
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT ABERTRIDWR COMMUNITY CENTRE AND ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2023

PRESENT:

Chairperson: C. Bishop

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

Clerk: J. Lloyd

80/2023 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

81/2023 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.

82/2023 PUBLIC MATTERS

A Member of the public attended the meeting and proposed having a 'Memorial Tree' in Abertridwr Square for the Christmas period, from Sunday 3rd December. CCBC had agreed permission for this, and Members agreed for the Clerk to contact Elsbury and arrange for the Christmas lights which are normally put on the standing trees, to be put on the memorial Christmas tree.

83/2023 POLICE MATTERS

Gwent Police attended the meeting and reported on the following matters, which had been included in an email report sent to the Community Council:

ASB

- We continue to receive calls from the BRYN ABER area regarding youth ASB.
- We are working closely with partnerships in order to improve ASB and to build relations within the community.

- Public telephone - youths have been using the public telephone in order to make prank calls to the emergency services. Patrols will be conducted around the area.
- Groups of youths have gained entry to the old bingo hall. A number of youths were caught and dealt with using the ASB referrals systems. The bingo hall was secured but youths continued to gain entry. Earlier this month the bingo hall has once again been secured and is continually monitored. If you spot youths gaining entry, please contact us.
- Off road bike reports have been made to us in the area of Abertridwr and Senghenydd. We are attempting to identify those involved, if councillors had any information, we would appreciate the feedback.
- Public toilets continue to be damaged; CSO's and CSW's will conduct high-visibility patrols in the area.

Crime

youths smoking drugs around the square area of Abertridwr. Positive outcomes in the form of stop and search and continue to monitor the area.

Engagement

Police attended the council awards and had the chance to support the community and congratulate the hard work that members of the public have done. I would like to take the time and thank you for the invitation and to congratulate the people who received rewards.

Members reported the following Police matters:

1. The Chair noted that the PCSO (Rhys) had an amazing rapport with the people in the community and wished to thank him for his input.
2. Ongoing issues of youths travelling on electric bikes and scooters on pavements in Abertridwr. A request was made for the Police to educate children in school. Members were advised that children had been made aware of the issues.
3. A Member wished to note thanks to the Police and Community Safety Team in relation to the fruit trees in the 'Gather' project, which were being looked after and monitored.
4. Fence around the proposed United Welsh site being vandalised, not believed to be youths.

84/2023

COMMUNITY SAFETY WARDEN – CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Community Safety Warden was not in attendance.

85/2023

TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH SEPTEMBER 2023.

The minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on 14th September 2023 were approved as a true record.

86/2023

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) Caerphilly County Borough Council - £20,000. The second instalment of the 2023/24 Community Council Precept.

(3) EXPENDITURE

- (a) Members noted the following expenditure:
- (i) Payroll – Month 06.
- (ii) EE Telephone Bill (monthly direct debit) - £25.01
- (iii) Post Office Ltd – 1st class stamps x 16 - £17.60 (re-imbusement to the Clerk).
- (iv) SSE Southern Electric – Christmas Lighting for 2022 Christmas period - £125.06 (re-imbusement to the Clerk).
- (v) Ian Sturrock and Sons – Fruit Trees - £974.00 (re-imbusement to the Clerk).
- (vi) Eversons Sports and Trophies – Engraved Plaques x 4 - £160.00 (re-imbusement to the Clerk).

4. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Caerphilly 2035 Plan

A letter has been received in relation to the Caerphilly 2035 plan requesting if this can be raised at the next meeting of Aber Valley Community Council for Members response. This item was deferred from the last meeting. Members agreed to give everyone the opportunity to read the email/letter, this would be deferred to the next meeting.

5. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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

- (i) Aber Valley Football Club – up to £500 (kit/sponsor).
- (ii) Aber Valley FC Minis and Juniors - £150.
- (iii) Aber Valley FC Seniors - £150.
- (iv) Senghenydd Cricket Club - £150.

6. A.O.B

(a) Flowers on the Senghenydd Cenotaph

Members agreed to defer this item for consideration at the next meeting, and for the Clerk to confirm the quote from CCBC.

(b) Armistice Day - Wreath

Members agreed to purchase a wreath to lay at the Senghenydd Cenotaph to remember those killed in action during the wars.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None.

87/2023 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chair noted that there was nothing to report.

88/2023 THE GREEN PLAN

Mr David Llewellyn from the NHS Public Health Team attended the meeting and provided Members with information on how people can be supported in the area in which they live. Residents could access a website and gain information on, for example, medical centres, citizens advice and exercise classes in their area. Members were advised that this is currently working in the Upper Rhymney Valley area but is available to include the Aber Valley. GP's can also prescribe exercise classes, well-being classes and other organisations.

Mr Llewellyn also advised Members that the team had previously supported the Undercurrents Project, noting that Caerphilly has worse health rates than other more affluent areas. It is the intention of this work, to support people to be as well as possible and to give them the best quality of life as possible.

Discussion followed regarding residents' use of green spaces within the Aber Valley and reference was made to the 'gather' area where fruit trees are currently being grown and looked after. Members were also advised that there was funding available for proposed activities in green spaces and Mr Llewellyn would send

contact details to the Community Council, together with information on the website.

Members agreed for the Aber Valley area to be on the website, including details of resources available in the area.

89/2023 **NANT Y PARC SCHOOL – WARNING SIGN**

Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

90/2023 **MUSIC IN HOSPITALS & CARE**

Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

91/2023 **BUTE ENERGY PROJECT**

Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

92/2023 **BENCHES FOR THE PARK IN SENGHENYDD**

Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

93/2023 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTING – SWITCH ON EVENT**

Members discussed the event planned for the first weekend in December with the lights 'switch on' on Friday 1st December. Members agreed for lantern lights and paper for the 'light parade' to be purchased by the Chair and to be reimbursed up to £50.00. Members agreed that Abertridwr Community Centre would be open for stalls on the Friday and Saturday, and a 'Memorial' Christmas Tree would be on Abertridwr Square from Sunday 3rd December onwards, as discussed earlier in the meeting.

It was also noted that the local community had supported the purchase and set up of a sleigh for the event.

94/2023 **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

Members discussed and agreed the Christmas Tree Festival would be set up in Beulah.

95/2023 **CHRISTMAS TREE**

Members discussed the proposal and agreed for a real tree to be planted in Senghenydd Square with future plans for this to be included with the Christmas Lighting. CCBC/Parks have agreed that the tree could be planted.

96/2023 **'GATHER' INSTALLATION AT THE OLD NODDFA CHAPEL SITE, SENGHENYDD**

Members were advised that CCBC/Parks had agreed to an extension to the current installation period for the fruit trees and Members supported this. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact the Police and the Community Safety Warden to inform them of this extension.

97/2023 **PLAQUE AT 22 COMMERCIAL STREET, SENGHENYDD**

Members discussed the actor Clifford Evans and proposed a plaque for his former residence at 22 Commercial Street, Senghenydd. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact United Welsh for permission.

98/2023 **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Members reported on the following matters:

- (i) Litter picks planned for October, November, and December
- (ii) Ysgol Ifor Bach has a vacancy for a School Governor
- (iii) Bollard on Church Road reported to CCBC and fixed asap.
- (iv) Clerk to report bollard on corner of Senghenydd Park (same as Church Road above) to CCBC.
- (v) Members noted a meeting with the Deputy Chief Executive on 27th October to discuss the walls at St. Annes Gardens.
- (vi) Aber Valley area to remain unchanged under the Boundary Commission changes.

99/2023 **DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 9th November 2023.**

The meeting closed at 8.43 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council