

**MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 27th October 2023 at 6.00 pm in the Council Meeting
Room at Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery and via videolink (Zoom).**

PRESENT

Councillors: Steve Bard (Chair), Peter Adamson, Mark Lewis, Josh Rawcliffe, Nick Simmons

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk)

Absent: Glyn Smith

20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR DISPENSATIONS

In answer to a question from Peter Adamson the Clerk explained what dispensations were. If Councillors did not attend any Council or Committee meetings for 6 months then they are automatically disqualified. However, before that 6-month period ends a Councillor could ask Full Council for a dispensation which would give them further time before the automatic disqualification happens.

22. MINUTES 1st SEPTEMBER 2023

There was a single amendment to the draft minutes. The third bullet point in item 12 amend "increased cover" to "increased to cover"

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes, containing the above amendment, were a true and correct record.

23. COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

The Chair stated that the whole Committee had a collective responsibility to abide by any decisions that this Committee made. That individual Committee members opinions were welcome during Committee meetings but once a decision had been made then they would support that decision in Full Council. This Committee was also the place for the detailed debate and questions raised concerning any agenda items brought before this Committee and Committee Members should not then continue the debate or ask further questions when the Committee was making any reports back to Full Council.

24. BUDGETS 2024/2025

- **People and Communities Committee** – The Finance Committee would like to discuss with the Chair of the People and Communities Committee the £3,000 budget request for Remembrance Sunday, the £20,000 budget request for War Memorial Development and the £9,500 budget request for the loneliness project.
- **PlaCE** – The Finance Committee would like to discuss with the Chair of the PlaCE Committee the budget request of £8,500 for Community Transport.
- **Community Empowerment Committee** - No budget proposals yet presented, the budget setting meeting for this committee had been inquorate, so a further meeting would have to be held.

- **Administration.** – The Committee discussed with the Clerk and he agreed to make the following changes. Remove any budget costs for One Voice Wales membership, put zero in for Council and Ward Grants (this would force Council to make its own decision on what to put in for these budget lines).

25. FINANCIAL RISK REGISTER

The Clerk presented the updated Risk Register. The Committee **RESOLVED** to accept the draft Risk Register (there are a few typing errors that the Clerk will rectify) and this will be presented to Full Council for adoption. The Committee also agreed that the Risk register will be reviewed annually in June /July of each year.

26. BANK RECONCILIATION AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2023

The Clerk apologised for the delay in the Bank Reconciliations for these two months. This was because of staff leave coupled with a large number of Committee and Council meetings and also to hold back until new staff had arrived so they could be trained on the accounting processes. It was confirmed that Peter Adamson and Josh Rawcliffe would conduct the next set of monthly bank reconciliations.

27. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 17th November 2023 at 6pm

The meeting ended at 7.28 pm.

Signed as correct Record by the

Chair.....

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards, Clerk.