

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 22 July 2024 AT 6.00 PM at the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery and via video conferencing (Zoom).

PRESENT

Councillors: Barrie Page (Chair), Josh Rawcliffe, Ben Owen-Jones (Via Video-Link), Tracey Dyson (Late – see meeting minutes).

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

Apologies: Peter Adamson.

Absent: None.

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:03pm.

12. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Peter Adamson.

13. Declarations of interest or dispensations

None.

14. Minutes

9 May 2024: The Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes were a true and correct record.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting at 6:06pm.

The Chair re-opened the meeting at 6:10pm, upon the arrival of Cllr Tracey Dyson.

15. Newsletter Summer 2024

The Committee made the following amendments to the newsletter:

- Additional thanks to be made to Cwtch Media, Sofrydd Primary School and Andrew Boulton for their help with the Viaduct Run/Ras Draphont.
- Additional thanks to be made to AYDMS for their help running Party in the Park.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to accept and publish the newsletter with these amendments added.

16. Terms of Reference

The Clerk explained that in the minutes of a Community Empowerment Committee meeting on July 14th 2023, the Committee agreed to recommend new terms of reference for the Committee to Full Council. This recommendation was not made, and the minutes imply that the Committee wished to change its terms of reference to those listed. The Committee clarified that the terms listed in the minutes should be additions to the existing terms of reference, not an entirely new set.

The Clerk stated that the proposed additions had no financial implications, and could be recommended to Full Council rather than progressing through the Finance Committee first.

Initial:

Date:

The Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that the terms of reference detailed in the minutes of July 14th 2023 be added to the existing Community Empowerment Committee terms of reference.

17. Council Website

The Clerk explained that files on the Council website have been disappearing, with the issue reoccurring dozens of times. The current provider has been unable to provide a solution for this issue. The Committee also felt that the website has accessibility issues and is difficult to navigate. Proposals have been received from two different website providers.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council for authority to be given to the Community Empowerment Committee to proceed with the project to change website provider, and to receive presentations and costings to do so.

18. Communication Working Group

The Committee discussed the idea of hosting public meetings, or surgeries, within the Council’s wards. Cllr Tracey Dyson suggested joining existing surgeries in the area organised by Blaenau Gwent CBC, which the working group will explore.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to require the Communications Working Group to explore possibilities for holding public meetings, including possible formats, locations and support needs.

19. Youth Engagement Working Group

The Committee discussed the lack of reporting being received from its youth projects and agreed that it is important to measure the success of these projects more closely.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to require the Youth Engagement Working Group to produce possible metrics that could be used to show the effectiveness of detached teams.

Cllr Ben Owen-Jones left the meeting at 6:48pm.

20. Youth Engagement Feedback

The Committee agreed that feedback sessions from its youth projects would be crucial for the budget-setting process beginning in October. The Committee also queried the lack of monthly reports which were supposed to be received from these services.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to request feedback from the Blaenau Gwent Youth Service and Off The Streets at the September Full Council meeting, and to commence requesting of monthly reports from these services.

21. Date of Next meeting

Monday 9th September 2024 at 6pm.

The meeting ended at 6:53pm.

These minutes were produced by Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk).

Signed:.....

Dated:.....

Initial:

Date: