

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 9 December 2024 AT 6.00 PM at the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery and via video conferencing (Zoom).

PRESENT

Councillors:

In Person: Barrie Page (Chair), Peter Adamson

Via Video-Link: Ben Owen-Jones,

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk), Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk) via Video Link, Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk) via Video link for part meeting.

Apologies/Absent: Tracey Dyson. Josh Rawcliffe

39. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Tracey Dyson and Cllr Josh Rawcliffe

40. Declarations of interest or dispensations

None.

41. Minutes – 15 October 2024

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

42. Co-Option

The Committee **RESOLVED** to co-opt Cllr Lucy Harmer as a non-voting member of the Committee. It was noted that she can not attend meetings on Mondays because of prior commitments

43. Detached Teams Results

The Chair provided an overview on the difficulties in finding assessments of the work that the Detached Teams do beyond simple metrics of attendance. The Chair and officers will continue to search for some formal academic review/assessments that will help validate the Councils spending on the Detached Youth Workers which should focus on the core principles of detached youth work.

44. Councillor Surgeries (Molly Jones joined the meeting)

A query was asked about the Risk Assessment: If police presence should be encouraged. The Clerk did point out that this should be taken in context, as it is part of the risk assessment and it would mitigate the risk of aggression towards Councillors. Also, that the Risk Assessment will be a dynamic document and should be reviewed at least once a year.

Relevant training will be set up with the possibility of the Officers setting up a role-playing scenario for Councillors.

We need to advertise as widely as possible not just via digital means.

We may need to consider a booking appointment system

The pilot surgeries will be joint ones with BGCBC Councillors. Helen Cunningham at Llanhilleth and Joanne Wilkins at Cwmtillery.

Initial:

Date:

The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve the Council Surgeries Risk Assessment, Policy and Councillor Guidebook and to instruct the Officers to come back to the Committee with a forward work plan to set up two trial surgeries.

Only Councillors from the Empowerment Committee will be used.

45. Winter 2024 Newsletter

The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve the draft Winter 2024 Newsletter with one addition, to add in something about the work that had been done at Llanhilleth Rugby Club with last year’s Solar Farm Grant funding

The Officers will do a print run of 30 copies.

46. Website Tender

The Committee reviewed the analysis spreadsheet that had been created by Molly Jones.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to take four companies of the sixteen companies that had produced tender proposals, through to the next stage, which will be individual presentations on Tuesday, 28 January 2025.

The four Companies are

- Abavus Ltd
- Aubergine
- Herwebsolutions
- Zodiac Media.

47. Date of Next meeting

As needed.

These minutes were produced by Steve Edwards (Clerk).

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

Dated:.....