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# ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

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### MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT SENGHENYDD COMMUNITY CENTRE AND ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022

#### **PRESENT:**

Chairperson: J. Taylor

Councillors: D. Berry, C. Bishop, D. Bishop, C. Page, E.P. Prendergast, and J. Roberts.

Clerk: J. Lloyd

#### **95/2022 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P. Cole, D. Daniels, R. Gater, M. Stretch, and Gwent Police.

#### **96/2022 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.

A declaration of interest was made during the course of the meeting and is minuted under the relevant item.

#### **97/2022 PUBLIC MATTERS**

There were no public matters.

#### **98/2022 POLICE MATTERS**

There were no attendees from Gwent Police at the meeting, however, a Member reported the following Police matter:

- (i) Anti-social behaviour of youths aged 12-15 on Senghenydd Square, believed to be 'kegging'. Members agreed for the Clerk to pass on this information to Sergeant J. Pursey.

99/2022

**COMMUNITY SAFETY WARDEN – CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

The Community Safety Warden (CSW), Margaret Reed, attended the meeting and reported on the following matters:

- (i) Incidents of 'breaking and entering' at the bingo hall on Abertridwr Square which is currently vacant. Proposal to turn premises into flats.
- (ii) Fly tipping in the Senghenydd area, including beds, settees, and black bags. Investigations ongoing.
- (iii) Racist graffiti found during patrols of the area, have since been reported and removed.
- (iv) Rubbish being dumped at the Panteg. CSW will report back to CCBC.

Members reported the following CSW matters:

- (a) Windows being smashed on Abertridwr Square.
- (b) Reports of a youth in the area carrying a blade.

100/2022

**TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022.**

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were approved as a true record.

101/2022

**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) The following income was noted:

- (i) £20,000 – the second instalment of the 2022/23 Community Council Precept.

**(3) Expenditure**

- (a) Members noted the following expenditure:

- (i) Everson Sports & Trophies (Plaques x 4) - £140.00

- (ii) Payroll – Month 06.
- (iii) EE Telephone Bill (monthly direct debit) - £21.86.

**(4) CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) SYDIC (Summer Activities) Financial Assistance Application

Councillor D. Berry declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion.

An email had been received from SYDIC in relation to their application for financial assistance submitted in July 2022. They proposed to use the funds awarded for a different purpose than originally applied for, as they had received additional funding from the Council of Wales for Voluntary Youth Services (CWWYS) and were seeking approval from the Community Council. Members agreed to the request from SYDIC.

**(5) APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

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

- (i) Eisteddfod y Cymoedd/Valleys Eisteddfod - £100.

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

(a) Community Council Training Plan

Members were advised that a training plan was now required to include details of training undertaken by Members and proposed future training requirements. Members agreed for the training plan to be completed by the Clerk and circulated for information, prior to its publication on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

(b) Armistice Day – Wreaths

Members agreed to purchase two wreaths to lay at the Abertridwr Service of Remembrance and at the Senghenydd Cenotaph to remember those killed in action during the wars.

**(7) Planning Applications**

Councillor J. Taylor took no part in the discussions.

The Community Council noted the following planning applications:

- (a) Case Ref. 22/0734/NCC Site Area: 16843m<sup>2</sup>  
Location: Land At Grid Ref 313114 188963 Abertridwr Road,  
Penyrheol Caerphilly (UPRN 000043173986)

Proposal: Vary condition 04 (Time to commence development) of planning consent 15/0442/OUT (Erect residential development comprising approximately 18-20 houses and 8 flats) to extend the outline permission by a further 5 years.

Members discussed the application for the development of 18-20 houses and 8 flats and expressed concern in relation to the effect on the nearby highway. Members agreed that the Community Council would object to the application on these grounds and agreed for the Clerk to contact CCBC Planning Dept.

- (b) Case Ref. 22/0702/RET Site Area: 1272m<sup>2</sup>  
Location: Hill View Poultry - Caerllwyn Farm Bryncoed Terrace To Cefn-Llwyd Farm Abertridwr Caerphilly CF83 4FG (UPRN 000043086802)  
Proposal: Retain and complete the change of use from grazing land to an all-weather sand and fibre riding surface.
- (c) Case Ref. 22/0579/FULL Site Area: 119m<sup>2</sup>  
Location: Unit B Garage Block High Street Abertridwr (UPRN 000043171276)  
Proposal: Erect first floor extension to accommodate office and staff amenities to the MOT Station / Car garage and associated alterations.
- (d) Case Ref. 22/0725/COU Site Area: 597m<sup>2</sup>  
Location: Triple Crown Bingo Ltd Windsor Colliery Workmans Hall The Square Abertridwr Caerphilly CF83 4DL (UPRN 000043042541)  
Proposal: Change the use from bingo hall into residential apartments.

## **102/2022      CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

The Chair informed Members that he would be attending the Senghenydd Colliery Disaster Memorial Service. The Community Council had donated £50, and the Chair would provide the floral donation.

## **103/2022      THE GREEN PLAN**

Councillors J. Roberts, D. Bishop, D. Berry, C. Page, C. Bishop, and M. Stretch agreed to meet, and report back to the next meeting on this item.

## **104/2022      CHRISTMAS LIGHTING – 'SWITCH ON' EVENT**

Members discussed holding an event on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 for the 'switch on' of the Christmas lights in Abertridwr and Senghenydd. Proposals included local businesses having tables/stalls, with the use of Abertridwr Community Centre if there was inclement weather, and the provision of hot food/refreshments from the Oasis Coffee Shop, and Santa attending the event. It was also proposed to have a 'river of light' style event, with local children walking from Senghenydd Square to Abertridwr Square. Members agreed the proposals discussed and the Clerk would contact CCBC Highways to enquire about possible road closure for

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 from Senghenydd Square to Abertridwr Square between 6.30 pm and 7.00 pm.

Members also agreed for the Clerk to contact Elsbury regarding the Christmas Lights, to confirm whether the 'switch on' could be done by a local resident, starting at Senghenydd Square, and then at Abertridwr Square, following the 'river of light' event.

Members agreed for the Clerk to chase up a request to CCBC regarding the 'tree cutting' on Abertridwr Square, prior to the Christmas Lights being put on the trees. Cllr. J. Roberts to provide the Clerk with details of CCBC tree surgeon.

Members agreed for this item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

#### **105/2022     FLOWERS ON THE SENGHENYDD CENOTAPH**

Members discussed the provision of spring and summer flowers at the Cenotaph in Senghenydd and agreed for the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements through Caerphilly County Borough Council.

#### **106/2022     PRESENTATION EVENING**

Members discussed the presentation evening which had been agreed to be held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at the Abertridwr Community Centre (former Nazareth Chapel) at 6.00 pm. Members agreed for a donation of £100 to be given to the Oasis Coffee Shop for providing the refreshments following the event.

#### **107/2022     TOILETS IN ABERTRIDWR PARK**

Members discussed their concerns regarding the toilets in Abertridwr Park and the issues that had occurred during a football match the previous Saturday. Around 700 people attended the event in Abertridwr Park, and the toilets had no lighting, and the disabled toilet was flooded.

Members agreed for the toilets to be closed through the Winter period but requested a key for the outside padlock, as currently there is only a key provided for the actual toilets. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact CCBC to confirm the closure and the request for the additional key.

Members also discussed whether any rebate would be applicable from CCBC for the period where there had been no lighting in the toilets and Members also noted that this had previously been reported. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact CCBC.

Councillors D. Berry, C. Bishop, D. Bishop, and P. Cole agreed to form a sub-committee to review the current situation with the toilets, and possible alternatives for the cleaning.

Members agreed for this item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**108/2022**     **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Members reported on the following matter:

- (i) A Member raised concerns with the lack of a school crossing patrol at Nant y Parc Primary School. Members noted that the CCBC criteria to qualify for this post had changed, and that Nant y Parc Primary School no longer qualified. Members also noted that the school had been re-inspected but still doesn't meet the criteria and doesn't currently qualify.

Members agreed for the Clerk to contact CCBC, noting ongoing concerns of residents, parents, and grandparents, and requesting a further inspection of the site, and to clarify whether previous inspections included numerous visits or just one visit at a particular time of the day.

Members also agreed for the Clerk to contact the Head Teacher of Nant y Parc Primary School to inform her that the Community Council are contacting CCBC in relation to this matter.

**109/2022**     **DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022**.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**  
**Aber Valley Community Council**