of all the lanes concerned so that he can report the issue to Caerphilly County Borough Council. Members also advised the public to report any illicit tipping or rubbish immediately to Members or to Caerphilly County Borough Council who will give them an incident number. The incident number can be put on the Aber Valley Litter Watch page on Facebook so that it can be monitored.

76/2018 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MEETING HELD ON 12TH JULY 2018**

The minutes of the Financial Assistance Meeting held on 12th July 2018 were approved as a true record.

77/2018 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on 12th July 2018 were approved as a true record.

78/2018 **MATTERS ARISING**

- (i) Minute reference: 68/2018 (ii)
Councillor A. Diblasi has been liaising with Caerphilly County Borough Council regarding ongoing issues with brown wheelie bins being misused. Councillor J. Taylor will request a meeting with the relevant parties to resolve this issue.

- (ii) Minute reference: 68/2018 (vii)
Councillor A. Diblasi raised ongoing concerns regarding the parking situation in Senghenydd and informed Members that St Peter's Church car park is still currently being used by residents of Caerphilly Road. Councillor A. Diblasi is concerned that the parking situation and flow of traffic will get worse when St Peter's Church is sold.

- (iii) Minute reference: 72/2018 (a)
Members received an e-mail from Richard Crane, Legal and Governance for Caerphilly County Borough Council, in response to the letter sent to Robert Tranter, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer, regarding the wall at St Anne's Garden's in Abertridwr. He informed Members that, in his view, this is not a matter which is suitable for resolution by arbitration. Caerphilly County Borough Councillors are continuing to liaise with Caerphilly County Borough Council Officers.

79/2018 **POLICE MATTERS**

There was no representative of Gwent Police in attendance. Members were informed that P.C.S.O. Andrew Taylor has recently taken over responsibility for the Aber Valley. An apology for absence was received from P.C.S.O. Andrew Taylor who requested to be informed of any Policing matters that required attention.

Members expressed concerns that the Community Council meetings have not been represented by Gwent Police for a long time.

80/2018 **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

- (i) The Chairperson attended the Aber Valley YMCA to judge a Fire Service poster competition.

- (ii) The Chairperson attended the Aber Valley YMCA 80th Birthday celebrations on Saturday 1st September 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 numbers 316 and 317 and bank reconciliation – Members discussed and approved the Community Council's accounts.

(2) Income

- (a) The following income has been received:

- (i) Caerphilly County Borough Council – £19,000
The second instalment of the 2018/19 Community Council Precept.

(3) Expenditure

- (a) Members approved the following invoices:

- (i) British Telecom – £52.24
(ii) Microshade Business Consultants (DPO Service) – £204.00

- (b) Members approved Playworks One payroll administration – Clerk's salary and related costs for month 4 and month 5.

(4) Correspondence

- (a) Insurance 2018/19

Members received the insurance renewal documents from Zurich Municipal for 2018/19 and agreed the premium for a 3 year long term agreement – £710.17.

- (b) Festive Lighting 2018

Members received a quotation for the installation, recovery and storage of the festive lighting for 2018/19 and agreed for Elsbury Access Platforms to provide the service for the Christmas 2018 period – the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

Members agreed to purchase a replacement Christmas figurine for the side of Cavanna's in Senghenydd and review the current Christmas lighting in February 2019.

Members asked the Clerk to make enquiries for having lights put in the trees on Abertridwr Square for Christmas 2019.

- (c) Aber Valley Carnival

Members received an e-mail from Joanne Davies, who organised the Aber Valley Carnival, to thank Aber Valley Community Council for their valued contribution to this year's carnival. They purchased a new large gazebo to replace the one that was damaged last year due to the weather and hired two large generators and enough fuel to provide energy supplies to 12 stalls.

- (d) The Armistice and Armed Forces Communities Programme
Members received an e-mail from The Aber Valley Heritage Group informing the Community Council that they submitted an application for an award from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust and were successful in obtaining 6 silhouettes to remember those who went to war and did not return.
- (e) Mayor's Charity Appeal 2018/19
Members were informed that his year's Mayor, Councillor Michael Adams, has chosen to support the Matthew Walklin's Make a Smile Foundation during his year of office – Members agreed a donation of £50.
- (f) Universal Colliery Memorial Service
Members agreed to lay a floral tribute at the Universal Colliery Memorial Service to be held on Monday 15th October 2018 and also make a donation of £20 to help towards the maintenance of the garden.
- (g) Undercurrents Arts Festival 2018
Members received an invitation to the Arts Festival Opening Night to be held on Saturday 6th October 2018 in Abertridwr Community Centre. Councillor J. Roberts informed that various events will also be taking place throughout the week.
- (h) Sport and Active Recreation Strategy Consultation
Members were informed of the consultation period for Caerphilly County Borough Council's draft Sport and Active Recreation Strategy.
- (i) Local Toilet Strategy Consultation
Members were informed of the consultation period for Caerphilly County Borough Council's Local Toilet Strategy.
- (j) General Data Protection Audit Report and Action Plan for Aber Valley Community Council
The General Data Protection Audit Report and Action Plan for Aber Valley Community Council was discussed.
- (k) Aber Valley Christmas Tree Festival 2018
Councillor J. Roberts, Councillor J. Taylor and Councillor E. P. Prendergast declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.
Members considered a request for financial assistance from the Chair of the Aber Valley Christmas Tree Festival towards this year's Christmas Tree Festival. Members agreed to support the request in the sum of £400.

(5) A.O.B.

- (a) Spring Flowers at Senghenydd Cenotaph
Members agreed for Councillor D. Berry to organise the planting of the daffodil bulbs to be placed around the Cenotaph in Senghenydd and also agreed that any subsequent costs be reimbursed.

(5) APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members considered the following application for financial assistance:

- (a) Friends of Abertridwr Park Association – Members agreed the sum of £600.

(6) Planning Applications

Councillor J. Taylor took no part in any discussions.

- (a) Case Ref. 18/0570/CLEU Site Area: 120m²
Location: 73 Commercial Street, Senghenydd, Caerphilly, CF83 4GZ
Proposal: Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use as two flats
- (b) Case Ref. 18/0681/OUT Site Area: 1682m²
Location: Land at Grid Ref 311602 191525 Graig Terrace Senghenydd
Proposal: Erect three detached properties

Due to the timescale for comments or enquires, after consultation with the Chairperson it was agreed for the Clerk to send an e-mail to Caerphilly County Borough Council to oppose the planning application 18/0681/OUT on behalf of the Community Council.

82/2018 MEMBERS MATTERS

Members reported the following matters:

- (a) Overhanging branches on the trees opposite the Windsor Hotel Pub in Senghenydd – the Clerk to report to Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (b) Overhanging trees blocking access to the roadway in the lane behind Coedcae Road in Abertridwr, which previously been reported twice but no action has been taken – the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (c) The steps on the pathway from Nant-y-Parc Primary School to Parc Terrace require clearing – Councillor J. Roberts and Councillor D. Berry to liaise with the school as Community Council School Governor representatives.
- (d) Councillor J. Roberts updated Members on the work undertaken with Bethan Smith, WHQS Environmental Officer for Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (e) Councillor M. Stretch gave his apologies for the next Community Council meeting.

83/2018 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council