
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD BY REMOTE VIDEO CONFERENCE, ON THURSDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2022

PRESENT:

Chairperson: D. Daniels

Councillors: D. Berry, C. Bishop, R. Gater, J. Roberts, M. Stretch, J. Taylor,
and D. Tolley

Clerks: S. Hughes and J. Lloyd

The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020. The Regulations make temporary provision in relation to local authority meetings during the Covid-19 pandemic. Statutory requirements placed on local authorities by existing legislation to admit the public and press in person to certain meetings and to provide facilities to inspect certain documents in person at offices of the authority are relaxed for the duration of the Regulations.

09/2022 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E. P. Prendergast, P. Cole, and T. Richards.

10/2022 **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, Officers and Clerk.

No declarations of interest were received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

11/2022 **POLICE MATTERS**

Sergeant J. Pursey (Gwent Police), attended the meeting and reported on the following matters:

- (i) There had been 4 reports of antisocial behaviour in the Aber Valley during the last 10 days. There had been no reports of fires for the last 2 weeks.
- (ii) An incident where a stone had been thrown through a coach window in Senghenydd, by a passenger on the coach.

- (iii) Youths invaded a bus on Senghenydd Square.
- (iv) A young person being abusive to Police Officers and caused damage to a Police vehicle.

Members reported the following Police matters:

- (a) A bin set on fire in Senghenydd Park. It was noted that a member of the public reported this issue to the Police and were advised to contact the Fire Brigade. Concerns raised in relation to the need for more fencing around the park. Members were advised that the Police would visit the area as the Aber Valley is a priority area for antisocial behaviour.
- (b) Vehicle dismantling in the car park area at Plas Cwm Parc, Senghenydd. It was noted that Caerphilly County Borough Council are aware of this issue, and it was further noted that vehicle registration numbers had been provided to the Police.
- (c) Concerns were raised about children not attending school, which could become a potential Police matter. It was clarified that the children were all from the local comprehensive school. Councillor J. Taylor advised that he would contact the Chief Education Officer in Caerphilly County Borough Council regarding this matter.
- (d) It was observed that whilst incidents appeared to have reduced in the Aber Valley, the severity of the incidents had increased.

12/2022 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13TH JANUARY 2022**

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 13th January 2022 were approved as a true record.

13/2022 **CLERKS REPORT**

(1) Current Financial Situation

- (a) Members received the monthly statement of accounts and an update on the current financial situation. Members discussed and approved the Community Council's accounts.

(2) Income

- (a) It was noted that no income had been received.

(3) Expenditure

- (a) Members approved the following expenditure:

- (i) Elsbury Access Platforms - £1,338.72. For the installation, removal, and storage of the Christmas lighting.
- (b) Members noted the following expenditure:
 - (i) Payroll – Month 10.

(4) Correspondence

(a) Audit for the Year Ended 31st March 2021

Members were advised that Audit Wales had completed their audit of the Community Councils accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021 and based on their review, in their opinion, no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern. Members were also advised that the notice of conclusion of audit has been published on the Community Council website.

(5) A.O.B.

(a) Defibrillators

Members were advised that a defibrillator has been installed on The Windsor pub in Abertridwr, and approval was given for any associated costs. Members were advised that the external defibrillator cabinet located on the Abertridwr Community Centre has been damaged and will need to be replaced. Delegated powers were given to the Chair and Vice Chair to approve the purchase of a new cabinet, and installation costs, and also any defibrillator pads that need replacing.

(b) Hybrid Meetings

Members were advised that hybrid meetings would commence from the next meeting on Thursday 10th March 2022. Following discussion, it was agreed to hold all the Community Council meetings at the Senghenydd Community Centre, until further notice due to internet requirements.

(6) Planning Applications

Councillor J. Taylor took no part in the discussions.

The Community Council noted the following planning application, and raised concerns regarding the parking for the Church at Eglwysilan:

- (a) Case Ref. 22/0019/COU Site Area: 1865m²
Location: Rose And Crown Inn Eglwysilan Abertridwr Caerphilly CF83 4JG
Proposal: Change the use from public house (A3) to residential dwelling (C3)

14/2022

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

There was no report from the Chairperson.

15/2022 **SENGHENYDD MUGA LIGHTING**

Members were advised that the cost of booking the MUGA with lighting was approximately £24 per session. It was noted that SYDIC will be using the MUGA on Wednesday and Thursday evenings to run activities young people.

16/2022 **TOILETS ON ABERTRIDWR PARK**

Members received a quote from Caerphilly County Borough Council to open, close, and clean the toilets in Abertridwr Park for 2022/23. It was noted that a 7 days annual charge from 1st April to 31st October 2022 would be £5,368.15. It was agreed to defer this item to the Community Council meeting to be held in March to allow time to consider other options.

17/2022 **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Members reported on the following matters:

- (i) A request had been received from 1st Senghenydd Scout Group to attend a future Community Council meeting. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the Scout Group Leader to make the necessary arrangements.
- (ii) It was reported that a pupil from Ysgol Ifor Bach had undertaken a sponsored cycle to raise funds in aid of refugees. Members asked the Clerk to send the pupil a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Community Council.
- (iii) It was reported that a complaint had been received from a resident regarding fires being lit in the second lane behind Cenydd Terrace in Senghenydd. It was noted that information had been passed to the Police.
- (iv) Leaflets will be posted to residents at Plas Cwm Parc in Senghenydd, asking them to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity in the area.
- (v) Members discussed the contribution to the community that had been achieved by a local resident, in relation to the opening of the Post Office in the old Panteg building on Abertridwr Square. Members asked the Clerk to send a letter of thanks to the resident on behalf of the Community Council.
- (vi) It was reported that access to Eglwysilan Road was being affected by waste dumped on the road. It was agreed that Councillor J. Taylor would check the location and report it to Caerphilly County Borough Council or Rhondda Cynon Taff Council, as appropriate.
- (vii) In relation to the land slippage near Senghenydd Rugby Club, a County Borough Member advised that this issue had no impact on the cycle track but will need to be monitored.

- (viii) Concerns were raised regarding waste in the Aber Valley including litter, illicit tipping, Christmas trees and leaves on Abertridwr Square and on the cycle track. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact CCBC to report these issues and to request a copy of the cleansing programme.
- (ix) Members discussed the shortage of benches in Senghenydd Park, particularly in the Summer months. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact CCBC to enquire about them providing additional benches in the main park area.

18/2022 DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 10th March 2022.**

The meeting closed at 8.06 pm

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council