

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL (ALCC) HELD ON 10 MARCH 2021 at 7.00pm**

**Held remotely via Zoom**

**PRESENT: Councillors:** Gary Oakley (Chair), Peter Adamson, Gill Clarke, Roger Clark, Tracey Dyson, Mark Lewis, Perry Morgan, Rob Phillips, Allen Rees, Nick Simmons, Glyn Smith.

**Officers:** Steve Edwards, Clerk

**Others:** Deborah Pitt (Off the Streets), Alana Insley (Off the Streets), Jo Simms (BGCBC), Greg Morgan (BGCBC). Someone else was at the meeting but they were only identified as Hewlett Packard on screen

**ABSENT:** Michaela Assiratti, Vanessa Bartlett, Julie Holt, Bev Lucas, Bernard Wall and Graham White

### **30. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND WELCOMES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bev Lucas, Julie Holt and Michaela Assiratti. Welcomes were extended to everyone present.

### **31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

### **32. MOTION FROM COUNCILOR GARY OAKLEY – YOUTH SERVICES**

Councillor Gary Oakley gave a brief overview of the Youth Engagement Youth Working Group Report that had been sent out with the agenda of this meeting, and the plans within that report going forward into 2021/2022. The teams from “Off the Streets” and BGCBC reported on how successful the previous year had been despite the problems with Covid.

In answer to some questions from Councillors the teams replied:

- There were two groups, BGCB group would cover the North of the Council’s area and “Off the Streets” would cover the South of Council’s area.
- Assurances were given that the two teams would work together to ensure there was no overlap of coverage.
- The team were happy to provide bi-monthly reports, even though they preferred quarterly but thought that monthly reports would not provide enough depth.
- The teams were already working with other local groups throughout the area.
- Both groups agreed to provide a qualitative and quantitative report, and to include community groups that were being engaged. Off the Streets agreed to include in their report, the quality of food that has been provided and also the number of young people benefitting from being fed

Council unanimously RESOLVED that the grants below be paid to the following organisations:

- a. Off the Streets, £32,644 for 3 youth workers in 2021/2022 (From 2021 - 2022 budget)
- b. BGCBC, £25,566.84 for 3 youth workers in 2021/2022 (From 2020 – 2021 budget)
- c. Off the Streets, £5,400 for Food and activities in 2021/2022 (From 2021 -2022 budget)

### **33. WARD GRANTS**

Council **RESOLVED** that the following Ward Grant Applications be approved:

Councillor Peter Adamson -Six Bells Tenants and Residents Association - £100  
 Councillor Peter Adamson - Six Bells Regeneration - £100  
 Councillor Graham White - Hospice of the Valleys - £400  
 Councillor Roger Clark - Abertillery RFC - £200  
 Councillor Roger Clark - Abertillery Bluebirds Junior Section - £100  
 Councillor Gill Clark - Llanhilleth Bowls Club - £100  
 Councillor Gill Clark- The Llanhilleth Mental Health Group - £100  
 Councillor Tracey Dyson - Brynithal Community Centre - £200  
 Councillor Tracey Dyson - AYDMS - £100  
 Councillor Michaela Assiratti – Abertillery Stute - £400  
 Councillor Julie Holt – Friends of Six Bells Park £100  
 Councillor Julie Holt - Six Bells Tenants and Residents - £100  
 Councillor Bev Lucas – Friends of Six Bells Park - £200  
 Councillor Allen Rees - Llanhilleth Tenants and Residents - £100  
 Councillor Allen Rees – Zion Miners Chapel £100  
 Councillor Vanessa Bartlett - Blaenau Gwent Beyond Borders - £100  
 Councillor Gary Oakley - Salvation Army - £100  
 Councillor Gary Oakley, - Friends of St Illtyds - £100  
 Councillor Mark Lewis, - Abertillery Belles and Old Tyleryan RFC - £100  
 Councillor Mark Lewis - Cwmtillery Course Fishing Club - £100  
 Councillor Mark Lewis - Abertillery Blaenau Gwent RFC - £100  
 Councillor Mark Lewis - Abertillery Museum - £100  
 Councillor Bernard Wall - Hospice of the Valleys - £200

### **34. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES**

The Clerk gave an overview of the payment arrangements that were in place for the 2020/21 members allowances. The Independent Review Panel stated that there will be an annual member's allowance of £150 paid to Councillors, and this payment would not require receipts. The HMRC have said that any allowance that is not receipted is taxable. The Council does not prepare its own Tax, this is done via Payroll at BGCBC, so in order for the Council to be compliant with Tax regulations the Members Allowance would have to be paid via payroll.

Councillor Peter Adamson was unhappy at this arrangement and did not see why the allowance was subject to taxation.

The Clerk said that representations were being made by One Voice Wales and the Welsh Government to HMRC to exclude the Members Allowance from taxation but at this point in time there had been no movement from HMRC.

The meeting ended at 7:57pm

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*