
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT SENGHENYDD COMMUNITY CENTRE,
ON THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2017

PRESENT:

Chairperson: Councillor D. Berry
Councillors: D. Daniels, A. Diblasi, T. Richards, J. Roberts, M. Stretch,
J. Taylor
Clerk: S. Hughes

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: M. Battle, L. Binding, E. P. Prendergast

76/2017 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.

77/2017 PUBLIC MATTERS

(i) Parking issues at Thomas Street, Abertridwr

No members of the public attended the meeting.

Members discussed the one hour parking restriction on The Square at Thomas Street, Abertridwr and asked the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council to ask them to review the waiting restriction once the Post Office and Londis has been re-located to the former Panteg Hotel.

78/2017 THE WALL AT ST ANNE'S GARDENS, ABERTRIDWR – CCBC

Tim Stephens, Development Control Manager for Caerphilly County Borough Council, was unable to attend the meeting.

Councillor T. Richards distributed photographs of the wall at St Anne's Gardens and raised the following concerns:

- How can Caerphilly County Borough Council monitor the wall with all the overgrowth;
- The roots growing behind the wall;
- The wall may potentially collapse over the winter period.

Members asked the Clerk to invite Tim Stephens to the next Community Council meeting to provide an update and address these concerns.

79/2017

ST PETER'S CHURCH, SENGHENYDD – THE REVD. FR. MARK GREENAWAY-ROBBINS

The Revd. Fr. Mark Greenaway Robbins attended the meeting to give a brief update to Members on the current situation of St Peter's Church in Senghenydd.

It was agreed that Members would make contact with various groups and organisations in the Aber Valley to see if there is an interest for partnership use of St Peter's Church.

The Revd. Fr. Mark Greenaway Robbins will contact the Church in Wales to discuss what options are available and the timescale for moving forward with St Peter's Church.

80/2017

SYDIC FUNDING – DAVE BRUNTON

Dave Brunton attended the meeting to discuss the current funding situation of SYDIC. Members were informed that SYDIC has secured a significant amount of funding for independent projects over the next 3 years but will be unable to take advantage of this due to being unable to secure its core management funding.

Members asked the Clerk to write to Christina Harray, Corporate Director Communities for Caerphilly County Borough Council, to express their concerns regarding the critical funding situation that faces SYDIC which is a vital service in the Aber Valley for its young people and to seek to find a solution to this issue.

81/2017

MINUTES OF THE LAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 17th September 2017 were approved as a true record.

82/2017

MATTERS ARISING

- (i) Minute reference: 67/2017 (i)
An e-mail has been received from Caerphilly County Borough Council informing that Senghenydd Community Centre is the Local Emergency Centre.
- (ii) Minute Reference: 73/2017 (c)
Members agreed to defer the discussion regarding The Green Flag Award for parks and open spaces to the Forward Work Programme meeting.

83/2017

POLICE MATTERS

There was no representative of Gwent Police in attendance.

Members reported on the following Police matters:

- (i) Members raised concerns regarding the CCTV cameras in Abertridwr – the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council to check the cameras are working correctly and to receive an update on how they monitor and record.

84/2017

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chairperson has attended the following events:

- The Aber Valley Arts Festival Opening Night
- The Aber Valley Arts Festival Children's Choir at Beulah Chapel
- The Community Council Presentation Evening

85/2017

MEMBERS MATTERS

Members reported the following matters:

- (a) The condition of the road at Bryngelli Terrace, Abertridwr – the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council to ask if the area can be re-surfaced.
- (b) Constant issues with illicit tipping in the lane behind Clive Street, Senghenydd – the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council and ask if a temporary camera can be installed in this area.
- (c) Traffic issues caused by improvement works at Pwll y Pant roundabout – the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council to express concerns regarding the volume and build-up of traffic.
- (d) Members discussed a possible part time bus service for Bryn Aber and Bryngelli Terrace, Abertridwr – Councillor A. Diblasi to liaise with Councillor J. Roberts.
- (e) Members discussed changes to the bus services, particularly in relation to the Four Terraces in Senghenydd, and issues relating to Stagecoach. County Borough Members will be making enquiries.
- (f) A Christmas Day lunch is being arranged in Abertridwr Community Centre for people who are spending Christmas on their own. Forms are to be completed and returned to the Oasis Coffee Shop.

86/2017

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 306 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 the following invoices:

- (i) Digital Systems UK – £11.40 (including VAT).

- (ii) UK Laser Supplies – £65.16 (including VAT).
- (iii) Caerphilly County Borough Council – £146.36.

(b) Members approved Playworks One payroll administration – Clerk’s salary and related costs.

(4) Correspondence

(a) Well-Being of Future Generations – Making it Happen

Members were informed of a series of five community engagement workshops to be held at various venues throughout the county borough during October and November 2017.

(b) Winter Service Plan

The Winter Service Policy has been received from CCBC.

(c) Aber Valley YMCA Pantomime

Members considered a request from Aber Valley YMCA for financial support towards the cost of the annual Christmas pantomime.

It was agreed that the Community Council would contribute £250 towards the event.

(d) Welsh Housing Quality Standard – Environmental Improvement Programme

Members asked the Clerk to invite Bethan Smith, Welsh Housing Quality Standard Environmental Officer for Caerphilly County Borough, to the December Community Council meeting to discuss the Environmental Improvement Programme and ideas for improving the community.

(e) GAVO – Halloween and Bonfire Project

Members discussed a request from the GAVO Holiday Scheme Co-ordinator requesting funding and support for a project to reduce anti-social behaviour during the Halloween and Bonfire period.

Members agreed not to support the request from the GAVO Holiday Scheme Co-ordinator as they felt it more beneficial to provide Halloween activities that are held in the Aber Valley that could be held on 31st October and attended by more children.

Councillor M. Stretch declared an interest and took no part in the following discussion:

Members asked the Clerk to liaise with SYDIC regarding arranging Halloween activities and agreed to support the event in the sum of £100.

(f) Review of Community and Town Council Sector in Wales

Members discussed the review of the Community and Town Council Sector in Wales and agreed to discuss it further and submit the views of the Community Council at a later date.

(g) Land Drainage Byelaws Consultations

Members were informed of a consultation exercise by Highways Operations to consider the implementation of Land Drainage Byelaws. The consultation will run for 6 weeks from 4th October to 15th November 2017.

(5) **Any Other Business**

(a) **The Process for Applications for Financial Assistance**

Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

(b) **Armistice Day – November 2017**

Members agreed to purchase two wreaths to lay at the Abertridwr Service of Remembrance and at the Senghenydd Cenotaph to remember those killed in the wars – the Clerk to arrange accordingly.

(c) **Community Recognition Award Plaques**

Members agreed to update the community recognition award plaques located in Abertridwr and Senghenydd Community Centres and approved any subsequent costs – the Clerk to arrange accordingly.

(6) **Planning Applications**

None.

87/2017

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 9th November 2017** at Abertridwr Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council