

**MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 24 May 2024 at 7:00pm in the Council Meeting Room
at Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Mark Lewis; Josh Rawcliffe; Glyn Smith

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

Apologies: Steve Bard

Absent: Steve Bard; Nick Simmons;

13. Apologies for absence

Steve Bard. In the absence of the Chair the Committee **RESOLVED** to elect Josh Rawcliffe as Chair of the meeting. It was noted that Peter Adamson had resigned from the Committee.

14. Declarations of interest or dispensations

None.

15. Minutes 26 April 2024

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

16. Annual Return, Internal Audit and RFO reports.

The Clerk presented the Annual Return, the final Internal Auditor Report and the RFO report.

The Annual Return numbers had been discussed at the previous Finance committee meeting. The Clerk stated that the Internal Auditor had now signed off the Annual Return. The clerk also stated that once Council had signed off the Annual Return he would also have to send a Variance Report, where the year on year difference was 10% or more, to Wales Audit.

There are 23 observations from the interim and final Internal Auditor Reports. The Clerk will be writing back to the Internal Auditor with his comments on those and also present back to the Finance Committee.

The Clerk/RFO presented his report. There was brief discussion concerning general reserves.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend the 3 reports to Full council.

17. Grant Form.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council the following changes to the Council Grants criteria/process information.

Remove "The Council places a high value on voluntary and community service"

The Council to debate the £500 grant limit

All references to Finance and Grants committee to be deleted

18. Six Bells Toilets

The Council had decided, on 28 June 2023, to pay an annual grant to help maintain the toilets at Six Bells Park. This had not been put into the 2024/2025 budget as the previous payment had come out of the general grants budget.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council that the annual grant of £1,740 be paid and a separate budget line for Six Bells Toilets be added.

19. Payment by Cheque

The Committee **RESOLVED** to allow the officers to pay the Members Allowances to Graham White by cheque

20. Bank Reconciliations.

The May Bank reconciliations will be conducted by Mark Lewis and Nick Simmons

The June Bank reconciliations will be conducted by Glyn Smith and Josh Rawcliffe

21. Date of next meeting

As required.

The meeting ended at 7:38 pm.

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

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards, Deputy Clerk.