

**MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL (ALCC) HELD ON 28 May 2025 AT 7:00 pm in the
Council Chamber at Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Josh Rawcliffe (Chair), Lucy Harmer (Vice Chair), Peter Adamson, Frankie Baker, Steve Bard, Ivor Beynon, Ralph Henderson MBE, Chris Hill, Mark Lewis, Bruno Góes Maciel, Ben Owen-Jones (via video-link), Graham White (via video-link), Bernard Wall and Barrie Page.

Youth Representatives: Jackson Powell.

Absent: Tracey Dyson, Nick Simmons, Mike Whatley, Glyn Smith and Rob Phillips.

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

Others: Lisa Silverthorne and Karl Rowberry from K-Style

31. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Tracey Dyson, Glyn Smith, Rob Phillips and Sophie Townsend.

32. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllr Frankie Baker declared an interest in agenda item 7, as a volunteer at Caffi Tyleri.

33. Minutes 30 April 2025

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

34. Bank Reconciliation

Councillor Graham White queried a payment to Tracey Dyson for Disney costumes. Deputy Clerk, Erika Davies, explained that the costumes were purchased for an act for the Six Bells Centenary event and were the property of ALCC and stored in the office.

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the bank reconciliations and payments for April 2025. Council noted that there was a typo in the sheet that is given as information for the meeting but that the banking and payments were a true and correct record.

35. Council Grant Applications – K-Style & AYDMS

Lisa Silverthorne and Karl Rowberry joined the meeting.

Lisa Silverthorne and Karl Rowberry, owners of K-Style, had been asked by Councillors to attend the meeting as they wanted further information regarding their grant application. There was some concern over why the landlord wasn't carrying out the work of replacing the electrics but Lisa and Karl explained that the term of their contract with the landlord involved them accepting the building in its current condition when the lease was signed and to do any remedial work themselves. They also had a reduction in rent for the first 6 months in exchange for taking on the building as it was. At that stage, they were unaware that the electrics needed replacing.

Councillors also asked what contributions were being made by AYDMS. Lisa confirmed that they share the rent and AYDMS have contributed to paint costs and will be putting in a projector so film nights can be hosted, thus raising money for the clubs.

Lisa and Karl left the meeting after answering Councillor questions.

The Council **RESOLVED** to grant K-Style & AYDMS £1,400 towards the cost of replacing the electrics in the new building premises. (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19).

36. ALC Senedd Feedback

Youth Representative, Jackson Powell, gave a brief overview of the schools recent Estyn inspection stating that the report says the lessons are not challenging enough and that they will revisit the school in the next 12-18 months. He also said that the ALC Senedd was going well and had an all school participation and representation at meetings.

Councillor Ivor Beynon asked Jackson if the issue of displaying pupils art work at a shop in Abertillery town had been discussed. As far as Jackson was aware, this has not been discussed but he will speak to Vicki Whitefoot at school and report back.

Councillor Bruno Goes Maciel stated that ALC has a culture of bullying and vaping in school. Jackson said this is regularly spoken about in assembly and dealt with by the well-being team within the school. He will take Councillor Goes Maciels comments back to the well-being team to be noted.

37. Solar Farm – Caffi Tyleri

Councillor Frankie Baker left the room at 7.26pm. Councillor Ben Owen-Jones entered the meeting via video-link.

Councillors were informed that regular grant funding to Caffi Tyleri had been cut and as a result, there is a chance the caffi will need to close. The proposal is for ALCC to give Caffi Tyleri £25,000 from the Solar Farm Grant funding, to tide them over until such a time as other funding becomes available.

Councillor Mark Lewis asked if it is legal to do this and was assured that it is. He also asked what other funding avenues they have looked at. Councillors Chris Hill and Steve Bard raised concerns over the fact that the Solar Farm Grant process hasn't yet opened for everyone and so this would give Caffi Tyleri an unfair advantage and Councillor Ben Owen-Jones believed it would set a bad precedent for the Solar Farm project. Councillor Graham White believes this request will override the resolution set by Council in April to open Solar Farm Grant applications in May. The Clerk advised that under standing orders, Council can amend a resolution within 6 months, if a recommendation is received from a committee.

Chair of Council, Josh Rawcliffe, pointed out that Caffi Tyleri had created 27 job/training opportunities and over 30,000 hours of employment since opening in 2021 and plays a vital part in the community.

The Council acknowledged the good work done by Caffi Tyleri.

Councillor Graham White asked for the vote to be recorded.

For: Barrie Page & Josh Rawcliffe

Against: Bruno Goes Maciel, Steve Bard, Chris Hill, Ralph Henderson MBE, Ivor Beynon, Peter Adamson, Bernard Wall, Graham White and Ben Owen-Jones.

Council rejected the motion and no monies from the Solar Farm Grant project will be allocated at this time. However, this does not stop Caffi Tyleri from applying when Solar Farm Grant applications open.

Councillor Frankie Baker returned to the meeting.

The Clerk advised that officers will advise Caffi Tyleri that the motion has fallen and discuss if other funding options are available from ALCC.

38. Committee Minutes

The Council noted the agreed minutes from the committee meetings. Clerk had to remind Councillors that the committee minutes are to be noted and make Councillors aware of other council business, not to be discussed.

39. Date of next meeting.

Wednesday 25 June 2025 at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 7.55 pm.

Minutes produced by Erika Davies, Deputy Clerk.

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

Date.....