

**MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 10 November AT 7.00 PM at the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery and via video conferencing (Zoom).**

**PRESENT**

**Councillors:** Barrie Page (Chair), Josh Rawcliffe

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

**PRESENT VIA VIDEOLINK**

**Councillors:** Ben Owen-Jones,

**Apologies:** Tracey Dyson

**9. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Tracey Dyson

**10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR DISPENSATIONS**

None.

**11. Minutes**

**14 July 2023:** The Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes were a true and correct record.

**20 October 2023:** The Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes were a true and correct record.

**12. Budget proposals from OffTheStreets**

The Committee noted the increase in the proposed budget from OffTheStreets which would allow them to extend the current work that they were doing. The Clerk stated that he had spoken to both Llanhilleth RFC and OffTheStreets and there were no plans for OffTheStreets to use Llanhilleth RFC as a base.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to put forward a budget proposal of £116,143 for 2024/25:

**13. Budget proposals from Abertillery Youth Centre**

The Committee had not received any budget proposals from BGCBC. The Committee discussed the uplift that would take account of inflation and possible staffing pay claims for next year. It was agreed to up lift the current year figures by 12%

The Committee **RESOLVED** to put forward a budget proposal of £61,040 for 2024/25

**14. Met Cinema Project**

The Committee noted that this had been a success this year and the People and Communities Committee will run a similar project next year. They had put in a budget proposal of £10,000 for next year's project which would include increased participation from neurodivergent groups.

**15. Youth Sport Engagement Plan**

There are no specific plans. The original idea of running projects through Mixed martial Arts clubs has been withdrawn. The Committee did want some funds to cover costs of

any youth elections or Youth Focus Groups. The Committee **RESOLVED** to put forward a budget proposal of £2,000 for Youth led Projects for 2024/25

**16. Communications Activities 2024/2025**

There are no current plans for any spending on this for 2024/25. However, there is still a goal of upgrading the Councils website. It was noted that the Council now has an Instagram account which is linked with our Facebook page and the administration of the Facebook page has now come back under Officers management. The Committee did recognise the good work that Councillor Tracey Dyson had done over the past few years in maintaining the Facebook page.

**17. Adult Engagement**

There was discussion about BGCBC "In It Together" application which shows various companies and organisations that are working with Adults. The Clerk had begun some initial communications links with BGCBC team that manage this with the aim of either increasing our participation or setting up our own version of it. No budget implications

**18. Safe Space**

This was a non-agenda item raised by the Clerk, to ensure if there were any budget implications for 2024/25. The Committee agreed that further information would be required from BGCBC before any proposals could be considered. It was also noted that the Committee should bear in mind that the Council covered a large area and not just Abertillery Town Centre, so a mobile Safe Space maybe an option.

**19. Date of Next meeting**

There was no Date set for the next meeting

Signed:



These minutes were produced by Steve Edwards (Clerk)