



CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR PERSON SPECIFICATION

Personal Attributes

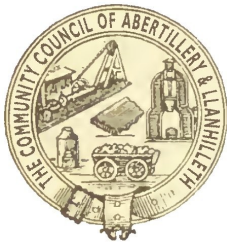
- Sound knowledge and understanding of local affairs and the local community.
- Forward-thinking
- Can bring a new skill, expertise or key local knowledge to the Council.

Experience, Skills, Knowledge and Ability

- Ability to listen constructively
- A good team player
- Ability to pick up and run with a variety of projects
- Solid interest in local matters
- Ability and willingness to represent the Council and their community
- Good interpersonal skills and able to contribute opinions at meetings whilst willing to see others' views and accept majority decisions.
- Ability to communicate succinctly and clearly.
- Ability and willingness to work closely with other members and to maintain good working relationships with all members and staff.
- Ability and willingness to work with the Council's partners (e.g., voluntary groups, other Community Councils, principal authority, charities).
- Ability and willingness to undertake induction training and other relevant training.
- Experience of working or being a member in a local authority or other public body
- Experience of working with voluntary and or local community / interest groups
- Basic knowledge of legal issues relating to town and Community Councils or local authorities

Circumstances

- Ability and willingness to attend meetings of the Council (or meetings of other local authorities and local bodies) at any time of day, and events in the evening and at weekends.



To: The Clerk

Abertillery &

Llanhilleth Community Council
Council Offices
Mitre Street
Abertillery
NP13 1AE

Tel: 01495 217323

email: clerk@abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk

**APPLICATION FOR THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR
ON ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Full name	Ben Rhys Davies
Home address incl. postcode	[REDACTED]
Home telephone number	[REDACTED]
Mobile number	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]

It is a condition of being a Community Councillor for Abertillery and Llanhilleth that your phone number and email address (an official email address will be supplied) be made public via notice boards and website.

LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR BEING A COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR QUALIFICATIONS

(To qualify you must be able to answer 'Yes' to both of the questions below)

Are you a British citizen, a Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of a European Union country?	Yes
Are you aged 18 or over?	Yes

(To qualify you must be able to answer 'Yes' to at least one of the questions below)

Are you on the electoral register for a ward within the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council area?	Yes
Have you lived either in the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council area, or within three miles of its boundary, for at least a year?	Yes
Have you been the owner or tenant of land in the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council area for at least a year?	Yes
Have you had your only or main place of work in the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council area for at least a year?	Yes

DISQUALIFICATIONS

(You must be able to answer No to all of the questions below to be eligible to serve as a councillor)

Are you the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order?	Yes
Have you within the last five years been convicted of an offence in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man which resulted in a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of three months or more without the option of a fine?	Yes
Are you disqualified by order of a court from being a member of a local authority?	Yes

With reference to the Person Specification, please tell us something about the skills that you feel you will bring to the Council plus details of, for example, professional qualifications and financial or project management expertise.

I have worked as a senior paralegal and civil investigator for 18 years. I currently work for one of the largest Defendant instructed personal injury law firms in the country. I can offer experience in project management from initial planning through to completion, working with up to date legislation.

Please tell us something about the life experience that you will bring to the Council. Examples may include previous local government experience, work in the voluntary or charitable sector, business or trade union experience etc.

Living and raising a family in Cwmtillery gives me a real, everyday understanding of what matters to our community—from local housing and roads to our parks and public services.

In my job as a paralegal, I work with complex paperwork, strict rules, and formal procedures, which helps me make sense of council regulations and committee processes. Outside of work, my hobby includes researching local history and maps, and used photography and media to share our area's heritage.

Working with people in my working role from all backgrounds has taught me how to listen, find common ground, and speak up effectively for local residents.

Please outline why you are interested in being a community councillor.

I would like to be considered for a position as a community councillor because I care about where I live and want to play an active, practical role in making my area a better place for everyone. Living here with my family, I see both the everyday challenges our community faces and the huge potential we have.

I want to use my time, problem-solving skills, and legal background to give local residents a strong, fair voice, make sure council decisions are clear and sensible, and help protect and improve our local services, green spaces, and community heritage for the future.

Your signature:



Date:

19 September 2026

Email your completed application form to clerk@abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk

Alternatively, you can post (or hand-deliver) the completed form to The Clerk, Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council, Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery, NP13 1AE



CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR PERSON SPECIFICATION

Personal Attributes

- Sound knowledge and understanding of local affairs and the local community.
- Forward-thinking
- Can bring a new skill, expertise or key local knowledge to the Council.

Experience, Skills, Knowledge and Ability

- Ability to listen constructively
- A good team player
- Ability to pick up and run with a variety of projects
- Solid interest in local matters
- Ability and willingness to represent the Council and their community
- Good interpersonal skills and able to contribute opinions at meetings whilst willing to see others' views and accept majority decisions.
- Ability to communicate succinctly and clearly.
- Ability and willingness to work closely with other members and to maintain good working relationships with all members and staff.
- Ability and willingness to work with the Council's partners (e.g., voluntary groups, other Community Councils, principal authority, charities).
- Ability and willingness to undertake induction training and other relevant training.
- Experience of working or being a member in a local authority or other public body
- Experience of working with voluntary and or local community / interest groups
- Basic knowledge of legal issues relating to town and Community Councils or local authorities

Circumstances

- Ability and willingness to attend meetings of the Council (or meetings of other local authorities and local bodies) at any time of day, and events in the evening and at weekends.

To: The Clerk
 Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council
 Council Offices
 Mitre Street
 Abertillery
 NP13 1AE



Tel: 01495 217323
 email: clerk@abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk

APPLICATION FOR THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR ON ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Full name	Jordan Brace
Home address incl. postcode	[REDACTED]
Home telephone number	N/A
Mobile number	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]

It is a condition of being a Community Councillor for Abertillery and Llanhilleth that your phone number and email address (an official email address will be supplied) be made public via notice boards and website.

LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR BEING A COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR QUALIFICATIONS

(To qualify you must be able to answer 'Yes' to both of the questions below)

Are you a British citizen, a Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of a European Union country?	YES
Are you aged 18 or over?	YES

(To qualify you must be able to answer 'Yes' to at least one of the questions below)

Are you on the electoral register for a ward within the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council area?	NO
Have you lived either in the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council area, or within three miles of its boundary, for at least a year?	NO
Have you been the owner or tenant of land in the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council area for at least a year?	YES - owner of property in the Council area for approximately 3 years
Have you had your only or main place of work in the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council area for at least a year?	NO

DISQUALIFICATIONS

(You must be able to answer No to all of the questions below to be eligible to serve as a councillor)

Are you the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order?	NO
Have you within the last five years been convicted of an offence in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man which resulted in a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of three months or more without the option of a fine?	NO
Are you disqualified by order of a court from being a member of a local authority?	NO

With reference to the Person Specification, please tell us something about the skills that you feel you will bring to the Council plus details of, for example, professional qualifications and financial or project management expertise.

I would bring practical community knowledge, calm decision-making, clear communication and a strong habit of following issues through. I work full-time as a Security Officer at The Compleat Food Group in Rassau, where I deal with incident reporting, CCTV, radio and telephone communication, contractor access, fire-alarm procedures and the escalation of health and safety concerns. This has taught me to listen carefully, record facts accurately, stay professional under pressure and work constructively with colleagues, managers and contractors. I hold SIA and First Aid qualifications.

Through my voluntary community work I regularly speak with residents about housing, roads, street lighting, public services, GP access and anti-social behaviour. I am used to identifying the correct organisation, raising issues clearly and following them up. I can communicate confidently in person, by phone, email and social media, including with people who disagree with me.

I also have practical property-management experience, including arranging repairs, obtaining quotations, dealing with tradespeople, monitoring costs and compliance. I understand that public money requires strong transparency and financial controls. I would undertake all Council induction and ongoing training, including governance, the Code of Conduct and declarations of interest. I can attend scheduled Council meetings and am willing to serve on committees and attend daytime, evening and weekend events.

Please tell us something about the life experience that you will bring to the Council. Examples may include previous local government experience, work in the voluntary or charitable sector, business or trade union experience etc

I am from Blaenau Gwent and have strong personal ties to Abertillery. I lived in Abertillery from 2023 to 2025 and genuinely loved living there. I continue to own a property in Abertillery, which I have owned for approximately three years, and I have family, friends and community contacts across the area. My connection therefore comes from living locally, owning property locally and spending time listening to residents.

My working life has centred on public-facing security and responsibility. I have more than five years of security experience across industrial, NHS and event settings. This has given me experience of safeguarding, difficult conversations, emergencies, confidentiality, teamwork and proportionate decision-making. Alongside work, I have spent substantial time volunteering in the community, helping residents raise concerns with councils, housing providers, health services and other organisations. I am not an elected councillor and would never pretend otherwise; my experience so far has been as a volunteer helping people navigate systems and get their concerns heard.

In May 2026 I stood as an Independent candidate in the Senedd election for Blaenau Gwent Caerffili Rhymni and received 931 votes. The experience strengthened my ability to listen, explain ideas clearly, accept disagreement respectfully and be accountable for what I say publicly. I am now a Reform UK member and volunteer, but if co-opted I would represent every resident of Cwmtillery fairly, regardless of party politics or how they vote.

Please outline why you are interested in being a community councillor.

I am applying because I care about Abertillery and want to turn the community work I already do voluntarily into constructive service within the Council. Having lived in Abertillery for two years, continuing to own property there and maintaining strong links with local people, I have a genuine interest in the long-term wellbeing of the area.

I have looked closely at the work of Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council. I am particularly interested in its community grants, youth work funding, defibrillator provision, projects tackling loneliness and isolation, and community events including Wales in Bloom, Party in the Park and the Viaduct Run. These are practical projects that can improve everyday life and strengthen community pride. I would like to contribute to that work, ask constructive questions about value for money and help ensure residents know what support and opportunities are available.

If co-opted for Cwmtillery, my approach would be straightforward: listen, be accessible, treat people respectfully, follow up issues, work professionally with fellow councillors and staff, and accept collective decisions even where my own view differs. I would not promise that one councillor can solve every problem. I would promise to do the work, attend meetings, take training seriously and give residents an honest answer about what the Community Council can and cannot do. I am able and willing to attend the Council's regular meetings and to support committees, projects and events. I would be proud to give my time and energy to serving Cwmtillery and the wider Abertillery and Llanhilleth community.

Your signature:

J Brace

Date:

23 September 2026

Email your completed application form to clerk@abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk

Alternatively, you can post (or hand-deliver) the completed form to The Clerk, Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council, Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery, NP13 1AE