

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE OF
ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 7 November 2025
AT 5:01 pm in the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery**

PRESENT:

Councillors: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Steve Bard, Josh Rawcliffe, Barrie Page (via video-link) and Ralph Henderson MBE.

Officers: Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk) AND Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk)

Absent: Lucy Harmer, Mark Lewis, Ben Owen-Jones

38. Apologies for absence

Mark Lewis and Lucy Harmer

39. Declarations of interest or dispensations

None.

40. Minutes – 05 September 2025.

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes from 05 September 2025 were a correct record.

41. Turf at Six Bells Park

In order to plant the wildflower seeds at Six Bells Park, Cllr. Rawcliffe first needs to remove an area of turf. He suggested offering the turf to a community project, rather than it going to waste. The Committee **RESOLVED** to offer the turf to a community project. Cllr Rawcliffe will make contact.

42. Summer Cinema

Overall, attendance figures for the 2025 Summer Cinema programme were very good. Off the Streets sessions were generally very well attended, more so than the BG Youth sessions. The Committee discussed how BG Youth held their own activities which clashed with the summer cinema sessions which may have had an impact. This year, the relaxed sessions were shared with the BG branch of the National Autistic Society and attendance numbers were up, so this was positive. It is hoped attendance at these sessions will grow year-on-year. Feedback from the community was good and it seems this free event is proving popular with 499 people attending.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to reduce the total number of sessions from 4 to 3 in 2026 in line with a possible budget reduction.

43. Budget 2026/2027

Following on from the Finance and Governance review and recommendations, the Committee have put forward the following budget for 2026/2027.

Christmas Lights Central Contract £38,000

Christmas Lights Maintenance £1,000

Llanhilleth TRA Christmas Lights £3,000

Brynithel Community Centre Christmas Lights £1,500

Swffryd Community Centre Christmas Lights £1,500

Initial

Date

Bournville Community Centre Christmas Lights £1,500
 Pentre Tyleri Christmas Lights £1,500
 Friends of BG and Roseheyworth Christmas Lights £ 0 (This is reduced to zero for 2026/2027)
 Christmas Lights Electricity Costs £1,500
 Wreaths for Remembrance Sunday £300
 Development of War Memorial Site (paving) 5,000
 Ground Maintenance War Memorial £3,500
 Loneliness Project £7,000 (reduced from £7,500) - £2,000 earmarked for a day trip project
 Viaduct Run £6500
 Community Summer Cinema Programme £8,000 – Costs to be checked if we reduce showing from 4 per week to 3 per week.
 Party In the Park £14,000 (reduced from £15,000)
 Llanhilleth Summer Fete £4,000 (reduced from £5,000)
 Musical Concerts £750
 Abertillery RFC £2,000
 Annual Grant Funding Zion Miners Chapel £2,000
 Annual Grant Funding for Six Bells Park Toilets £1,740 (awaiting report on opening times)
 Annual Grant Funding for Awen Trust (Abertillery Rock and Blues) £2,000
 New Budget Lines:
 Bi Lingual event at Six Bells Park £4,000
 Event at Brynithel Rugby Club £4,000

44. Loneliness Grant

The Committee discussed the application from K-Style and **RESOLVED** not to award any money. They felt the request did not tie in with the ethos and parameters of the Loneliness Grant Project.

45. Six Bells Tennis Club – Loneliness Project

The Committee reviewed the report sent in by Julie Riley and were impressed by the information it contained. The group seems to be well attended and is making a positive impact. In order for the group to seek funding from elsewhere, the officers will invite Julie Riley into the office and help set themselves up as an independent group under a new name.

46. Chair's Community Christmas Carol Concert

The Committee **RESOLVED** to accept the risk assessment with the following amendment
 Change the table heading on page 3 from 'Action Required' to 'Mitigation'.

The meeting was suspended for a rest break at 5.57pm and resumed at 18.01pm.

Initial

Date

There was some confusion over the date of the concert this year. Although the 14th had been planned, some choirs would not be able to attend on this date. The date was put to a vote and the Committee **RESOLVED** to hold the concert on Sunday 21st December, providing St. Michael's was available.

47. St. David's Day Events 2026

The Committee discussed an invitation from BGCBC to collaborate in a new scheme to celebrate Welsh identity as part of the 2026 St. David's Day celebrations. The scheme is being funded in light of the Welsh Government Pilot Support Fund. It may be an option for the Town Council to do something in conjunction with the St. David's Day concert held at St. Michael's. The Committee asked the officer's to contact Blaenau Gwent and enquire about this opportunity.

Ralph Henderson MBE entered the meeting.

48. Date of next meeting

As required

The meeting ended at 6:14 pm

Minutes produced by Erika Davies, Deputy Clerk.

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

Dated