

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE OF
ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 30 January 2026
AT 6:30 pm in the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery**

PRESENT:

Councillors: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Steve Bard, Josh Rawcliffe, Ralph Henderson MBE
Barrie Page

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk)

Absent: Lucy Harmer and Ben Owen-Jones

60. Apologies for absence

Lucy Harmer. Mark Lewis had resigned from the Committee

61. Declarations of interest or dispensations

Barrie Page as Treasurer of Llanhilleth Tenants and Residents association

62. Minutes – 5 December 2026

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes from 5 December 2025 were a true and correct record.

63. Review of Christmas Lights

Josh Rawcliffe asked if we could look into Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council (BGCBC) could pay for the catenary wiring in Somerset Street and the Arcade, which the Community Council had paid for but was now being used by BGCBC.

The Clerk reported that there was a current underspend on the amounts that Community Groups had spent on Christmas lighting compared to the budgetary amounts Council had agreed. The Committee will conduct a review in September 2026, at the start of the Committee's budget process for 2026/2027.

The Clerk reported on the issues with the Christmas Tree at Warm Turn, after a number of visits from Blachere, BGCBC and National Grid it had been established that the fault was in the green power junction box and rusted/loose connections. The Officers had received quotes for the work and the plan is to carry the remedial work in August/September of this year.

The general review was good, some discussion on a Christmas Tree in Jubilee Square but the Clerk reported that previous quotes had been for £9k plus. The safety certificates for the lamppost that we hang motifs on are valid for two years. Posts would have to be retested if we change the motifs.

The motion to transfer funds from Pentre Tyleri Group to Friends of Blaenau Gwent Village and Roseheyworth Community Group from Mark Lewis falls as he was not in attendance.

64. Working Groups

The committee agreed to set up the following working groups.

Six Bells Bi-Lingual Event – Tracey Dyson, Steve Bard, Josh Rawcliffe, Rob Vaughan (Six Bells Tennis), someone from the Bowls Club, Daniel Minty (Blaenau Gwent Community Development Officer), Sioned Davies (Chief Officer Menter Iaith Blaenau Gwent), Vikki Alexander (Welsh Language Support Officer BGCBC), Riley Overton, Erika Davies.

Initial

Date

First meeting 6 Feb 2026 at 5:00 pm

Town of Culture – Tracey Dyson, Ralph Henderson, Daniel Minty, Steve Edwards.

Party in the Park – Tracey Dyson, Josh Rawcliffe, Lucy Harmer, Chris Wilkins (Abertillery Rugby Club), Hannah Rogers (AYDMS), Molly Jones.

Meeting 13 Feb 2026 at 5:00 pm

Viaduct Run – Ben Owen-Jones, Josh Rawcliffe, Molly Jones, Micheal Heare (Islwyn Runners), Harriet Cleat (Cwtch Media)

A working group will be set up if required to help with the Brynithel Event. A decision will be made once further details of that event have been received.

65. Date of next meeting

As required

The meeting ended at 7:10 pm

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards, Clerk.

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

Dated