

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL (A&LCC) PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 22  
NOVEMBER 2017 at 6:00 pm  
in the Council Chamber, Mitre Street, Abertillery**

**Present: Councillors:**

Ivor Beynon, Keri Bidgood, Gill Clark, Roger Clark, Tracey Dyson, Julie Holt, Mark Lewis, Allen Rees.

**Officers:** Stephen Edwards, Deputy Clerk

**Absent:** Councillors Peter Adamson, Steve Bard, Ross Leadbeater, Perry Morgan, Rob Phillips, Nick Simmons, Glyn Smith, Bernard Wall, Graham White and Trudy Williams

**132. CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that Councillor Steve Bard was the Chair of the Planning and Environment Committee, but he had sent his apologies for this meeting.

The Committee **RESOLVED** that Councillor Gill Clark be the Chair for this meeting.

**133. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Committee **RESOLVED** to not elect a Vice-Chair and that any future meetings where the Chair was absent a Chair would be elected for that meeting from the floor.

**134. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Steve Bard, Ross Leadbeater, Rob Phillips and Graham White.

**135. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**136. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

The Committee noted the Terms of Reference and there were no questions from the floor.

**137. MEMBERSHIP OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Clerk stated that while all members of Council would be on the Planning and Environment Committee the three new co-opted members (Peter Adamson,

Allen Rees and Trudy Williams) had not been confirmed as members of the Committee by full Council so would be unable to take part in any decisions of this meeting, they could contribute to the discussions.

### **138. PLANNING APPLICATION – C/2017/0314, 5 CHURCH STREET.**

The Deputy Clerk gave a brief overview of the role of the Community Council in the planning process and the “Material Considerations” that the planning authority would consider.

- Layout/Density
- Privacy/Daylight/Overshadowing
- Access/Traffic
- Impact on jobs/economy
- Impact on Community Life
- Design/appearance
- Noise/smell
- Viability

The things to avoid in a response include: -

- History/character of applicant
- Impact on individual
- Commercial Competition
- Impact of Property Values
- Restrictive covenants
- Ownership of land
- Matters of decency or taste

The committee then discussed the planning application and **RESOLVED** for Councils Officers to write to Blaenau Gwent Planning objecting to the planning application on the grounds of.

- (1) The impact of jobs and the economy as there was a danger of other cafes shutting which currently employ local people and were owned by Abertillery residents.
- (2) There were concerns about the viability of yet another café in Church Street which already has a surplus of the same type of venue
- (3) The impact on Community life as it was felt that Church Street required more retail units rather than eateries.

The Meeting closed at 6:25pm