

**MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY  
AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 6 February 2026 at 6:11 pm at  
the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

**PRESENT**

**Councillors:** Steve Bard (Chair), Nick Simmons, Frankie Baker (via video link). Bruno Gões Maciel (via video link) (From 6:21pm)

**Officers:** Steve Edwards (Clerk), Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk) and Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk) - (via video-link)

**Absent:** Lucy Harmer, Mike Whatley.

**48. Apologies for Absence**

Lucy Harmer, Mike Whatley

**49. Declarations of Interest or Dispensations**

None

**50. Minutes 14 November 2025**

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

**51. Pension Actuarial Valuation**

The Clerk informed the Committee that following the usual 3 year review from the Greater Gwent (Torfaen) Pension Fund the employers pension contributions will reduce from 1<sup>st</sup> April from 21% + £1,000 to 15.8%. This is because the review states that the funding level is now at 141% of the its possible pension liabilities.

This will mean that it is likely that the staffing costs for 2026/2027 will see an underspend from the budgetary amount agreed in January.

Bruno Gões Maciel joined the meeting

**52. Grant Policy Review**

The Officers are conducting a review of our Grants Policy to ensure that we are in line with Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and Internal Auditor guidance. A draft replacement policy will be brought before the Committee to review before it goes up to Full Council for approval. We need a funding agreement with the youth clubs we give funding to.

**53. Bank Reconciliation.**

The Committee agreed the following Bank Reconciliation members.

January – Steve Bard and Mike Whatley

February - Frankie Baker and Bruno Gões Maciel

March – Lucy Harmer and Nick Simmons

**54. Toolkit – Purpose of Council.**

The Committee discussed the survey results, there was a 50/50 split about agreeing if the Councils Mission statement represents the Council. The Committee agreed that they

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Date:

would not be making any recommendations to change current Mission Statement. The Mission Statement will be reviewed at the Annual Meeting.

**55. 2026 Work Plan**

- The Committee agreed the following basic workplan
- March – Grants Policy and feedback from Internal Auditor Meeting
- April – Internal Auditor Report, year-end budget outturn
- May – Annual Return for 2025/2026
- June – Review progress on the Financial Toolkit
- July – First quarter outturn
- August – No Meetings
- September – Asset Register Review
- October – First Budget Review, second quarter budget outturn
- November – Budgets and Review of Risk Registers
- December - Budgets

**56. Date of Next Meeting**

13 March 2026

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards Clerk.

The meeting ended at 6:42 pm.

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

Date.....



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