

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE OF
ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 16 May 2023 AT
7.00pm in the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery**

PRESENT:

Councillors: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Michaela Assiratti, Barrie Page, Josh Rawcliffe

Officers: Steve Edwards, Deputy Clerk

57. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND WELCOMES

Steve Bard, Ben Owen-Jones

58. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR DISPENSATIONS

None.

59. MINUTES – 30 MARCH 2023

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes were a true and correct record.

60. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Deputy Clerk reported that there had been three bids received. The Committee agreed to the following process to progress the Christmas Lights award of contract.

1: The Committee would hold a further meeting on Tuesday 13th June to discuss the tenders, the three bidding conies would be invited to attend to answer questions.

2: At that meeting the Committee would agrees its recommendations to go before full Council. Even though the Committee has delegated authority to deal with Christmas Lighting it was felt that the length and value of this contract would need Full Council agreement.

3: The Deputy Clerk would make available hard copies of the three tender documents from 1st June 2023.

Also, on that agenda would be motions to release the Christmas Light grants to the organisations that we fund for to provide Christmas Lighting in their area.

61. PARTY IN THE PARK UPDATE

There was a brief update from the Party in the Park working group. All is on track. The Deputy Clerk has a number of actions still to take. The estimated costs are £16,270 which is within the £20,000 overall budget for this event.

62. LONELINESS PROJECT

Josh Rawcliffe gave an update, which centred around some minor edits to the grant application form. Ben Own-Jones had asked if the form could be made available in Welsh, the Committee agreed that this would have to be a Full Council decision as starting to use Welsh would have wider impacts within Council.

63. WEBSITE PROJECT

No action taken until after the Annual meeting where it would be clear what Committee this project was allocated to.

64. RAS DRAPHONT VIADUCT RUN UPDATE

The Deputy Clerk gave a bullet point update that had been received from Ben Owen-Jones.

- He's arranged a meeting with the borough council for 22 May to discuss his road closure application.
- The borough council are stalling over allowing road closures on the grounds that 'road cushions' (i.e. those square speed humps that make you slow down in order for your car to straddle them) would be a tripping hazard for runners (Ben, understandably, thinks that posting a marshal next to any humps to shout 'Mind you don't trip' should be sufficient).
- Car parking has been arranged
- Insurance has been arranged
- Islwyn Runners will do the marshalling and advertising (although ALCC may have to help with some of the latter).

Sunday 9 July has now been set in stone for the event. They have an alternative, off-road course arranged in case the borough council refuse to grant the road closures (although it would be far less of a 'community' event if the runners aren't allowed to actually run through the community).

The Deputy Clerk was liaising closely with ben Owen-Jones on this event

65. ROCK AND BLUES FESTIVAL

The Committee **RESOLVED** to delegate to officers to pay the annual £1,000 Council contribution to the Abertillery Rock and Blues Festival

The meeting ended at 7.46 pm.