

**MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL (ALCC) HELD ON 30 September 2026 at 7.00 pm in the
Council Chamber at Council Offices, Mitre street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Lucy Harmer (Chair), Josh Rawcliffe, Peter Adamson, Frankie Baker, Ivor Beynon, Richard Catlin, Tracey Dyson, Bruno Góes Maciel, Ralph Henderson MBE, Chris Hill, Ben Owen-Jones (via video link) Barrie Page, Rob Phillips, and Nick Simmons.

Absent: Steve Bard, Mark Lewis, Mike Whatley, Riley Overton (Youth Rep) and Jackson Powell (Youth Rep)

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk), Erika Davies (Deputy Clerk), Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk)

Public: Jordan Brace and Ben Davies

92. Apologies for Absence

Steve Bard, Mark Lewis and Mike Whatley

93. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Lucy Harmer declared a non-prejudicial interest concerning the grant application from Abertillery Learning Community as her son attends the school.

Bruno Góes Maciel declared a non-prejudicial interest concerning the grant application from Abertillery Learning Community as his daughter attends the school.

Josh Rawcliffe declared a non-prejudicial interest concerning the grant application from Abertillery Learning Community as he is governor of the school.

Barrie Page declared a prejudicial interest concerning the grant application from Friends of St. Illtyd as he is Committee Member.

94. Public Questions

There were no public questions.

95. Bank Reconciliation – May, June, July and August 2026.

Peter Adamson found it confusing to follow the transactions on the reserve account. The Officers explained that there was not a lot of transactions on this account and unusually there were 4 months of statements to check and look through.

The Clerk asked that if Councillors have specific questions about accounts and bank reconciliations that they put those questions to the Officers a few days before the meeting so that a full answer can be given at the meeting.

96. Council Grant Applications

Abertillery Learning Community £3000 towards the set of a school production for Grease. Council felt that was a large amount and maybe the school should consider building its own sets. None proposed a motion to agree this grant so the motion falls.

Barrie Page left the meeting at 7:11

Council **RESOLVED** to pay a grant of £128.80 to the Friends of St. Illtyd to provide a basic tool kit for future work in the church yard – Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19.

Barrie Page returned to the meeting at 7:15

Council **RESOLVED** to pay a grant of £800 to Six Bells Bowls Club towards the cost of a water pump and hoses. – Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19.

Council **RESOLVED** that the grant request from Six Bells Regeneration be referred to the Leisure and Tourism Committee and considered for a loneliness grant. More information is requested from the applicant.

Council **RESOLVED** that the grant request from Six Bells Over 50s; club be referred to the Leisure and Tourism Committee and considered for a loneliness grant and more information requested from the applicant

Council deferred a decision on the grant request from Abertillery Learning Community to gather more information on where the art work would be displayed.

97. Co-Option

There were two Candidates applying for the one vacancy in the Cwmtillery ward. Each candidate was invited to give a presentation and then answer questions from Councillors. The candidates, Jordan Brace and Ben Davies were then asked to leave the room.

Council **RESOLVED** that Ben Davies would be co-opted to Council to fill the vacant Cwmtillery Ward Seat.

Jordan Brace and Ben Davies returned to the meeting and were told the result.

98. Council Logo

Jordan Brace left the meeting at 7:54.

Council agreed for the Officers to take forward a design for a new Council Logo.

It was also suggested that Frankie Baker assist.

Tracey Dyson left the meeting at 7:55

99. NALC Pay Award 2026

Council **RESOLVED** to note and agree the 2026 NALC pay award.

100. Boundary Review

The Chair gave a brief update on the meeting held with BGCBC and the other Town Councils within the BGCBC area. There is opposition to the review recommendations from two other Town Councils. A report from the review task and finish group is going up to the executive at BGCBC.

The Clerk stated that One Voice Wales has now written to the Senedd, with concerns about the whole of the review process throughout Wales and the inconsistency that was being shown across the country in the criteria used in the process. He was also of the opinion that because of the tight timescales, where BGCBC recommendations have to go to the Boundary Commission, which in turn has to be then agreed by the Senedd that changes could not be implemented before the May 2027 election.

101. Direct Debit

Council **RESOLVED** to authorise the setup of a direct debit payment for BT, as per Financial regulations 6.5

Frankie Baker left the meeting at 7:59

102. St Michael's Church

Council **RESOLVED** that £1050 from the Solar Farm grant allocation for the church from 2025 be used their quinquennial electricity testing, as it believed without this testing the work on the heating system could not be started.

103. Winterfest Contingency Budget

This motion was withdrawn by Josh Rawcliffe

104. Warm Turn Christmas Electric Maintenance

The Clerk explained that last Christmas there had been issues with the lighting of the Christmas Tree at Warm Turn, due to water egress into the power sockets. This has now been repaired. Erika Davies stated that a new manhole cover had been put by BGCBC and that a timer switch had also been installed, which meant the tree would only be lit when it was dark.

105. Motion from Mike Whatley

Mike Whatley was absent from the meeting so the motion automatically falls.

106. Committee Minutes

Council noted the following confirmed minutes:

HR Committee 25 March 2026

HR Committee 12 May 2026

Leisure and Tourism Committee 10 July 2026

Finance and Governance Committee 17 July 2026

Community Empowerment Committee 29 June 2026

107. Resolution to Exclude the Press and Public Members are recommended to consider and resolve that, by virtue of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public are 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.

The Council **RESOLVED** to exclude the Press and the Public.

Ben Davies left the meeting at 8:03

108. Public Service Ombudsman

The Clerk gave a brief update on a current investigation and asked that Councillors did not comment on any social media posts that may relate to any conduct of Councillors.

109. Date of Next Meeting

7 October 2026

The meeting ended at 8:06 pm.

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards, Clerk

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

Date.....

Initial

Date