
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT ABERTRIDWR COMMUNITY CENTRE AND ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 6TH JUNE 2024

PRESENT:

Chairperson: J. Roberts

Councillors: D. Berry, M. Bedir, C. Bishop, D. Bishop, D. Chamberlain,
D. Daniels, E.P. Prendergast, and J. Taylor.

Clerk: J. Lloyd

89/2024 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R. Gater and M. Stretch.

90/2024 **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.

Declarations of interest were made during the course of the meeting and are minuted under the relevant item.

91/2024 **PUBLIC MATTERS**

A local resident attended and raised the issue of The Green, Abertridwr with regards to the proposed new health centre. Members advised that the Partnership is trying to obtain a copy of the covenant on the land, and any residents were welcome to attend the Partnership meeting to discuss their concerns. Members discussed the attendance of the ABUHB representatives at the last Community Council meeting and noted their concerns that no other sites were currently being considered. The next Partnership meeting is in July.

92/2024 **POLICE MATTERS**

PCSO attended and reported on the following Police matters:

- ASB – 6 reports
- Thomas Street - parking
- The Square – nuisance
- Commercial Street – neighbourhood issues

- Commercial Street West – environmental issue
- Bryn Aber – ASB nuisance
- Coronation Terrace – violence

Senghenydd School area – call to Police regarding children playing on a Trampoline in the stream. PCSO attended and could not remove the Trampoline. Police will email the information to the Community Council and the Clerk will forward to the relevant department of CCBC.

Park in Senghenydd – youths hiding knives and one item has been recovered. A Member referred to cameras at the splash park which could be used and were advised that night shift PC's are also in the area.

37 crime related calls.
50 public safety calls.

Reference to recent RTA in Abertridwr and 'Go Safe' vehicle is due to be in the area.

93/2024 **COMMUNITY SAFETY WARDEN – CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

The Community Safety Warden was not in attendance.

94/2024 **PUBLIC MATTERS**

ABUHB – ABER VALLEY CWTSH GUIDE

David Llewellyn attended the meeting and referred to the website previously circulated to Members and requested more information if possible. Members were asked to review the website (Clerk to recirculate) and forward additional information to Mr Llewellyn, and also to recommend any other parties that it was thought would benefit from having access to the website.

Members were advised that paper information leaflets were also available and circulated where possible in the community. Members suggested that schools, parent network, and the United Welsh hub would benefit from these, and also the Windsor and the Leigh could be contacted.

95/2024 **STAGECOACH BUSES**

Phillip Morgan attended the meeting from Stagecoach and advised Members on the changes since 1st April. Government funding has ended and they now operate on a tender basis, and 93% out of 314,000 miles scheduled has been achieved. Since last year they have gone from being 12 drivers short to an additional 16 drivers to date.

Members were advised of proposals to improve Caerphilly Bus Station and ongoing bids for newer vehicles with vacancies for engineers to improve vehicle standards, and discussed future proposals from 1st August, together with a

request for the timetables in bus stops to be lowered and more accessible to all passengers.

Members discussed the possibility of later services in the evenings and were advised that this would need to go through CCBC.

Members were also advised that all new buses will have the destinations displayed in white lights to assist those passengers with visual impairments.

Members discussed the possibility of electric buses in the future and were advised that Welsh Government had decided not to proceed in the area during covid, however if funding became available in the future, then the electric charging points are already in place and a Stagecoach bus can be charged in 2 hours.

96/2024 YOUTH AMBASSADOR

Members welcomed Rosie Mantle to the meeting and noted that the Community Council had voted in their last meeting to approve Rosie's application.

Rosie advised Members that she had attended the Tatws Sion Cent event and had visited SYDIC.

Members proposed that the Youth Ambassador would look at activities available for the youth in the Aber Valley and give an insight into what they would like. Members were advised that their proposals to fund additional joint activities with SYDIC and YMCA would not be viable as there are restrictions with different age groups working together, which could have safeguarding implications and affect their insurance.

Members proposed a project to introduce SYDIC to the local schools to raise awareness to the school children and for this to include the Youth Ambassador. Members agreed that the visits of the Youth Ambassador would be considered going forward and that Councillor Charlotte Bishop would join Rosie for any visits proposed in the community.

Members agreed that the Clerk would invite the Youth Ambassador to the Community Council meeting every month and she would attend if available. Contact details for the Community Council to be passed on to the Youth Ambassador.

97/2024 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM HELD ON 16TH MAY 2024.

The minutes of the Community Council AGM held on 16th May 2024, were approved as a true record.

98/2024 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16TH MAY 2024.

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 16th May 2024, were approved as a true record.

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 had been received:
 - (i) Caerphilly County Borough Council - £20,000.00. The first instalment of the 2024/25 Community Council Precept.

(3) EXPENDITURE

- (a) Members noted the following expenditure:
 - (i) Payroll – Month 02.
 - (ii) EE Telephone Bill (monthly direct debit) - £26.98.
- (b) Members approved the following expenditure:
 - (i) Information Commissioner – Data Protection Fee - £40.00

(4) APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Councillors D. Berry, C. Bishop, D. Chamberlain and J. Roberts, declared an interest in the application from SYDIC and took no part in the discussions on this item.

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

- (i) SYDIC - £5,000.00 awarded at the last meeting – no further consideration required.
- (ii) YMCA Aber Valley – £5,000.
- (iii) Aber Valley FC Foodbank – to be deferred to the next meeting.

5. A.O.B**(a) Defibrillator Pads/Batteries**

Members agreed for the Clerk to order spare pads and batteries for the defibrillators when required.

(6) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor J. Taylor took no part in the discussions on this matter.

a) Case Ref. 24/0383/CLPU Site Area: 165m²

Location: 12 Eglwysilan Way Abertridwr Caerphilly CF83 4EQ (UPRN 000043005926)

Proposal: Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate for proposed single storey rear bathroom extension

100/2024 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chair advised Members of the recent meeting at Bryn Aber with United Welsh and a briefing note of the meeting had previously been circulated to Members.

The Chair noted the launch of the second booklet of Tatws Sion Cent at the recent event in Senghenydd.

The Chair advised Members of his attendance at the recent 'litter pick' on Senghenydd Mountain and noted 120 bags of litter were collected in 2 hours.

101/2024 THE GREEN PLAN

Members had met and noted that the Green Plan had previously been circulated to various organisations for their comments. Members agreed for the Clerk to recirculate the plan and include Aber Valley Community Partnership, Environmental Group and Aneurin Minton (contact details to be passed to the Clerk).

Members noted that 11 trees had been planted around the Memorial and more trees were needed in Senghenydd. The Woodland Trust to be contacted and also proposal for a Memorial Tree. The Scouts have additional trees to plant, and reference was made to the open green spaces identified in a previous meeting. Proposals to involve schools in future projects and Members noted that 'Friends of Abertridwr Park' was being revamped.

102/2024 BONFIRE NIGHT 2024

Members agreed to invite the company that was supplying the fireworks to the next meeting. Members also discussed and proposed to include 'The Sealed Knot' at the event.

103/2024 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE AS REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES (AGM)

Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

104/2024 **ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

Members agreed to defer this item to a future date.

105/2024 **ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL LOGO COMPETITION**

Members agreed that the Youth Ambassador could design a poster advertising the competition by the next meeting in July. The competition could then be launched with a deadline of end of August, and applications considered in the September meeting. It was proposed that the winner could be announced at the Presentation Evening in September. Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting in July.

106/2024 **ART PROJECT**

Members noted that the booklet of works had been circulated and agreed to defer this item to a future date.

107/2024 **ABUHB – ABER VALLEY CWTSH GUIDE**

This matter was dealt with under Public Matters.

108/2024 **STAGECOACH BUSES**

This matter was dealt with under Public Matters.

109/2024 **ABERTRIDWR PARK TOILETS**

Members discussed the contract with CCBC and agreed for the Clerk to chase up a response from CCBC and clarify the price difference if the toilets were to be opened only on weekends and school holidays.

110/2024 **ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION EVENING**

Members discussed and agreed the event would be held at Abertridwr Community Centre on Thursday 19th September at 6.00 pm. Members agreed that Tatws Sion Cent would be invited to provide the entertainment and agreed that up to £100 could be spent on refreshments.

111/2024 **COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS**

Members discussed and agreed to include these awards at the Presentation Evening and that the Clerk would arrange for advertisements to be placed on social media, Aber Valley Community Council website, and notice boards at Abertridwr Community Centre and Senghenydd Community Centre. Members

agreed to consider nominations for these awards at its meeting on 11th July 2024. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact Aber Valley Partnership to make enquiries about a Special Award.

112/2024 **TIDY WALES AWARDS 2024**

Members did not wish to consider any nominations.

113/2024 **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Members reported on the following matters:

Following 2 recent road accidents in the area, CCBC and the Police had been contacted to review road safety in the Aber Valley. A meeting with Highways and CCBC Councillors was being arranged as soon as possible.

Station Terrace residents were having issues caused by overgrown brambles from Plas Cwm Parc and tree sap also causing damage to cars. Clerk to report to CCBC James Kemp and Housing (contact name to be provided to the Clerk).

Offensive graffiti on the bus stop on Abertridwr Square. Clerk to report to CCBC Jane McMahon and Rhys Wall (Police).

Overgrown trees on Abertridwr Square affecting power lines. Clerk to report to CCBC Rebecca Browning.

Tents on the stretch – CCBC Planning enforcement have been informed and are investigating.

Quarry by the High Street needs to be reviewed.

Senghenydd RFC – Members agreed for a letter of congratulations to be sent (details to be provided to the Clerk).

114/2024 **DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 11th July 2024**.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council