

**ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
DATE**

AGENDA ITEM NO.

SOLAR FARM GRANT 2018 – PROGRESS REPORT (NB grants were issued in May 2019. Organisations were given until 31 March 2020 to spend the funds awarded and report back, with photos and invoices)

Table 1 – progress and spend – actual (whole project)

Grant awarded to	Amount	Funding given to pay towards	Progress on spend and outcomes	Photos provided	Invoices provided	Further comments / actual spend
Abertillery Excelsiors AFC	£35,000	The “Cwmtillery project”, made up of the components listed below (see table 3 for original budget estimates).	Abertillery Excelsiors AFC received the entire amount of grant funding in order for them to co-ordinate and disperse funds to individual groups, pending the establishment of a “Cwmtillery Partnership”. The groups involved have been working together and a Community Interest Company, Pentref Tyleri CBC, was incorporated on 15 February 2020.	Yes	Yes	See below
Abertillery Excelsiors sub divided the above funds as listed below:						
CLEAN (Cwmtillery Lakes Environmental Action Network)	£22,500	See specific projects below.	See specific projects below.	Yes	Yes	See below
Abertillery Excelsiors	£10,000	See specific projects below.	See specific projects below.	Yes	Yes	See below

Coetir Tyleri	£2,500	See specific projects below.	See specific projects below.	Yes	Yes	See below
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Table 2 – progress and spend – actual (specific projects breakdown)

Organisation	Specific project	Progress / outcomes	Photos	Invoices	Spend
CLEAN	Footpath surrounding lake	Work was completed on the footpath surrounding the lake area in 2019.	Yes	Yes	£16,836
	Dredging/weed removal from Cwmtillery lake	Completed November 2019.			£2,700
	Fishing pegs (platforms)	Completed.			£0
	Repairs and stock for the fishing club	Lake re-stocked with 110 fish in December 2019. Cwmtillery Coarse Fishers Club created, bank account and constitution in place. 70+ people applied for membership.			£2,500
	Footfall counter	Completed and installed.			£434.63
	Memorial Garden design	Completed.			£225
Abertillery Excelsiors	Community engagement	Event held 31 May and 1 June 2019 at Jim Owen Pavilion. Over 200 people attended. Facebook group and interest significantly increased.	Yes	Yes	£648.29
	Pavilion: preparation for café	Repairs to ceiling and walls, painting, tiling, lights, air vent, plumbing in of sinks, fitting of			£981.01

		blinds and repair of two fire doors all undertaken.			
	Community café ("Caffi Tyleri")	Prior to the coronavirus situation, we fully intended to open on 8th April 2020, in time for the Easter holidays. The deadline of 31.3.20 for the spending of the grant money allocated for the cafe would have been achieved had it not been for these unfortunate circumstances. We are all so disappointed that the cafe could not be opened after all the hard work put in and sorry that the deadline for spending the grant money was not met but unfortunately this was due to circumstances out of our control. Local residents will be in charge of managing the cafe and they have put a lot of time and effort into making sure the cafe is ready to open as soon as possible. The cafe will be operated under Pentref Tyleri CBC, a community interest company aimed at sparking regeneration in Cwmtillery. In the initial stages the cafe will be manned by volunteers, but we anticipate it leading to job creation in the medium to long-term. Any profits will be reinvested in further community projects.			£7,639.82
				SUB TOTAL SPEND	£9,269.12 (NB £730.88 remaining)
Coetir Tyleri	Millennium Wood Ecological survey	Paid 3 March. Initial survey conducted. Full survey to be completed when restrictions allow.	Yes	Yes	£456.42
	Perimeter native hedge planting around the wood	1800 native saplings purchased but unable to be delivered due to Covid lockdown. Bareroot trees cannot be planted in summer/autumn so delivery scheduled for winter 2020.			£561

	Planting materials (weed control mats, hadopots, sacks, mycorrhizal fungi etc)	Purchased and stored ready for planting in winter 2020.			£965.24
	Tools for ground preparation	Purchased.			£64.77
	Dumper hire for ground prep	Completed.			£420
				SUB TOTAL SPEND	£2,467.43 (£32.57 remaining)
TOTAL SPEND				TOTAL SPEND	£34,276.55 (NB £763.45 remaining: Coetir Tyleri and Cafi Tyleri underspends combined)
		£763.45 remaining to be spent on purchase of stock and finishing touches to the café, plus web hosting (website) and internet connectivity to enable electronic payment system and free wifi for community use.			

Table 3 – original budget estimates

Amount	Purpose
£14,000	Lakeside/path improvements
£1,000	Fishing pegs
£2,250	Dredging of Cwmtillery Lake
£1,500	Repairs and stock for the fishing club
£1,100	Footfall counter
£250	Garden design

£10,000	Community café - fire doors, extractor fan, tiling, back door and windows
£488	Ecological survey
£1,000	Promotional events
£380	Planning fees
£1,500	Perimeter native hedging around the wood
£1,000	Full ecological impact assessment for the development of the wood
£532	Memorial Garden – planting and landscaping
£35,000	Total

Author: Richard Gwinnell, Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Last updated: 3 September 2020