
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT SENGHENYDD COMMUNITY CENTRE AND ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2022

PRESENT:

Chairperson: J. Taylor

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

Clerk: J. Lloyd

123/2022 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P. Cole, M. Stretch, and the Community Safety Warden.

124/2022 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.

125/2022 PUBLIC MATTERS

There were no public matters.

126/2022 POLICE MATTERS

Sergeant J. Pursey and PC Womersley (Gwent Police) attended the meeting, and reported on the following matters, including items that had been submitted by M. Kerswell, prior to the meeting:

- (i) Anti-social behaviour – There had been no calls for anti-social behaviour in the past 4 weeks in the Aber Valley.
- (ii) Abertridwr community centre gate had been removed, unfortunately no CCTV or witnesses of the incident.
- (iii) Motor bike stolen from King Street, then located on Thomas Street.
- (iv) Vehicle vandalised on Windsor Street.

- (v) Overall there have been 38 calls for the whole of the Aber Valley over the last 4 weeks, with the month before (October to November) showing 107 calls, which is a significant drop.
- (vi) Incident at the Windsor Hotel – person in custody.
- (vii) Window put through on Phillip Terrace.
- (viii) Wing mirror kicked off a car in Abertridwr.
- (ix) Bonfire/refuse fire at Upper Francis Street, Abertridwr.
- (x) Knife found in bush at Dan y Graig.
- (xi) Damage to vehicle on Tridwr Road.
- (xii) Theft of vehicle on William Street.

Members reported the following Police matters:

There were no Police matters reported from Members, but Members wished to note their thanks to the Police for all their hard work in the area.

127/2022 **COMMUNITY SAFETY WARDEN – CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

The Community Safety Warden (CSW), Margaret Reed, was not in attendance.

128/2022 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10TH NOVEMBER 2022.**

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 10th November 2022 were approved as a true record.

129/2022 **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 noted the following expenditure:
 - (i) Payroll – Month 08.
 - (ii) EE Telephone Bill (monthly direct debit) - £21.86.
 - (iii) Defib World - £303.99. (defibrillator pads x 2 and battery)

- (iv) Digital Systems UK - £5.82 (photocopier)
- (v) Dwell Café - £150 towards Santa's Grotto (re-imbusement to Cllr. J. Taylor)

(4) Correspondence

- (a) Welsh Government: Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2023-24
Members were informed that the appropriate sum for the purpose of section 137(4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for Community and Town Councils in Wales for 2023-24 is £9.93.
- (b) Kids Cancer Charity – Financial Assistance Grant
Following the financial assistance grants awarded at presentation evening, a 'thank you' letter was received, and it was requested if it could be shared at the next Community Council meeting. Members agreed and the Clerk read out the letter during the meeting.
- (c) Society of Local Council Clerks: Membership Renewal 2023
Members were informed that the Clerk's Membership to the Society of Local Council Clerks is due for renewal on 1st January 2023. The annual subscription fee is £139. Members approved the renewal and agreed for the Clerk to proceed with the renewal.
- (d) Twyn Hywel Energy Park Proposals – Publicity and Consultation before applying for Planning Permission – Land northwest and northeast of Abertridwr, Caerphilly.
Members were informed that Twyn Hywel Energy Park Limited had given notice that they are intending to apply for planning permission for Development of National Significance (DNS) which is the construction and operation of a wind farm, substation and associated infrastructure. The notice provides the opportunity to comment directly to the developer on a proposed Development of National Significance, prior to the submission of a planning application to the Welsh Ministers. A copy of the notice had been sent to Members via e-mail. Members discussed the proposed DNS and agreed not to make representations at this stage.

(5) Planning Applications

Councillor J. Taylor took no part in the discussions.

The Community Council noted the following planning application:

- (a) Case Ref. 22/0899/RET Site Area: 246m²
Location: 6 Ty'n Y Parc Abertridwr Caerphilly CF83 4ED (UPRN 000043079129)
Proposal: Retain the conversion of integrated garage

130/2022 **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

The Chair wished to note the success of the Christmas event on 2nd December and thanked all those involved.

131/2022 **THE GREEN PLAN**

Councillors had met again after distribution of the Green Plan. They had agreed to re-draft the plan and present it at the next Community Council meeting in January 2023.

132/2022 **TOILETS IN ABERTRIDWR PARK**

Members discussed the responses from CCBC and agreed for the Clerk to contact CCBC and request further information so that Members could give this more consideration. The information would include copies of the current leases for Ystrad Mynach and Nelson, and a breakdown of costs of everything that is currently paid for by Aber Valley Community Council, including statutory inspections, maintenance, and cleaning. Members also agreed for the Clerk to contact Gelligaer Community Council, in relation to their current situation with the toilets in Ystrad Mynach.

133/2022 **SUGGESTIONS/IDEAS FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES DURING THE WINTER MONTHS**

Members discussed the increase in anti-social behaviour during the Winter months and proposed to ask some of the young people in the area for their views and any suggestions they would like to see in the area. Proposed ideas for some possible workshops for manual trades. Members agreed for a Sub-Committee to be set up, to include Councillors R. Gater, C. Page, C. Bishop, D. Berry, and J. Roberts. The Sub-Committee agreed to meet up and refer this back to the next Community Council meeting in January 2023.

134/2022 **SMART WATER FOR VULNERABLE RESIDENTS**

Members were informed that any resident or business in the area, that had been a victim of crime, were eligible to receive Smart Water.

135/2022 **CAERPHILLY AND DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

The Caerphilly and District Twinning Association have requested an additional representative from Aber Valley Community Council, as they wish to have 2 reps for each Community Council. Councillor C. Bishop is currently representative for the Aber Valley. Members agreed for the Clerk to circulate an email to all Members asking for any interest.

136/2022 **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Members reported on the following matters:

- (i) The monthly meetings with CCBC regarding anti-social behaviour.
- (ii) The warm spaces hub is now open 3 times a week in the Oasis.
- (iii) Carol concert in Abertridwr Square on 20th December.
- (iv) One of the Christmas lights on Abertridwr Fish Shop not working. Members agreed for Clerk to contact Elsbury to request a repair.
- (v) Atlanta Buildings, Caerphilly Road, Senghenydd. Members agreed for Clerk to contact Atlanta Buildings and request the steps to be cleared.
- (vi) Cavannahs in Senghenydd. Members agreed for the Clerk to send a letter of thanks for services to the Aber Valley Community for over 110 years.
- (vii) The speed sign at Nant y Parc school is now broken and is to be taken away. Community Council had previously purchased 2 signs and CCBC had purchased 2 signs. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact CCBC and clarify which one is broken, and to pass on the concerns of Members that this area would now be without any traffic measures.

137/2022 **DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 12th January 2023.**

The meeting closed at 8.06 pm

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council