

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 9 MARCH 2023 AT 6.00pm in the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery and via videolink (Zoom).

PRESENT:

Councillors (via videolink): Tracey Dyson (Chair), Michaela Assiratti, Ben Owen-Jones, Barrie Page, Josh Rawcliffe

Apologies: Steve Bard

Officers: David Cartwright, Clerk

46. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND WELCOMES

Apologies were received from Steve Bard.

47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR DISPENSATIONS

None

48. MINUTES – 9 FEBRUARY 2023

Ben Owen-Jones asked for the proposed date of the 2023 Community Fun Run to be corrected. He also stated that his name had been omitted from the Summer Cinema Events working group. Subject to those amendments, the Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes were a true and correct record.

49. FUN RUN

The Clerk noted that the Committee's delegated budget for 2023-24 included £5,000 for its proposed July 2023 Community Fun Run. However, it needed to apply for permissions (e.g., road closures etc) before the end of the financial year 2022-23. This required a fee to be paid. Other expenditure on the event may be necessary before the end of the financial year 2022-23. Funds were available in the Committee's unspent Fun Run budget for 2022-23. The Committee needed to decide whether it was in order to use the 2022-23 Community Fun Run budget line to fund aspects of the event planned for July 2023. The Clerk advised that he considered it within the Committee's authority to make this decision itself.

- a) The Committee **RESOLVED** that the Committee's Community Fun Run budget for the financial year 2022-23 may be used to fund any reasonable and appropriate support for the Council's Fun Run event planned for July 2023.
- b) The Chair proposed that the Committee should also authorise expenditure from its 2023-24 Fun Run budget now to avoid the need to call future meetings of the Committee simply to issue such authorisations. She proposed a small amendment to the wording of the motion on the agenda.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to authorise officers to make payments up to a total of £5,000 from the Committee's Community Fun Run budgets for the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24 in respect of reasonable and appropriate support for the Community Fun Run event planned for July 2023.

- c) The Committee **RESOLVED** that the total expenditure on the Community Fun Run event planned for July 2023 shall not exceed £5,000 regardless of the financial year in which elements of expenditure take place.

50. PARTY IN THE PARK

The Chair reported that members of the Party in the Park working group had met with representatives from Abertillery BG RFC. A number of other local community organisations and activity groups had already been in talks with a view to taking part in the event and several more had been in contact. Arrangements to book food providers, inflatables and a marquee were close to being finalised. Ben Owen-Jones suggested that arrangements should be made to gather mobile phone footage of the event and asked whether an extra marquee had been considered in case of bad weather. The Chair answered that the costs of hiring a second marquee would be prohibitive.

Officers had already been authorised to make payments in connection with Party in the Park and were considering paying for advertising at forthcoming local community events and performances. The costs of such advertising involved only tens of pounds but the Chair wished to make the Committee aware that her daughter was involved with the Abertillery Youth Drama and Music Society that may benefit from payment for advertising. The Committee noted the information and expressed no reservations.

51. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Barrie Page reported that the Christmas Lights working group had been through the Council's draft tender document line-by-line. In particular, he wished to thank Cllr Rob Phillips for his help in setting the required technical specifications. The working group was now in a position to put the contract out to tender.

52. LONELINESS PROJECT GRANT

The Committee considered a grant application from Six Bells Community Hall. Josh Rawcliffe noted that, while the applicant was carrying out significant work to combat social isolation, they had neither stated the amount of funding they were seeking nor specified what it would be used for. He volunteered to go back to the applicant to help them address these issues and the Committee agreed that further consideration of the application would be deferred to a future meeting.

The Chair suggested that the Committee should next meet early in the week beginning 27 March 2023 so that any required expenditure from the Committee's 2022-23 budget could be authorised before the end of the financial year.

The meeting ended at 6.42 pm.