
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD BY REMOTE VIDEO CONFERENCE, ON THURSDAY 13TH MAY 2021

PRESENT:

Chairperson: Councillor D. Daniels

Councillors: D. Berry, L. Binding, C. Bishop, T. Richards, J. Roberts,
J. Taylor, D. Tolley and P. Yandle

Clerk: S. Hughes

The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020. The Regulations make temporary provision in relation to local authority meetings during the Covid-19 pandemic. Statutory requirements placed on local authorities by existing legislation to admit the public and press in person to certain meetings and to provide facilities to inspect certain documents in person at offices of the authority are relaxed for the duration of the Regulations.

33/2021 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E. P. Prendergast and M. Stretch.

34/2021 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.

35/2021 POLICE MATTERS

There was no representative of Gwent Police in attendance.

Members reported on the following Police matters:

- (i) Councillor J. Roberts is liaising with C.S.O. M. Kerswell who is organising a litter pick at Bryn Aber, Abertridwr.

36/2021

TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8TH APRIL 2021

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 8th April 2021 were approved as a true record.

37/2021

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) Members noted the following income:
- (i) Caerphilly County Borough Council – £20,000. The first instalment of the 2021/22 precept.

(3) Expenditure

- (a) Members approved the following expenditure:
- (i) British Telecom – £52.24.
- (i) Terry Williams – £200.00 (internal audit fee for the financial year ending 31st March 2021).
- (ii) Caerphilly County Borough Council – £2,516.99 (opening, closing, cleaning and maintenance of the toilet block in Abertridwr Park 2020/21).
- (b) Members noted the following expenditure:
- (i) Payroll – Month 01.

(4) Applications for Financial Assistance

- (a) Members considered the following applications for financial assistance and resolved as follows:
- (i) Aber Valley Minis & Juniors – £2,550.80 (to assist with the reconnection of the water supply at Senghenydd Cricket Ground).
- (ii) SYDIC – £5,000.00 (to run summer holiday activities for young people in the Aber Valley).

Members asked the Clerk to contact Aber Valley YMCA with a proposal that Aber Valley Community Council would consider an application for financial

assistance for a sum of up to £5,000 to run summer holiday activities for young people in the Aber Valley.

(5) A.O.B.

(a) Audit

- (i) Members received and approved the Internal Audit Report for the financial year ended 31st March 2021.
- (ii) Members received the Annual Return for the financial year ended 31st March 2021 and completed the Annual Governance Statement.
- (iii) Members of Aber Valley Community Council approved the Annual Return for the financial year ended 31st March 2021 and authorised the Chairperson to sign the approval and certification section as soon as practicable. Members were informed that the the Annual Return and supporting documents will then be submitted to the External Auditor.

(b) Contract of Employment – Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

The Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer left the meeting whilst this item was being discussed.

Members asked the Clerk to put this item on the Agenda for the next Community Council meeting.

(6) Planning Applications

Councillor J. Taylor took no part in the discussion.

- (a) Case Ref. 21/0406/FULL Site Area: 119m²
Location: Unit B Garage Block, High Street, Abertridwr
Proposal: Extend and carry out external alterations to MOT station/car garage including new flat roof.

38/2021

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chairperson informed Members of Senghenydd Community Church, who are undertaking a small community audit to identify the needs of the village. Members were advised that support can be offered for debt counselling, counselling, help with looking for work, parent and toddler groups, wellbeing groups, form filling and grant applications. It was highlighted that Senghenydd Community Church are looking for guidance on where their help and enthusiasm could be best channelled. The Chairperson asked for any suggestions to be e-mailed to the Chairperson or the Clerk.

Members were also informed of The Cave, which is located upstairs in the Windsor Hotel in Senghenydd, where clothing, household items and toys are offered free of charge to people who need them. The opening hours of The Cave are Wednesdays 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm and Saturdays 10.00 am to 12 noon.

39/2021 **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Members reported on the following matters:

- (a) The culvert behind Nant-y-Parc School is blocked.
- (b) The ongoing issue with flooding at the end of Graig-y-Fedw in Abertridwr has been resolved.
- (c) The Undercurrents – On Our Doorstep Partnership are looking to engage three Wales-based Creative Practitioners (these may be artists, makers, designers, or other creative practitioners and may be an individual, a partnership or a collectives) to work with them and local residents to draw out cultural connections across the Aber Valley (Abertridwr and Senghenydd) to reveal the benefits for communities of the area’s cultural and environmental assets. Members were informed that these opportunities form part of Undercurrents – On Our Doorstep which is a partnership project between Undercurrents – Arts in the Aber Valley community group, Caerphilly County Borough Council and Addo, which is funded by Arts Council of Wales’ Connect & Flourish grant fund for the development of collaborative proposals between organisations, individuals and creative professionals.

40/2021 **DATE OF THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 10th June 2021** by remote video conference.

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council