

**MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL (ALCC) HELD ON 30 April 2025 AT 7:00 pm in the
Council Chamber at Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Josh Rawcliffe (Vice Chair), Peter Adamson, Frankie Baker, Steve Bard, Ivor Beynon, Lucy Harmer, Ralph Henderson MBE, Chris Hill, Mark Lewis (via video-link), Bruno Góes Maciel (via video-link), Ben Owen-Jones (via video-link), Rob Phillips, Nick Simmons, Mike Whatley.

Youth Representatives: (Jackson Powell and Sophie Townsend via video-link)

Absent: Barrie Page, Glyn Smith, Graham White Bernard Wall

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

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Barrie Page, Glyn Smith and Graham White.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: Tracey Dyson for grant application from K-style/AYDMS and Ivor Beynon for the grant application from Ebenezer Baptist Church.

3. Minutes 26 March 2025.

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

4. Bank Reconciliation

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the bank reconciliations and payments for March 2025.

5. Council Grant Applications

1: Ebenezer Baptist Church –

Ivor Beynon left the meeting.

Bruno Góes Maciel entered the meeting via video-link at 7:15 pm

There was some concern that Ebenezer Church and its groups had already received over £7,000 of ALCC grants in the last 12 months. A query was raised over an identical application for Council Funding for Chairs in March 2025. It was also confirmed that this application was for a different set of chairs that grant money had been given.

The Council **RESOLVED** to grant Ebenezer Baptist Church £1,000 towards the cost of replacing seating in the coffee bar area. (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19).

Ivor Beynon returned to the meeting

2: Six Bells Tenants and Residents Association

The Council **RESOLVED** to grant Six Bells Tenants and Residents Association £1,766 towards the costs of the 65th Commemoration of the Six Bells Miners' Disaster Event. (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19).

3:K-Style and AYDMS

Tracey Dyson left the meeting.

Tracey Dyson was called back into the meeting to answer some questions about AYDMS and then left again.

The Council deferred making a decision on this grant request and asked the Officers to gather some further information.

- Get a copy of Lease
- What will be the contribution from AYDMS
- Why is the Landlord not responsible for the electricity/lighting repairs
- Is there Wheelchair toilet facilities.

Tracey Dyson returned to the meeting.

6. Plaque at War Memorial

This item was delegated to the Leisure and Tourism Committee and Officers should also contact the Royal British Legion, any War Memorial Associations and Planning to see if a plaque would be acceptable. Josh Rawcliffe will work with the Officers as the rep of the Armed Forces Covenant

7. Councillor Behaviour

The Clerk reminded everyone of the standards required in meetings and when an interest has been declared there should be no attempt by the Councillor declaring the interest to influence any decisions on that agenda item. Any future such behaviour will be reported to the Public Service Ombudsman.

8. Hospice of the Valleys Sponsorship

The Council asked the Officers to find out if Hospice of the Valleys had asked the other Councils in Blaenau Gwent for sponsorship.

9. Recommendations from Finance Committee.

The Chair of the Finance committee, Steve Bard, gave a brief overview of the of the Audit Wales report on the objections to the 2020/21 accounts. A number of the main recommendations they Council have already taken on board since 2021.

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Code of Conduct training should be done every 5 years.

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Staffing Matter be referred to the HR Committee.

10. Solar Farm Grant 2025

The Council **RESOLVED** the following process for the award of the Solare farm Grant in 2025.

- i. May 2025 the grant process would be opened and application forms available
- ii. Organisations will have until the end of July to put in their applications
- iii. The Officers will conduct follow up questions during August
- iv. The Council will make its decisions in September.

Bruno Góes Maciel left the meeting at 8:10 pm.

11. Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Pride Event 2025 - Tredegar

The Council agreed to support this event on 24th May and at the very least have a representative at the event. This was delegated to the Leisure and Tourism Committee to take forward.

12. Charter

The Council **RESOLVED** to sign off the new Charter of Common Agreement with BGCBC.

13. Subway Mural Maintenance

The Council **RESOLVED** to take on the on-going maintenance of the mural and to release and delegate to the Officers the £10,000 of the earmarked reserves that were set aside for this. The Officers to investigate the costs.

14. Wreath Laying VE Day

The Council **RESOLVED** that following Councillors will lay wreathes on behalf of Council on VE day, 8th May.

- Josh Rawcliffe at the Abertillery War Memorial
- Mike Whatley at the Llanhilleth Institute.

15. Committee Minutes

The Council noted the latest Confirmed Committee Minutes

- HR Committee - 24 April 2024
- Leisure and Tourism Committee - 11 February 2025
- PlaCE Committee - 3 March 2025
- Community Empowerment Committee – 21 January 2025, 28 January 2025 and 4 February 2025.

16. Date of next meeting.

Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 7pm for the Annual Meeting

Wednesday 28 May 2025 at 7pm for Full Council

The meeting ended at 8:34 pm.

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards, Clerk.

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

Date.....

DRAFT