

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY
COUNCIL (ALCC) HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2020 at 7.00pm
Held remotely via Zoom**

PRESENT: Councillors:

Gary Oakley (Chair), Peter Adamson, Vanessa Bartlett, Gill Clark, Roger Clark, Tracey Dyson, Julie Holt, Mark Lewis, Perry Morgan, Rob Phillips, Allen Rees, Nick Simmons, Glyn Smith.

Officers: Steve Edwards, Clerk and Liz McMahon, Admin assistant.

Others: None

ABSENT: Michaela Assiratti, Beverley Lucas, Bernard Wall and, Graham White

5. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND WELCOMES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Michaela Assiratti and Beverley Lucas

Welcomes were extended to everyone present

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Bartlett declared a possible interest in respect of the agenda item 6 (c) ward grant.

7. MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING (a) 18 NOVEMBER 2020, (b) 16 DECEMBER 2020, AND (c) FINANCE COMMITTEE 17 DECEMBER 2020

Clerk stated moving forwards minutes would be streamline and more succinct still capturing the essence of any discussions and remaining transparent as possible. The minutes only have to record decisions made.

Minutes (A) Councillor Holt raised a motion to amend item 293b to include “a debate ensued in increasing the number of the HR committee from 5 to 7 members to be elected”.

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the amendment.

Councillor Bartlett raised a motion to amend item 293b to include “the lack of gender equality was discussed” Council **RESOLVED** to agree the amendment.

Councillor Morgan raised a motion to amend item 293b to include “that Councillor Gill Clark and Councillor Julie Holt and the opportunity to be members of the HR committee but they withdrew” Council **RESOLVED** to agree the amendment

Councillor Gill Clark raised a motion to amend 293b to include “no women were accepted on the HR committee as she felt that having 7 members increased the risk of breach of confidentiality”. Council **RESOLVED** to agree the amendment.

The Clerk stated that the minutes would not have to be brought back to council once confirmed in a meeting. Council **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes (A) with all the amendments.

In respect of Minutes (B) Councillor Adamson raised a motion to amend item 322 to replace the word dates with debates and to amend Gyn Smith to Glyn Smith. Council **RESOLVED** to agree the amendments. Councillor Simmonds pointed out that the numbering of the paragraphs was incorrect and the Clerk will change this, no motion needed.

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes (B) with all the amendments.

In respect of minutes (C) Councillor Smith raised a motion to amend his name from Glynn to Glyn. Council **RESOVLED** to agree the amendment. Councillor Gill Clark wished to add that she had attempted to join the meeting using Microsoft office but had been unable to do so. The Clerk responded that it was not part of the meeting and therefore would not be included in the minutes. Council **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes (C) with all the amendments.

8. FINANCE ORDER

The Clerk presented the finance order. He stated that cheque 7811 shown in table 1 is a duplicate payment of cheque 7769 in table 1. A duplicate payment was made to BGCBC. As a result, ALCC is in credit and this will be evened out by the end of the year.

A question was a raised to ask about the payment of £420 to Thompsons solicitors for legal services. The Clerk replied that this payment was for legal services that had to be paid as part of the process of the former Clerk leaving employment.

A question was raised concerning the location 2 hanging baskets that had been purchased. The Clerk stated the baskets were returned to council offices.

A question was asked about payment for Zoom. The Clark stated we have used the free version of Teams but we now have a licence for Zoom.

The Chair said that the Council would have had to fund a professional meeting platform and that Security issues with Zoom were all resolved and used by the Senedd.

Council **RESOLVED** to accept the finance order.

9. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MARK LEWIS

A debate ensued regarding purchase of flags to thank NHS, Key Workers, Shops, Businesses and the Army/TA across a number of areas in ALCC. Councillor Lewis had enquired about some British made flags at a reasonable cost. Permission to hang any flags will need to be sought before purchase from each potential site.

Council debated some key considerations such as location, permission, local sourcing, inclusion of all wards and banners where flags were not practical. Flag and banner content was also discussed.

The Chair moved to make an amendment to the motion, that a project will be set up to cover the whole of the community council area and delegate to the Clerk the authority to spend up to

£500 with support from Councillor Lewis and Councillor Bartlett to work on this issue in consultation with Ward Members. The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the amendment.

10. GRANTS

The Council **RESOLVED**

- (1) That the ward grant application from Neil Fit, for £2000 not be approved as this is a for-profit company.
- (2) That the ward grant application from Welsh Air Ambulance Service be approved but the grant be increased from £500 requested to £1000.
- (3) That the ward grant application from Councillor Vanessa Bartlett be increased from £100 to £200 on request from Councillor Bartlett for Penial Church Abertillery.

11. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chair stated the next meetings would be an extraordinary meeting on Monday 22nd February at 7 pm and the normal council meeting would be held on Wednesday 24th February at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8.38 pm.

Signed as a correct record by the Chair

NB these minutes are a summary of the proceedings and record of the decisions taken. They are not intended to be a verbatim record.

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards Clerk and Liz McMahon Administrative Assistant