ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

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

PRESENT:

Chairperson: M. Bedir

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

Clerk: J. Lloyd

092/2026 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D. Bishop, D. Daniels, M. Stretch, and D. Wood.

093/2026 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.

094/2026 PUBLIC MATTERS

Men's Sheds Cymru – Sid Jenkins attended the meeting and provided information on the work that had been completed in the community by the group. They were requesting a donation from the Community Council towards their work in the community.

Discussion followed regarding suggestions for future work, including tree planting and maintenance of the Memorial railings in Senghenydd. The required tools and costs involved were also discussed.

Members agreed to make a donation to the group but to defer determination of the amount to the next meeting in December. Members would also source any donations of tools/equipment from other local groups and possible match funding from local businesses.

CCBC Chief Executive - Richard Edmunds also attended the meeting as he was attending all Community Council meetings throughout the Borough. Members discussed working relationships and contact with the Community Councils. Members confirmed issues that were awaiting responses from CCBC, although

they noted that improvements had been made with direct contacts, the contact centre and correspondence recorded at reception.

Discussion followed regarding best locations for tree planting and enquiries made with CCBC awaiting a response. Allotments were suggested and areas where children could access the fruit on the trees.

Members discussed the benefits of the Community Council that 'bridge the gap' between the Council and residents, and noted the better communities are those with community councils.

It was suggested that CCBC Newsline could include community councils' news and continuous inclusion of community councils going forward, together with organisations such as GAVO. Also discussed the possible review of the community council liaison committee.

095/2026 POLICE MATTERS

Police were unable to attend the meeting, and their report had been circulated to the Community Council prior to the meeting:

Incidents to note.

- Known male known as Jonathan living in a tent by Abertridwr Library- he is known to police and is awaiting housing from council.
- Reports of a female screaming in the street in Clive ST- Police attended on an emergency response- no offences disclosed, safeguarding referrals submitted.
- Report of a wing mirror that has been hit off a van in Bryn Aber- no cctv or witnesses in area- log made for insurance purposes.
- Two car road traffic collision taken place in Thomas st- no injuries- damage only.

Targeted Activity

- Continued patrols being conducted around the old Bingo Hall following reports of fires being set in the area. The side panel has been ripped- has been reported to council.
- 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.
- 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 around the area of Tristan Kerr murder

- Parking around King Street, Abertridwr to be monitored and council to be made aware of ongoing issues. Awareness around parking issues to be raised when speaking to residents.

Community Engagement

- Gaming Van to be deployed at future events with the aim to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour- This will now be subject to availability/ weather conditions.

- Continued Police Surgeries to be conducted at the Library & The Oasis to provide reassurance in the wake of recent events. Recently the SYDIC has been a new venue also- further surgeries to take place here.

- School Visits being conducted – Youths just returned from school- visits to each school in the area to be done.

- Continued push to engage residents with the Neighbourhood Alert Scheme.

- Bryn Aber- Community Hub attended and will continue to attend on a regular basis where possible- walk around recently done with United Welsh in relation to ongoing issues with ASB, FLYTIPPING and PARKING.

- Couple of schools been given presentations spoken too about knife crime/ anti-social behaviour and use of electric scooters.

- Knife crime week coming up from the 16/11/2026, school talks arranged

- Close work being done with pupils and staff at YSGOL IFOR BACH to address violent behaviour in the classroom.

Members had no further issues to raise with the Police.

096/2026 YOUTH AMBASSADOR

The previous vacancy advert had been circulated for approval. Members discussed and agreed to defer to the next meeting in December.

097/2026 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8TH OCTOBER 2026.

The minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on 8th October 2026 were approved as a true record.

098/2026 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

(i) No income had been received.

(3) EXPENDITURE

(a) Members noted the following expenditure:

(i) Payroll – Month 07.

(ii) EE Telephone Bill (monthly direct debit- October) - £30.78

(iii) CCBC – Opening/Closing and Cleaning of the toilets in Abertridwr Park (April to September 2026) - £5251.06.

(iv) The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – £25.00

Members approved the following expenditure:

(i) Town and Community Council Liaison Committee (TCCLC) - (subscription/administration charges 2026/27) - £100.00.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Email/letter received from Asbri Planning Ltd (Publicity and Consultation before applying for Planning Permission) - Land to the east of Aberfawr Road, Abertridwr, Caerphilly, CF83 4EJ – Members discussed the proposal for outline planning permission for the development of a Health and Well Being Centre. The link in the email included details of the application and plans. Any representations to be made by 24th November. Members discussed and agreed that they would submit separate representations at this stage, prior to the planning application.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None.

099/2026 **CHAIRPERSONS' REPORT**

The Chair had attended the Memorial Event for the Senghenydd Colliery Disaster, the Fireworks Display, and the Remembrance Day event.

Regarding the Remembrance Day event, suggestion was made to paint the railings on the Memorial and invite members of the Armed Forces to attend.

Discussed the cashpoint in the Post Office – this would be available while the Post Office was open, but when closed, 'cashback' would be available in the shop. Noted that the cashpoint in the 'dip garage' that was due to close in December, would now remain open.

Senghenydd and Abertridwr Squares – parking issues for shopkeepers and deliveries. Possible loading area required. Members had previously met with CCBC regarding the bus stop and the use of the area at the side of the empty shop or on Gwern Avenue (right hand side).

Discussion followed regarding issues at the Royal Hotel, Abertridwr. Reports of door security threatening residents, and reports of residents from the premises causing issues in the community, trying to give school children alcohol and vapes in the mornings, on the bus stop. There had been reports of thefts from the Nisa and the Chemist, and drugs in the back lanes behind the premises. Agreed for the Clerk to contact the relevant Officers in CCBC and the Police to report the issues and the concerns about the effects on community cohesion. Residents concerns are increasing.

100/2026 **EVENTS 2026**

Fireworks Display – Members discussed and noted the successful event on 4th November at Senghenydd RFC. Residents from Llanbradach and Penyrheol had attended the event, together with residents from Nelson who had watched from Senghenydd mountain. The Clerk had contacted the fireworks company, to check availability for 2027 and would chase up a response.

Armistice day – Councillor C. Bishop to organise this event going forward.

Christmas event – Christmas Fete had been organised by the community and would take place on Saturday 5th December.

Members discussed and agreed the purchase of selection boxes (up to £500) to be made in 2 phases and to be distributed within the community.

Members discussed a complaint on social media regarding the lack of poppies on the Memorial prior to the event and noted other areas of the Borough have poppies displayed on lampposts and the soldier silhouettes. Members agreed to donate £50 a year to a PTSD charity instead. Noted that in July next year, a request would be made for volunteers to assist in the event.

101/2026 DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2027/28

The Clerk advised Members that this would be circulated following the meeting, and to be discussed and agreed at the next meeting in December.

102/2026 MEMBERS MATTERS

Members reported on the following matters:

Proposal to hold a 'warm hub' in the Nazareth on Mondays between 10am and 12 noon. Refreshments to be provided free of charge.

A Members' daughter was planning to make a film that highlighted the difficulties getting around the Senghenydd area in a wheelchair. Discussion followed regarding contact with CCBC. Issues with overgrown hedges impeding pathways to be reported to CCBC.

The Welsh school were awaiting a road safety plan, contact to be made with CCBC to chase up. Also noted that 5 to 6 new houses overlook the school yard and United Welsh have confirmed that CCBC confirmed the plans. Members agreed for the Clerk to raise a safeguarding issue on behalf of the Community Council.

Pressure to be kept on CCBC regarding the re-opening of the Trehir recycling centre.

Youths are removing the doors on the Old Bingo Hall in Abertridwr and setting fires inside the premises. Agreed for the Clerk to report to CCBC and request an update.

103/2026 DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 10th December 2026.**

The meeting closed at 8.59 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council