
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT ABERTRIDWR COMMUNITY CENTRE AND ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 10TH JULY 2025

PRESENT:

Chairperson: J. Taylor

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

Clerk: J. Lloyd

109/2025 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D. Daniels, R. Gater, and M Stretch, and Youth Ambassador R. Mantle.

110/2025 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.

111/2025 PUBLIC MATTERS

Community Councillor D. Berry declared a personal interest as he is an employee of United Welsh.

Representatives from United Welsh and their contracting partners, Pritchard's and Cosgrove's, attended the meeting to provide information on the Windsor Colliery site.

Members discussed the closure of the footpaths around the site, which were initially estimated for six months but due to health and safety issues were to remain closed until September and would be reviewed at each stage, with the current closure proposed for approximately a year. Discussion followed regarding alternative options to open parts of the footpath, but Members were advised that any areas near the attenuation ponds would remain closed in order for the area to be kept safe. Members were informed of the purpose of the attenuation ponds in relation to any drainage and flooding issues, and that CCBC would be responsible for the ponds on completion of the site. Members were invited to visit

the site to view the area and to note the proximity of the ponds to the closed footpaths.

Members requested clear signage for residents confirming the current access to the cycle path in the area by the Workmen's Hall.

Members were informed that the streetlamps on the site would be adopted by CCBC, although some areas of the land would remain the responsibility of United Welsh.

Members raised concerns regarding the number of lorries in the area and were informed that the Pritchard's lorries would decrease in numbers in the next two weeks when the site had been cleared. Lorries were currently bringing materials to the site and then taking the slag to another site at Virginia Park. Members were advised that the housing contractor lorries would then start to operate on the site. Discussion followed regarding damage caused to the roads, and Members were advised that existing highways were the responsibility of CCBC.

Members queried whether there would be any provision for public transport on the site and were advised that there may not be appropriate turning areas for buses, but this would be reviewed when the site was completed.

Members were advised that funds were available for community contribution and were dependant on the size of the development site. Members invited all the representatives to the summer event on the Green, and suggested they have a stall and welcomed any contribution to the community.

Members thanked the representatives for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

112/2025 POLICE MATTERS

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

Recorded Crime

There were reports of fire behind the Library in Abertridwr park- There was no deployment from Police- however PCSOS have continued to patrol the area and the area of the Old Bingo Hall. There were reports of fires here also- since patrolling there have been no fires sighted.

Report of stolen tools from a garage in Abertridwr- reported only wanted this logged with Police and no further action was taken- however continued patrols and welfare checks were carried out by local PCSO's for crime detection and intelligence gathering.

Reports of a smashed up residential window overnight in the Francis Street area of Abertridwr. This was attended by an officer on a diary car appointment where CCTV was available. Victim care unit contacted the victim and enquiries carried out by officers to identify offender(s).

A van had been broken into overnight in the Stanley Street area and around 4 thousand pounds worth of tools had been stolen. Officers attended, however the scope for CCTV was very low. Due to weather the scope for CSI investigation was low. PCSOS carried out patrols for reassurance in the area and house to house enquiries conducted in the area. A suspect has not been identified currently.

Recorded ASB (Nuisance)

Reports of loud music being played in the Gwern Y Milwr area throughout the day using a loudspeaker. The exact location was not disclosed. This was attended by PCSO's and advised environmental health would be best suited to deal with this matter through use of the NOISE APP. Caller did not wish to provide details and wanted to make Police aware rather than conduct further investigations.

Ongoing neighborhood issues are continuing in the Bryn Aber area between neighbors- United Welsh have been made aware and the CADRO is aware of issues and collaborating with partners.

Targeted Activity

The Old Bingo Hall is being patrolled for reports of fires continuously.

Ongoing parking issues continue- this will be looked at closer moving forward.

PCSO525 will continue further foot patrols in the area and speak to local businesses and residents in the area moving forward- now signed off as independent.

PCSO 525 will try arranging the GO- SAFE van in future to raise awareness with speeding offences and take positive action.

Community Engagement

ASB meeting at YMCA with Councillors on the 9th July at 4pm- Agenda sent.

Further engagements to be arranged once PCSO is independent patrol status.

Go Safe van to be arranged for traffic offence awareness and education.

More Police surgeries to be arranged with Councillors in Aber-Valley area.

Parking issues at Primary Ifor Bach- PCSO's attended to engage with community and speak to local community around parking issues.

Cwmaber Primary school engagement with children- speaking about the role of a PCSO and PC.

Members noted the following:

Thanked the Police for their involvement at Ysgol Ifor Bach – issues dealt with construction lorries operating at school closure times.

Thanked the Police for all their dealings with the Old Bingo Hall, Abertridwr.

Reported issues with dogs at Coedcae Road, Abertridwr – RSPCA dealing with it and Police are aware.

Train station car park (Energlyn and Churchill Park), youths messing with recycling bins and broken glass all over the car park – Police patrols in the area.

Police invited to attend the Community Council summer event on 23rd August.

Accident at the entrance to Abertridwr a few weeks ago – requested any further information/ update from the Police.

Stolen drain covers in Abertridwr approximately a month ago.

Stolen wheelie bins from William Harris Bungalows, Abertridwr being burnt in Abertridwr Park – Police to investigate.

113/2025 YOUTH AMBASSADOR

The Youth Ambassador was not in attendance at the meeting.

114/2025 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH JUNE 2025.

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 12th June 2025 were approved as a true record.

115/2025 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) No income had been received:

(3) EXPENDITURE

- (a) Members noted the following expenditure:
 - (i) Payroll – Month 03.
 - (ii) EE Telephone Bill (monthly direct debit) - £28.69

- (b) Members approved the following expenditure:
- (i) Caerphilly County Borough Council (room rental at Abertridwr Library) - £260.00.
- (ii) Defibrillator pads and batteries – £985.39 (reimbursement to the Clerk).

(4) A.O.B

(a) EE Mobile Telephone Contract

The Clerk informed Members that a new contract was due. Members agreed for the Clerk to arrange a renewal/new contract.

(b) Community Council Presentation Evening

Members discussed arrangements for the Community Council Presentation Evening on Thursday 18th September 2025 at the Aber Hotel, Abertridwr at 6.00pm and agreed that up to £100 could be spent on refreshments to follow the presentation evening. The Clerk to send letters of invite at the end of July/ early August. Members agreed for this item to be added to the next meeting agenda to confirm any further arrangements.

(c) Community Recognition Awards

Members received the nominations for the Community Recognition Awards and confirmed the recipients for 2025. The Clerk to send letters of invite to the Presentation Evening, at the end of July/ early August, to the recipients and nominators. Members also agreed changes to some of the award categories going forward. Item to be added to the next meeting agenda to confirm any further arrangements.

(6). PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

(a) Case Ref. 25/0380/HH Site Area: 670m²

Location: Somerset House 4 Bridgefield Street Abertridwr Caerphilly CF83 4DG (UPRN 000043008864)

Proposal: Erect detached garage to rear of property.

(b) Case Ref. 25/0392/HH Site Area: 540m²

Location: 3 Ffordd Las Abertridwr Caerphilly CF83 4EW (UPRN 000043009482)

Proposal: Erect new retaining wall to facilitate levelling of garden along with a new fence to side and rear boundary.

116/2025 CHAIRPERSONS' REPORT

Nothing to report from the Chair.

117/2025 THE GREEN PLAN

Members were informed that the work at the Dram and Wheel, including the installation of the steel plate had now been completed.

The Old Bingo Hall, Abertridwr had been made safer and CCBC Properties were looking into the issues with a tree growing within the premises.

A Member had met with CCBC Officer regarding the 'hardstanding area' opposite the Panteg Pub, and confirmed a budget was available for a low-level maintenance scheme/ project. At a recent Partnerships meeting, the representative from Pritchard's was looking into providing the survey to establish the integrity of the culvert. Members discussed the CCBC budget allowance if the survey was covered by Pritchard's.

118/2025 EVENTS 2025

Summer Event – to be held on the Green, Abertridwr on Saturday 23rd August. Members agreed for the provision of the inflatables at the event to be provided by A1 Jump and Bounce Ltd for £1000.

Discussion followed regarding stalls, bands, stage hire, refreshments, the use of the YMCA building (including stage). Bad weather arrangements included further use of the YMCA building for stalls. Members agreed that £500 would be paid to the YMCA to cover all costs including buildings, hire and equipment.

Also confirmed attendance at the event from St Johns Ambulance, an ice cream van and a football tournament (donations towards Make a Wish/ Jake's Day). The pizza oven to be used at the Oasis, and a donation of £10 from each stall at the event was agreed.

Discussion followed regarding possible attendance by a DJ, band, singer, choir (any costs to be confirmed).

119/2025 ABERTRIDWR TOILETS

Members were advised that following a site meeting with a CCBC Officer on 16th June, responsibility for the repairs/ invoice payment was to be determined. Members agreed for the Clerk to chase this up with CCBC, and to note the Community Council's request for the toilets to be re-opened for the school summer holidays, if possible. Members had previously agreed that the toilets would be re-opened on a 'one strike rule' basis. Councillors agreed to inform the primary and junior schools in the area, and notification would be sent to both secondary schools to advise (Cwm Rhymni and St. Cenydd).

120/2025 ABERTRIDWR LIBRARY/ COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICE

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

121/2025 ABERTRIDWR LIBRARY/ EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Members discussed expressions of interest for Abertridwr Library.

122/2025 TATWS SION CENT

Members noted that the funding for additional printing costs was no longer required from the Community Council.

123/2025 UNITED WELSH REPRESENTATIVES

This matter had been dealt with under Public Matters.

124/2025 MEMBERS MATTERS

Members reported on the following matters:

Delivery vehicles from local takeaways had been racing through William Street, Abertridwr. Clerk to refer to the Police and CCBC Highways to request a speed check.

Abertridwr Square – health and safety issues/ trip hazards, tree roots, blocked drains and memorial stone needing attention. Clerk to chase up with CCBC and report blocked drains.

A homeless man in the area of the steps coming from the cycle track onto Ilan Road, Abertridwr. Clerk to contact CCBC/ Social Services to check they are aware. Community Council also suggested a 'litter pick' in this area.

CCBC had requested a list for cleansing requirements in the Aber Valley by 4th July. This had been provided by a Councillor, and it was agreed that a new list of cleansing requirements be set up for the Aber Valley, and added to as and when, in readiness for the next CCBC request.

Members discussed the condition of the bus shelters in the Aber Valley and agreed for this to be included in the list, as above.

125/2025 DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 11th September 2025.**

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council