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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 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024

#### PRESENT:

Chairperson: J. Roberts

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

Clerk: J. Lloyd

#### 192/2024 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D. Bishop.

#### 193/2024 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.

#### 194/2024 PUBLIC MATTERS

There were no Public Matters.

#### 195/2024 POLICE MATTERS

Gwent Police attended the meeting and provided the following report to the Community Council:

ASB – 9 calls, noted very low.

Bryn Aber – no reports, good engagement with residents and lowest ward for call demands.

Recent rise in car theft and bikes burned out, included in ASB figures above.

Parking issues on some roads in the area, Police involvement where applicable.

Noted double yellow parking is local authority not Police, checks done on tax and insurance, together with obstructions/safety.

Noted no major issues with parking at the fireworks display.

Members noted the following:

Thanked the Police for recent visit to SYDIC and invited Police to call in whenever they are passing.

Noted house fire incident on Caerphilly Road, speeding traffic when one-way system was in place. Police assistance was required at the time.

Members to pass on information to the Police via email regarding speeding issues in the area.

Local PCSO is now the school liaison officer for the primary schools. They have undertaken visits to schools with Police cars which children can view, together with uniforms.

**196/2024**    **COMMUNITY SAFETY WARDEN – CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Community Safety Wardens were not in attendance.

**197/2024**    **YOUTH AMBASSADOR**

The Youth Ambassador attended the meeting and reported on their recent activities in the Community, including two visits to SYDIC and attended their AGM, with plans to meet up again in a few weeks. Attended the Youth Forum meeting and the Christmas Event at the Nazareth. The Youth Ambassador had also come in the Top 10 in a recent schools' competition out of numerous schools.

**198/2024**    **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024.**

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024 were approved as a true record.

**199/2024**    **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)    Donation from CURRENT Fireworks towards Firework Display - £300.
- (ii)   Grant from Renishaw Charities towards Firework Display - £500.

### **(3) EXPENDITURE**

(a) Members noted the following expenditure:

- (i) Payroll – Month 08.
- (ii) EE Telephone Bill (monthly direct debit) - £26.98

(b) Members approved the following expenditure:

- (i) Caerphilly County Borough Council - £1,345.50  
(Opening, Closing and Cleaning of Toilets at Abertridwr from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 until closure).
- (ii) Town and Community Council Liaison Committee (TCCLC) -  
£100 (subscription/administration charges).
- (iii) Children's Sweets for Santa event on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024 - £32  
(reimbursement to Councillor C. Bishop).

### **4. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

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

- (i) Llamau Ltd - £500.

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) Welsh Government: Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2025-26

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 2025-26 is £11.10.

(b) Society of Local Council Clerks: Membership Renewal 2025

Members were informed that the Clerk's Membership to the Society of Local Council Clerks was due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025. The annual subscription fee is £150. Members approved the renewal and agreed for the Clerk to proceed with the renewal.

(c) Insurance Claim from Watkins & Gunn

Members were informed that an email had been received from Watkins & Gunn Solicitors relating to a personal injuries claim, and this had since been resolved as it was a matter for CCBC and not Aber Valley Community Council.

(d) Audit Wales – Completion of Audit 2023/24

Members were informed that Audit Wales had confirmed their completion of the Full Audit for 2023/24. The report had been circulated to Members.

(e) Extension of Public Space Protection Order for Dog Control

Members were informed that an email had been received from CCBC relating to a consultation for an extension of PSPO for Dog Control.

Members agreed for the Clerk to complete and submit the questionnaire as part of the consultation process which ends on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025.

## 6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

(a) Case Ref. 24/0808/COU Site Area: 393m<sup>2</sup>

Location: Orbit House 162 Caerphilly Road Senghenydd Caerphilly CF83 4FX (UPRN 000043085153)

Proposal: Change the use of hair dressing salon to residential

(b) APPLICATION NO. 24/0025/OUT Erect three separate residential structures, comprising of 6 No. one bed apartments, 9 No. two bed apartments and 2 No. four bedroom dwellings with all matters reserved Land At, Coedcae Road to Pont-y-felin, Abertridwr. – Members agreed for the Clerk to note their concerns to Planning regarding the parking difficulties at the end of Coedcae Road, with vehicles currently being left at the bottom of the road.

(c) Case Ref. 24/0814/CLPU

Site Area: 5875m<sup>2</sup> Location: 4-8, 11-13, 17-20, 23-27, 32, 35-36, 38-39, 42-44, 46-48 Cefn Ilan Road Abertridwr Caerphilly CF83 4EE (UPRN 000043009445)

Proposal: Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate for removal and reinstallation of EWI with mineral render and pebble dash finish on 28 properties across the Cefn Ilan Estate, additional works to include extending the rooflines to ensure additional weather protection to the EWI systems, the replacement of windows and doors, replacement rainwater goods and SVP's, and improved ventilation strategy

(d) Case Ref. 24/0828/COU Site Area: 60m<sup>2</sup>

Location: 9 Bryn Aber Abertridwr Caerphilly CF83 4EY (UPRN 000043009302)

Proposal: Change the use from residential flat to a small community hub

## 200/2024 CHAIRPERSONS' REPORT AND THE GREEN PLAN

The Chair noted that Members were due to meet to discuss the Green Plan and would report back to the Community Council, together with information on future projects, following a recent meeting with CCBC. The Youth Ambassador was invited to join the Green Plan meetings, going forward.

The Chair noted the Remembrance Day services at Abertridwr and Senghenydd and his attendance at SYDIC AGM. The Chair advised Members that he had stood down as Director but would continue to work with SYDIC.

The Chair noted the successful Christmas event, together with his attendance at the Senghenydd RFC event celebrating 125 years.

**201/2024**    **ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL LOGO COMPETITION**

Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting in January.

**202/2024**    **CHRISTMAS LIGHTING – 2024/2025**

Members discussed the recent issues with the installation of the light displays and it was agreed for the Clerk to contact Elsbury to request that the lights on the trees in Abertridwr Square be removed and placed on the Christmas Tree instead, and the original display to remain on the Nazareth, with a request for Dave (Elsbury) to contact Councillor M. Stretch to discuss the larger light display at Senghenydd.

Members requested this item be added to the agenda for the next meeting in January.

**202/2024**    **THE LEIGH AND THE WINDSOR - CHRISTMAS**

Members were informed that there was no requirement for any financial assistance from the Community Council this year.

**203/2024**    **DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2025/26.**

Members discussed and considered the draft budget for 2025/26 and approved the proposals.

**204/2024**    **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Members reported on the following matters:

1. The future of CCBC outdoor bowling greens – noted that a CCBC meeting was being held in January 2025, with 2 representatives from each bowling club.
2. Traffic issues at the Bowls in the mornings affecting buses and problems increasing. Clerk to contact Highways regarding the issues.
3. Financial Assistance forms – Members to hold a de-brief meeting in January/February to discuss changes to the form.
4. It was noted that the Oasis in Abertridwr have changed their menu and queried whether the pizza oven, funded by the Community Council, was still being used.

5. It was noted that the Christmas Walk, as part of the Christmas Event held on 6<sup>th</sup> December did not go ahead as planned due to weather conditions.

**205/2024      DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

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