

**MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL (ALCC) HELD ON 23 July 2025 AT 7:02 pm in the
Council Chamber at Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

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

Youth Representatives: Jackson Powell via video link

Absent: Tracey Dyson, Rob Phillips and Graham White. Youth Reps: Sophie Townsend

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk), Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk) and Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk – via video link).

Others: Louisa Góes Maciel

54. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Tracey Dyson, Rob Phillips and Graham White.

55. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None

56. Minutes 25 June 2025

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes are correct.

57. Wales In Bloom

Ralph Henderson gave a review of the Wales In Bloom event. Additional points to note away from the written report is that the awards evening is in Wrexham on 3 October. Ralph Henderson will be attending. The Wales in Bloom competitions are not just about horticulture but also about community engagement. Jubilee Square would be open to the public in due course.

There has been a very positive social media response.

The Chair and Nick Simmons both thanked Ralph Henderson for the time and the effort he has put into this. Ralph Henderson responded by thanking everyone who was involved and acknowledged the huge effort that the team had put in.

58. Subway Mural Maintenance Licence

The Clerk presented the licence from BGCBC, so that the Community Council will take over the maintenance of the mural, not the subway itself or any of the green spaces around the subway. He confirmed that we had put aside £10,000 into ear marked reserves for this purpose. Tillery Action For You (TAFY) had been approached for an initial quote and they estimate £2,000 pa for bi weekly inspections and cleaning.

The Council **RESOLVED** to sign up to the licence and for officers to arrange a contract for the maintenance.

59. VJ Wreath Laying

The Council **RESOLVED** that Josh Rawcliffe at Abertillery War Memorial and Mike Whatley at Llanhilleth War Memorial will lay wreathes on behalf of Council

60. Council Grant Applications

The grant application from Abertillery Armed Forces Veterans Breakfast Club for £200 towards travel costs was defeated.

The Council **RESOLVED** to grant £1,000 to Llanhilleth Miners Institute towards a Christmas Party and presents for the children of Llanhilleth. (Local Government Act 2000 s.2)

61. Wellbeing Report

The Council thanked Erika Davies for the work she had put into this accomplished report. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the report with following amendments.

- The five wards that encompass the Council should be Abertillery, Aberbeeg, Cwmtillery, Llanhilleth and Six Bells not Abertillery, Cwmtillery, Llanhilleth, Six Bells and Sofrydd.
- Near the end of the report “local 3-6 school children” should be “local 3-16 school children.”

62. Co-option

There were two candidates for the vacant Cwmtillery Ward seat. Council felt that both candidates had a lot to offer. The Clerk pointed out that Committees could appoint non council members to Committees as non-voting members.

The Council **RESOLVED** to co-opt Richard Catlin as the new member for the Cwmtillery Ward

63. Feedback from the Joint Committee of Local Councils (JCLC)

Peter Adamson gave a verbal report on the latest meeting of the JCLC. The two main items were Tredegar Council not signing up to the Charter so at this time it is difficult to hold Blaenau Gwent Council accountable as there are no agreed formal standard of response. The second item was concerning Christmas Lights decorations on lamp posts. Erika Davies stated that the information has already been passed to Blaenau Gwent Council.

64. Motion from Councillor Graham White

Graham White was absent from the meeting so the motion automatically falls.

65. Council Mobile Phone.

The Clerk explained that the Council did have two old “pay as you go” phones, but these no longer worked and because no call have been made from them the numbers are no longer allocated.

The Officers do need a mobile phone and number to use when out on events and to be used as part of any financial verification processes.

The Clerk estimated there will be a yearly cost of £120 for a standard mobile phone monthly contract.

The Council **RESOLVED** for Officers to purchase a new mobile phone on a monthly contract

66. Freedom of Information Publication Scheme

The Clerk explained that there is a on-going review of all of the Councils policies to ensure that they are up to date and confirm to current legislation and this was the first one to bring back to Council.

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme.

67. Code of Conduct review and adoption

The Clerk explained that the Code of Conduct, which had been adopted in 2017 had not changed but a recent Finance and Governance Committee had recommended that the Code of Conduct be adopted every 5 years after each round of elections.

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the current Code of Conduct and then adopt it after each round of elections, the next being in May 2027.

68. Committee Papers

The Council noted the Finance and Governance Committee Minutes of 16th May 2025

69. Date of next meeting.

Solar Farm Grant Meeting 17 September

Full Council 24 September

The meeting ended at 8:16 pm.

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards, Clerk.

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

Date.....