

**MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND
LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 2 February 2026 AT 6:00 pm at the
Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery and via video conferencing (Zoom).**

PRESENT

Councillors: Barrie Page (Chair), Peter Adamson and Josh Rawcliffe.

Officers: Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk), Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk).

Absent: Tracey Dyson, Lucy Harmer, Ben Owen-Jones and Bruno Gôes Maciel.

46. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Lucy Harmer and Cllr Tracey Dyson.

47. Declarations of interest or dispensations

None.

48. Minutes of Previous Meeting – 1 December 2025

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

49. Community Engagement

The Committee **RESOLVED** to establish a Community Engagement working group with the following members:

- Cllr Barrie Page
- Cllr Peter Adamson
- Cllr Josh Rawcliffe

The Deputy Clerks explained that a local student had reached out to the Council about completing 15 hours of community work as part of their Welsh Baccalaureate qualification. The Committee were keen for the student to get involved in establishing a community engagement plan.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to invite the student to join the Community Engagement working group.

50. Winter 2026 Newsletter

The Committee **RESOLVED** to publish the Winter 2026 Newsletter with one amendment; to change the image of sweets for AYDMS to a different image.

51. New Website

The Committee were pleased that the website switch went smoothly and has been a success.

The Committee **RESOLVED** for officers to send a letter to Her Web Solutions thanking them for their hard work on the website.

52. New Website – Projects & Local Groups

The Committee agreed that the Projects page should display information about projects such as biodiversity, Bridges car scheme, Town in Bloom and detached youth work funding.

The Committee agreed that the Local Groups page should link to the Blaenau Gwent In This Together website and the Dewis website which both map local groups and services. They discussed the possibility of a contact form for groups to supply their details to be published.

Officers will bring drafts of the webpages for the Committee to review at their next meeting.

53. Date of next meeting

As needed.

The meeting ended at 6:35pm.

These minutes were produced by Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk).

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

Dated:.....

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE OF
ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 20 March 2026 at
6:30 pm in the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery**

PRESENT:

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

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk)

Absent: Lucy Harmer, Ben Owen-Jones and Barrie Page

72. Apologies for absence

Lucy Harmer, Ben Owen-Jones and Barrie Page

73. Declarations of interest or dispensations

None

74. Minutes – 6 March 2026

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes from 6 March 2026 were a true and correct record.

75. Loneliness Project

The Committee **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £4,000 for Abertillery Aspirations and St Micheal's Church to provide a warm and secure meeting place for the Aspirations Legends Club to carry out creative adventures to combat loneliness. (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19 (1) (d))

The Committee also expressed its thanks to Ralph Henderson for his continuing good and inspiring work within the Abertillery Community.

76. Date of Next meeting

As and when required.

The meeting ended at 6:45 pm

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards, Clerk.

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

Dated

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE OF
ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 06 March 2026 at
6:32 pm in the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery**

PRESENT:

Councillors: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Lucy Harmer, Ralph Henderson MBE and Barrie Page

Officers: Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk)

Absent: Steve Bard and Ben Owen-Jones

66. Apologies for absence

Steve Bard

67. Declarations of interest or dispensations

None

68. Minutes – 30 January 2026

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the minutes from 30 January 2026 were a true and correct record.

69. Working Group Update

At the request of the Chair, agenda items 6-4 were discussed in the reverse order.

The Chair gave an overview of two working groups in this committee.

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

This event is now called Six Bells Party/Parti Chwe Chloch and will take place on 16 May. After the first meeting, held on 06 February, there was some initial debate over whether there would be enough in the budget for the event to go ahead. During the second meeting on 06 March, Menter Iaith, a partner in the event, confirmed funding of up to £2500 towards entertainment for the day. There may also be an opportunity to partner with Tai Calon for additional funding. This will be confirmed at the next meeting to be held on 20 March.

Next Meeting Friday 20 March at 5:00 pm

Party in the Park

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

The planning is well under way for this event and is confirmed for Saturday 13 June 12-7pm.

Initial

Date

70. Loneliness Project

The Committee **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £250 for Friends of Bethany to hold a Mother's Day family event on Saturday 14 March (Local Government Act 1972 s.145)

71. Ffrindiau Tyleri

At the request of Council (25/02/26), the Committee discussed the disbanding of the voluntary group Ffrindiau Tyleri and the effect it would have on residents and the town centre, with 4 of their events cancelled. The Chair explained that a £10,000 budget line has already been agreed for these events, and that it is a viable option for this committee to take over organising them. They felt that there were already enough family events taking place in spring and summer, such as the Blaenau Gwent Town Centre days, Parti Chwe Chloch Party in the Park and the Viaduct Run.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to organise and host the Halloween and Winterfest events for 2026.

The Committee asked the Deputy Clerk to set up a WhatsApp working group on the office mobile, consisting of Tracey Dyson, Lucy Harmer, Josh Rawcliffe, Barrie Page and Ralph Henderson MBE.

The meeting ended at 7:20 pm

Minutes produced by Erika Davies, Deputy Clerk.

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

Dated

Initial

Date

**MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY
AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 13 March 2026 at 6:00 pm at the
Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Steve Bard (Chair), Frankie Baker, Bruno Gões Maciel, Lucy Harmer

Officers: Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk) and Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk) - (via video-link)

Absent: Mike Whatley, Nick Simmons.

57. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mike Whatley and Nick Simmons.

58. Declarations of Interest or Dispensations

None.

59. Minutes 6 February 2026

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

60. Feedback from Internal Audit

The Deputy Clerks provided a verbal update on the recent Interim Internal Audit for 2025-26. Overall, the Auditor seemed pleased with the governance of the Council.

143 items were checked by the Auditor, of which 101 were applicable to us. Of these 101, 94 had a positive response. 7 negative responses were identified and 11 observations were made, with no non-compliances identified.

A further 37 items will be checked during the Year End Audit.

61. Grant Policy Review

The Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend the following to Full Council:

- To pool the Christmas Lighting Grant budget lines into one budget line, totalling £10,500.
- To inform all previous annual Christmas Lighting Grant recipients that the grants policy has changed and they are no longer guaranteed funding, but send the application form and encourage them to apply.
- To abolish annual grants entirely.
- To move the annual grant budget lines to the Council Grant budget line, for a total of £28,540 (this excludes the £10,000 for Ffrindiau Tyleri, which may be spent on events).
- To inform all previous annual grant recipients that the grants policy has changed and they are no longer guaranteed funding, but send a Council Grant form and encourage them to apply.
- To adopt the new Grants Policy.
- To adopt the new Grants Application Forms and Feedback Form.

62. Internal Controls Review

The Committee **RESOLVED** to adopt the updated Internal Control document.

63. Date of Next Meeting

Initial:

Date:

Friday 17th April 2026 at 6pm

The meeting ended at 6:58pm.

Minutes produced by Molly Jones, Deputy Clerk.

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

Date.....

Initial:

Date:

**MEETING OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES SUB COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND
LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 28 January at 18.00 at the Council
Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Barrie Page, Richard Catlin and Steve Bard

Apologies: None

Officers: Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk).

1. Appoint a Chair

The Sub Committee **RESOLVED** to elect Steve Bard as Chair.

2. Apologies for Absence

None

3. Declarations of Interest or Dispensations

None.

4. Disciplinary and Grievance

The Committee **RESOLVED** to set a date and time of Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 17.30 for the disciplinary meeting.

5. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 17.30.

The meeting ended at 18.05

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

Minutes produced by Erika Davies, Deputy Clerk.

**MEETING OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES SUB COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND
LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON Wednesday 25th February at 5:30pm
at the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Barrie Page, Richard Catlin and Steve Bard

Apologies: None

Officers: Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk).

6. Apologies for Absence

None.

7. Declarations of Interest or Dispensations

Cllr Barrie Page declared an interest in agenda item 5 as he had received additional papers, outside of the proper disciplinary procedure.

The meeting was closed at 5:35pm, as it was no longer quorate.

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

Date.....

Minutes produced by Molly Jones, Deputy Clerk.

**MEETING OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND
LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 10 December 2025 at 10:00 am at the
Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Lucy Harmer (Vice Chair), Tracey Dyson, Nick Simmons and Rob Phillips

Apologies: Josh Rawcliffe (Chair)

Officers: Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk).

13. Appoint a Chair

In the absence of Josh Rawcliffe, the Committee **RESOLVED** to elect Lucy Harmer as Chair for this meeting.

14. Apologies for Absence

Josh Rawcliffe

15. Declarations of Interest or Dispensations

None.

16. Minutes 26 November 2025

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

17. Resolution to Exclude the Press and Public

The Committee **RESOLVED** that, by virtue of The Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public were excluded from discussions on the following items on the basis that disclosure thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

18. Disciplinary

The Committee noted paragraph 8 of the Disciplinary and Grievance policy and **RESOLVED** to commence disciplinary proceedings without the appointment of an investigator.

The Committee **RESOLVED** the selection of a sub-committee, as per the Disciplinary and Grievance policy.

19. Date of Next Meeting

TBC

The meeting ended at 10:55 am

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

Minutes produced by Erika Davies, Deputy Clerk.