

**MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL (ALCC) HELD ON 26 March 2025 at 7:06 pm in the
Council Chamber at Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Peter Adamson, Frankie Baker, Steve Bard, Ivor Beynon, Bruno Góes Maciel, Lucy Harmer, Ralph Henderson MBE, Chris Hill, Barrie Page, Josh Rawcliffe, Nick Simmons, Bernard Wall, Graham White

Youth Representatives: Jackson Powell, Sophie Townsend (via video-link).

Absent: Mark Lewis, Ben Owen-Jones, Rob Phillips, Glyn Smith, Mike Whatley.

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk), Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk), Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk)

Others: Nick Gordon (7:10 to 7:17) for item 144 via video link.

140. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mark Lewis, Ben Owen-Jones (post meeting), Rob Phillips, Glyn Smith and Mike Whatley

141. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllr Ivor Beynon declared an interest in relation to agenda item 5, as a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church.

142. Minutes – 29 January 2025

Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes for 26 February 2025 were a true and correct record of the meeting.

143. Bank Reconciliation

Cllr Graham White queried 2 Payments.

- Rialtas payment was for a training webinar
- No training costs for the Clerk as they were not taking the CILCA qualification.

Council **RESOLVED** to note and accept the bank reconciliation and payments for February 2025.

144. Council Grant Applications

Council considered three Council Grant requests:

1. Valleys Gymnastics Academy

Nick Gordon from Valleys Gymnastics Academy attended via video link to answer questions. He confirmed that the money would be used for the people of Abertillery and that the staffing costs reflected the appropriate members of staff that had to attend. He also stated that they do accept walk-ins but it is usually for people who have already booked for sessions.

Nick Gordon left the meeting.

Council **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £1,000 to Valley Gymnastics (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19).

2. Ebenezer Baptist Church

Clr Ivor Beynon did not leave the room. He was told he could not take part in the debate and he had to be warned not to influence any of the Councillors during the debate.

There was some concern about the amount of council funding that Ebenezer Church and its clubs had already received throughout the year but it was understood that this was a central hub for community groups within Abertillery Town Centre.

Council **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £1000 to Ebenezer Baptist Church towards replacing seating in the coffee bar and warm hub project (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19).

3. K Style/AYDMS

Concern was voiced about the amount of the grant requested and that we had already funded K-Style for over £9,000. Also, that we need to be careful in funding commercial organisations, finally there were no specific quoted amounts in the application.

Clr Chris Hill suggested that K Style contact GAVO/Sports Wales as there is an online event on 10 April advising community groups how to apply

There was no support for the motion to give a £9,800 grant to K-Style, so the motion fell.

145. Aberbeeg Ward Grant

There was insufficient time to call a meeting of the Aberbeeg Councillors so they Ward Grants had been brought before full council.

Council **RESOLVED** to give £160 to The Friend of Cwrt Mytton funding activities that support residents with dementia. (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19), and £160 to Ebbw Fach Community Group towards providing a warm and safe space to meet and offer support and promote mental health awareness (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19).

146. VE Day

The Clerk informed Council that the 80th Anniversary of VE Day is on Thursday 8th May 2025. The RBL will be laying Wreathes at Abertillery war Memorial and Llanhilleth War Memorial. There are no other events planned. Council **RESOLVED** to lay wreathes at the two events. It will decide at a later meeting who will lay the Wreathes.

147. New Printer

Council asked the officers to bring back to Council two further quotes for new printer costs before Council could make any decision about replacing the current office printer.

148. Certified Accounts 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23.

The Council noted the certified accounts from Wales Audit and the 14-day notice period for the publication of the certified accounts starting Monday 31st March 2025.

149. Purpose of Council

This was part of the Finance Committee working its way through the Finance and Governance Toolkit a joint SLCC and One Voice Wales project.

Council agreed to adopt the draft “Purpose of Council” that had been recommended from the Finance Committee with a single amendment. The last word “forwards” be amended to “forward”.

150. Date of next meeting.

Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 7:54 pm.

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards, Clerk.

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

Date.....