
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT SENGHENYDD COMMUNITY CENTRE AND ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2026

PRESENT:

Chairperson: M. Bedir

Councillors: D. Berry, C. Bishop, D. Chamberlain (Vice Chair),
J. Roberts, J. Taylor, and D. Wood.

Clerk: J. Lloyd

231/2026 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D. Bishop, D. Daniels, E.P. Prendergast, and M. Stretch.

232/2026 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.

233/2026 POLICE MATTERS

Gwent Police/ PCSOs attended the meeting and provided the following information to the Community Council for March 2026:

Incidents to note

- Tristan Kerr Incident- Police/ PCSOs continue to maintain a high visible presence in the area for community presence/ reassurance. Extra Police Surgeries being held in relation to this.
- Male has threatened to harm himself and told someone over discord chat. Police have attended on an emergency response and have welfare checked him and signposted the male to Samaritans and NHS.
- Reports of 30 people fighting at the RAOB Social club in the Square- no weapons seen but broken glass seen scattered. Caller reported she initially threw them out due to them

causing damage in the toilets. Police responded on emergency response to which they had all dispersed and there was no victim complaint forthcoming.

- Report in the Ilan Road area that someone's son has turned up at the Reporting Persons home address and is intoxicated. RP has locked door to which Police have responded and safe guarded parties and completed relevant domestic abuse safeguarding.

Targeted Activity

- Continued patrols being conducted around the old Bingo Hall following reports of fires being set in the area. Side gate now made secure.
- Ongoing parking issues – Parking Wardens made aware and further patrols requested specifically around School drop off/pick up times.
- Foot Patrol and CO525 Soo continuing to build rapport with residents and deter offending specifically targeting areas affected by recent vehicle break ins.
- Extra school patrols conducted after school to maintain presence for reassurance.
- PCSO 525 will continue to issue further Section 59 warnings/ seizures in relation to offroad bikes/ e-scooters.
- Continued High visible foot patrols to be conducted
- Tristan Kerr funeral coming up- Neighbourhood Inspector aware

Community Engagement

- Gaming Van to be deployed at future events with the aim to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour- This will now be subject to weather conditions. Community event on the 31st March in Senghenydd Park- Gaming van to be booked if possible.
- Continued Police Surgeries to be conducted at the Library and The Oasis to provide reassurance in the wake of recent tragic events. Police Surgery coming up in Dwell Coffee shop on the Saturday 14th March 2026.
- School Visits being conducted – Focus recently has been Offroad bikes/ e-scooters- all schools spoken too.
- Continued push to engage residents with the Neighbourhood Alert Scheme.
- Further Engagements to be continued for School visits.
- Bryn Aber- United Welsh resident meeting on the 25th March.

Members noted the following with the Police:

Some Members had joined the Alert Scheme but not received any information. Police to chase up.

Ongoing issues with E-scooters and off-road bikes. PCSOs have seized bikes with Police attendance. Members discussed areas where bikes had been seen.

Issues with Cwm Rhymni and other schools had been dealt with.

234/2026 PUBLIC MATTERS

ABUHB representatives Lloyd Hambridge, Hannah Capel and Eira Turner attended the meeting and gave Members an update on the proposed Health and Well-being Centre in the Aber Valley. The Abertridwr Park area was still being considered, they had met with the Local Authority and site surveyors and were progressing to pre-planning stage. Further community engagement would be arranged at that time. Flood areas were being checked within the park and the site around the car park area was also being considered.

Discussion followed regarding the needs of the football club and improvements to the children's park area. Ongoing issues with the changing rooms and toilets and noted the current judicial review with regards to the Abertridwr Library.

ABUHB representatives asked to be kept informed with the situation regarding the library.

235/2026 YOUTH AMBASSADOR

The Youth Ambassador was unable to attend the meeting.

236/2026 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH FEBRUARY 2026.

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 12th February 2026 were approved as a true record.

237/2026 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 11.
- (ii) EE Telephone Bill (monthly direct debit) - £28.69.
- (iii) Inka Graphics Limited - £275.00.
- (iv) United Graphic Design Limited - £199.62.

(b) Members approved the following expenditure:

- (i) Xplosive Fireworks Ltd - £6,000.

(4) A.O.B

(a) Internal Auditor 2025/26

Members were advised that the Clerk had confirmed the appointment of the Internal Auditor, Mr Terry Williams, to undertake the internal audit for the financial year ending 31st March 2026 and confirmed the fee would be £250.00.

(b) Financial Administration

Members discussed the current financial situation and approved for the remaining balance of the following budget areas to be carried forward from the 2025/26 financial year to the 2026/27 financial year for projects that have not been completed and for invoices that will not be processed before 31st March 2026.

Audit
Maintenance
Christmas Lighting
Special Projects

(5) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

- (a) TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 Erect single storey extension to existing building with a dormer roof to incorporate bedroom with en-suite bathroom, ground floor to include kitchen/diner and living space, extension exterior finish to be part render and part Millwood timber effect vertical cladding to blend to existing dwelling Hill View Caerllywn Farm Bryncoed Terrace To Cefn-Ilwyd Farm Abertridwr Caerphilly.

238/2026 **CHAIRPERSONS' REPORT**

The Chair had nothing to report.

239/2026 **THE GREEN PLAN**

Members agreed that the Green Plan would be on alternate meeting agendas going forward.

Members discussed the CCBC Cleaning and Greening work that had taken place in the area and noted that action was required on Egwylsilan Common with regards to continuous litter picking and rubbish by the turbine area that had been there for approximately 4 years. Members suggested a contribution from Bute Energy and would contact them to discuss.

Nant Y Parc Primary School – outside area/ Mining Memorial was to be painted and maintained going forward.

240/2026 **EVENTS 2026**

Easter event – Not going ahead.

Summer event - Planned for the Green, Abertridwr on 18th July. Members noted that the grass area needed to be cut and rolled to make safe. Members agreed £1500 contribution from the Community Council towards the event.

Members were informed that the arrangements had been confirmed with Senghenydd RFC and the Fireworks company for the event to be held on Wednesday 4th November 2026. The invoice for the fireworks had been received, and Members had agreed to pay the full balance (noted in the Clerks report).

241/2026 **ABERTRIDWR PARK TOILETS 2026**

Members discussed the quotes received from CCBC and agreed with the following period for opening:

- April to September weekends, and school holidays and Bank holidays.

It was noted that the quote of £5,251.06 was likely to increase slightly from April onwards. Information to be put on social media to inform local residents and the Clerk to confirm the agreed option with CCBC.

242/2026 **BLEED CONTROL KITS**

Members discussed having bleed control kits available with each of the 3 defibrillators in the Aber Valley. It was noted that funds may be sourced for 2 kits and Members agreed to purchase 1 kit.

243/2026 ABUHB/ HEALTH CENTRE

Dealt with under Public Matters.

244/2026 EGWLYSILAN COMMON – ACTIONS REQUIRED

Dealt with under the Green Plan.

245/2026 FOOTBALL CLUB THEFT

Councillors M. Bedir, and D. Wood declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussions.

Members discussed the recent break in and theft from Aber Valley football club at their container at the park. This included the theft of a generator, kit, and tuck shop stock. Members agreed to donate £1,000 to the club.

246/2026 ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL LOGO COMPETITION

Members discussed and agreed for the competition to be advertised with the deadline for entries to be received by 10th July 2026, prior to the Summer event. Prize money had previously been agreed at £500. Councillor C. Bishop to advertise on social media with entries to be submitted to abervalleycc@caerphilly.gov.uk. Competition rules available from Aber Valley Community Council.

247/2026 MEMBERS MATTERS

Members reported on the following matters:

Councillor J. Roberts – the state of the area on Eglwysilan Common, over the cattle grid and past the water tank. Area of land had been all ‘churned up.’ Agreed for Clerk to contact CCBC Environmental Health and request an inspection of the area.

Councillor J. Roberts – posters around the Memorial in Senghenydd regarding littering in the surrounding area. Inclusion of the football club/rugby club logos in addition in those areas.

Councillor D. Berry – Bus in disrepair parked in the layby on Graig Y Fedw, Abertridwr. Clerk to report to CCBC Highways. Also discussed the small tourer caravan on the opposite side of the road. Clerk to contact Penyrheol Community Council and Planning enforcement for further information.

Councillor J. Taylor – Noted latest information from the Boundary Commission and the 3 CCBC Councillors were to remain in the Aber Valley.

Councillor J. Taylor – noted the Volunteer Fayres were taking place on 25th March at 7.00 pm at Abertridwr Community Centre and on 26th March at 7.00 pm

at Senghenydd Community Centre. The delivery plans for the flyers had changed and would now incur a charge of £65.00 per thousand leaflets. Members discussed covering this extra charge and this would be included in the next meeting agenda.

Presentation evening to be added to the next meeting agenda.

Signs regarding 'no dog walking' on marked pitches.

Councillor J. Roberts – to respond to CCBC email regarding the next Cleaner and Greener scheme and preferred dates. All agreed to have this work undertaken closer to the Summer holidays.

248/2026 DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 9th April 2026.**

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council