

**MEETING OF THE PLANNING, COMMERCE AND ENVIRONMENT (PlaCE) COMMITTEE
OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 24 January
2025 AT 6.00 PM at the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Barrie Page (Chair), Peter Adamson, Ralph Henderson (MBE), Chris Hill, Mark Lewis (via video-link), Rob Phillips, Josh Rawcliffe, Nick Simmons.

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk) and Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk).

Apologies: None.

Absent: None.

73. Apologies for Absence

None.

74. Declarations of Interest or Dispensations

None.

75. Minutes – 2 December 2024

Cllr Chris Hill stated that he had not received a response from Chris Warner, which was discussed in the last meeting.

The Clerk reminded Councillors that this item is only to confirm the content of the minutes.

Cllr Peter Adamson queried whether agendas could include a 'matters arising' item. The Clerk clarified that agendas must clearly set out what business will be transacted in a meeting, so 'matters arising' would not be clear to the public.

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

76. Defibrillators

British Heart Foundation Defibrillator:

The Committee discussed an opportunity to apply for a free defibrillator from the British Heart Foundation. A number of concerns were raised:

- The defibrillator would need to be in an unlocked/uncoded cabinet, leaving it susceptible to vandalism or theft.
- The Council would not be informed that the defibrillator had been activated due to it being uncoded, meaning it would need to be checked more frequently or be in a high traffic area.
- If the defibrillator was stolen or used, the Council could be liable if it was marked emergency-ready untruthfully.
- The defibrillator needs to be 24/7 publicly-accessible, so must not be positioned inside a building.

Molly Jones, Deputy Clerk, informed the Committee that there have been an incredibly low number of instances of vandalism and theft of defibrillators, and experts now recommend that all defibrillator cabinets should be unlocked.

Initial:

Date:

The Committee suggested three possible locations, considering that they must be 200m away from any existing 24/7 publicly-accessible defibrillators:

- The Corner Club, Abertillery
- The Mount pub, Brynithel
- Aberbeeg Community Centre, Aberbeeg

The Committee **RESOLVED** for the officers to investigate these three locations, and if one was viable, to continue with the application for a free defibrillator at this location.

Free Defibrillator Training:

Molly Jones, Deputy Clerk, explained that a local first-aid training provider had offered to host free defibrillator/basic CPR training sessions in the Council chambers. These would be 2-3 hours long and 12-15 people could attend a session.

The Committee discussed this opportunity and the possibility of offering full emergency first-aid training in the future.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to accept the offer of free defibrillator training sessions, opening the opportunity for Councillors first as a trial run.

77. Planning

The Clerk reminded the Committee that planning notifications will now be sent via a new system, meaning they are now viewable via a link rather than attached as pdf documents.

The Committee requested that the officers check that these links will still be sent weekly.

78. Abertillery Mosaic

Cllr Barrie Page provided a verbal update on the progress being made on the underpass mosaic in Abertillery. Work has already begun on removing the old mosaic tiles, and Tillery Action For You had recently been awarded the grounds maintenance contract by Blaenau Gwent CBC. Work has already started on the grounds around the mosaic and tiling on the mosaic is likely to start in Spring.

79. Car Scheme Update

The Committee was very pleased to see the results of the Bridges Car Scheme in the Blaenau Gwent area, specifically in the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Council area. They agreed that the results demonstrate the value of the scheme, and were glad to hear positive feedback regarding the subsidy they provide.

80. Date of Next Meeting

As needed.

The meeting ended at 6:42pm

These minutes were produced by Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk).

Signed as a correct record by the Chair:.....

Dated:.....