

Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council

Annual & Wellbeing Report

2025-2026

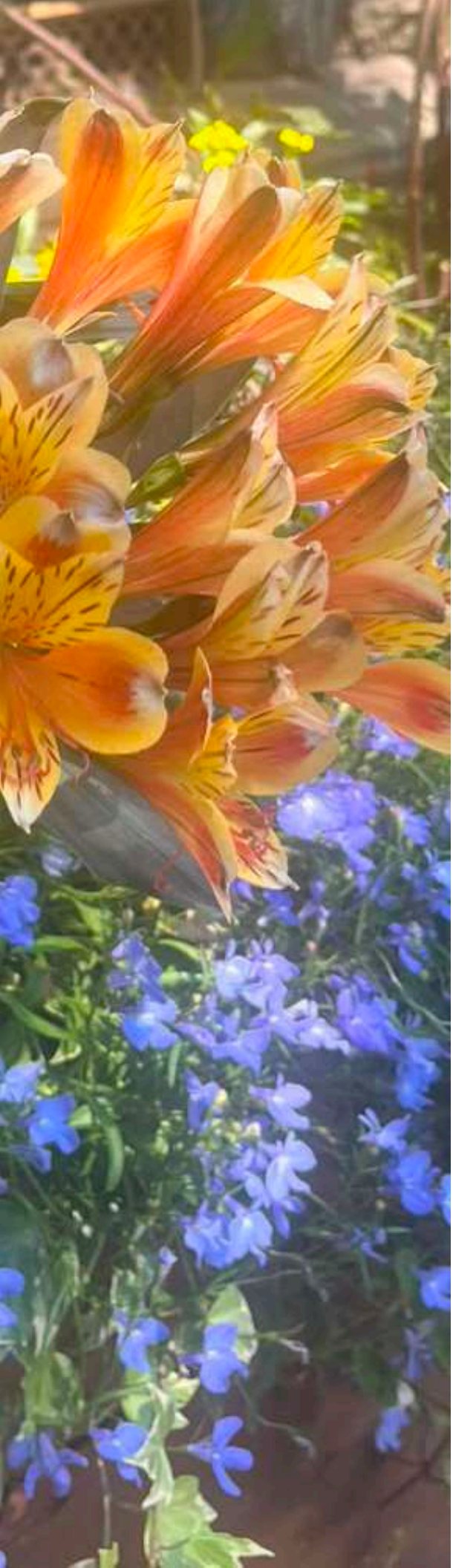


Table of Contents

3. Wellbeing Goals

4. Chair's Message

5. About Us

6. Councillors

7. Youth Representatives

8. Officers

9. Training Plan

10. Committees

11. Accounts

11. Funding

11. Relationship with BGCBC

11. Complaints

11. Reports

12. Grant Funding

14. PlaCE Committee

16. Human Resources Committee

16. Finance & Governance Committee

17. Leisure & Tourism Committee

21. Community Empowerment Committee

23. Other Actions

24. Plans for 2026-2027

25. Meeting the Wellbeing Goals

Wellbeing Goals

Throughout this report you will find a number of icons in each section.

Each icon represents one of the 7 Well-being Goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.



A globally responsible Wales

A prosperous Wales



A resilient Wales



A healthier Wales



A more equal Wales



A Wales of cohesive communities



A Wales of vibrant culture and a thriving Welsh language

We have labelled actions throughout this report with these icons to evaluate how we are working towards these Wellbeing Goals, and to identify areas we need to focus on in the future.

Chair's Message

What a privilege it has been to serve as your Chair these past 12 months.

When I first joined this council, I was the youngest, and one of the most outspoken.

I vowed to bring in change, and wow, what a change!

With the support of my fellow councillors, we've rolled up our sleeves, dug our heels in, and powered through bringing this council into the 21st century. This couldn't have been achieved without my fellow councillors, especially our Finance and Governance Committee, and the hard work of our officers.

We are doing more for our communities and successfully delivering across all our projects, as we continue to grow and expand.

One of the highlights of my term was council agreeing to our new Extra-Curricular School Transport Grants, which will allow every school child in the ALCC area the opportunity to be able to attend at least one extra-curricular trip each year.

> **May our strength, determination and good work continue.**

I'd also like to commend the hard work that has gone on this past year with our efforts around Wales In Bloom, in collaboration with Abertillery Aspiration Group. It was our first year entering, where we came second in our category across the whole of Wales, with many other organisations across the whole ALCC area also winning awards.

With all that being said, it's been an honour and privilege to have stood as Chair this year.



Josh Rawcliffe
Chair of Council
2025-2026

About Us

Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council (ALCC) is comprised of 19 members across 5 wards; Abertillery, Cwmtillery, Aberbeeg, Six Bells and Llanhilleth. These members represent their constituents and make decisions on a range of services and activities to support the local community.

The Council uses a Committee system to delegate responsibilites for certain projects. Full Council meetings are typically held on the last Wednesday each month. Meetings take place in the Council Offices on Mitre Street, Abertillery, and remotely via Zoom.

Community and Town Councils are the grassroots level of local governance in Wales, and there are over 730 of them working to improve the quality of life and environment for citizens in their area.

The other tier of local government in Wales are the Unitary Authorities; for ALCC this is Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. These authorities have a legal duty to provide services over a wider geographical area, including social services, education, planning & more.



Councillors

Cwmtillery Ward


Frankie Baker


Bernard Wall


Ralph Henderson


Mark Lewis


Richard Catlin

Abertillery Ward


Tracey Dyson


Lucy Harmer


Chris Hill


Nick Simmons


Rob Phillips



Six Bells Ward


Steve Bard


Bruno Góes Maciel


Peter Adamson

Aberbeeg Ward


Josh Rawcliffe

Ivor Beynon


Graham White

Llanhilleth Ward


Ben Owen-Jones


Barrie Page


Mike Whatley

Information correct as of March 31st 2026

Councillor email addresses can be found at:
https://abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/councillors

Youth Representatives

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 (Part 7, Chapter 4) allows Community Councils to appoint two Community Youth Representatives aged between 15-26. These representatives should be able to represent those who are under 26 and live, work or receive education in the area. These Representatives are unable to vote, but can participate in meetings and projects.

ALCC appointed its first two Youth Representatives in 2024. This was a successful initiative, and so in November 2025, it appointed Jackson Powell and Riley Overton as its new Youth Reps.

These Youth Reps are given the same training opportunities that Councillors receive, and have completed or are due to complete a number of these courses. They are also assigned their own Council email addresses to receive notices and summons.



"I was able to represent people my age, who are usually not represented on the Council."

"I felt involved in Council discussions and projects, and I now know more about what my local Council does."

- Jackson Powell, Youth Rep (2024-25, 2025-26)

Officers

ALCC currently employs three officers;
Steve Edwards - Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)
Erika Davies - Deputy Clerk
Molly Jones - Deputy Clerk

Contact Us:
01495 217323
clerk@abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk
Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery, NP13 1AE

Budget:	Spent:
£120,000	£119,815

Staff Training

Training courses taken by officers this year include:

- Managing Local Council Elections (SLCC)
- Information Management (One Voice Wales)
- Introduction to Community Engagement (One Voice Wales)
- Organising Safe and Sucessful Community Events (SLCC)
- Action Counters Terrorism Awareness e-learning

Both Deputy Clerks began the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) qualification this year. A Welsh Government bursary covered all costs for this.

All of our staff are offered memberships to the Society of Local Council Clerks to support their professional development. The total cost of these memberships this year was £480.



Budget:	Spent:
£1,500	£344

To view our full Training Plan, including a list of training courses undertaken by our staff, please visit our website: https://abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/policies

Training Plan

Section 67 of The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires community councils to make and publish a plan for training provision for its members.

All Members are offered the opportunity to complete the core training modules shown, as well as Planning, Health & Safety, Equality and Diversity and other courses offered by One Voice Wales. The completion dates for the core modules are shown below:

Budget: £1,000

Spent: £475

	New Councillor Induction	Code of Conduct	Local Government Finance	Local Govt Finance - Advanced	Chairing Skills	The Council Meeting	The Council as an Employer	Understanding the Law	Equality & Diversity
Peter Adamson		Jun-25	Feb-24						
Frankie Baker		Mar-25	Mar-25						
Steve Bard		Mar-24	Aug-23		Jul-23				
Ivor Beynon		Jan-25							
Richard Catlin	Sep-25	Sep-25							
Tracey Dyson	Jul-17	Nov-23	Nov-19		Nov-19		Feb-24		
Lucy Harmer	Jun-24	Jun-24	Nov-25		Jun-25		Mar-26		
Bruno Góes Maciel	Jun-24	Jun-24	Sept-24						
Ralph Henderson		Feb-24							
Chris Hill		Jan-24							
Mark Lewis	Jul-17	Jul-25	Feb-24					Nov-25	
Ben Owen-Jones		Nov-21							
Barrie Page		Nov-21			Feb-23		Feb-23		
Rob Phillips		Nov-21	Nov-19				Mar-23		
Josh Rawcliffe	Oct-22	Nov-22	Nov-22	Aug-23	Aug-23		Nov-23		
Nick Simmons	Jul-17	May-25	Nov-19	Dec-19	Sept-24		Aug-24	Nov-18	
Bernard Wall	Jul-17	Aug-17							
Mike Whatley	Jun-24	Oct-24	Dec-24						Jan-25
Graham White	Jul-17	Aug-17							
Jackson Powell (YR)	Feb-25	May-25							
Riley Overton (YR)									

To view our detailed training plan, please visit:
https://abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/policies/

Committees

Leisure & Tourism Committee

Members: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Steve Bard, Lucy Harmer, Ralph Henderson MBE, Ben Owen-Jones, Barrie Page, Josh Rawcliffe.

Supports community cohesion and strengthening links with people and communities from elsewhere through the provision of, and support for, public events, projects and initiatives.

Planning, Commerce & Environment (PlaCE) Committee

Members: Barrie Page (Chair), Peter Adamson, Richard Catlin, Ralph Henderson MBE, Chris Hill, Mark Lewis, Rob Phillips, Nick Simmons, Josh Rawcliffe.

Supports responsible development and maintenance of the environment and of conditions favourable to retail, commercial and business activities in the area, through the provision of, and support for, events, projects and initiatives.

Finance Committee

Members: Steve Bard (Chair), Frankie Baker, Bruno Góes Maciel, Nick Simmons, Lucy Harmer, Mike Whatley.

Monitors, reviews and assists in the effective financial management and overall governance of the Council.

Community Empowerment Committee

Members: Barrie Page (Chair), Peter Adamson, Tracey Dyson, Ben Owen-Jones, Josh Rawcliffe, Lucy Harmer, Bruno Góes Maciel.

Works to combat alienation and social isolation among young people, to support them to engage constructively and influence decisions within their community.

Human Resources Committee

Members: Josh Rawcliffe (Chair), Lucy Harmer (Vice Chair), Tracey Dyson, Rob Phillips, Nick Simmons.

Monitors and reviews the performance of the Council's officers and assists them to ensure the effective management of the Council's business.

Other Memberships:

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Scrutiny Committee: Josh Rawcliffe.

Abertillery and District Twinning Association: Nick Simmons, Rob Phillips.

Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum: Peter Adamson, Barrie Page.

Blaenau Gwent Armed Forces Steering Group: Josh Rawcliffe

Joint Committee of Local Councils in Blaenau Gwent: Josh Rawcliffe, Nick Simmons, Peter Adamson, Bruno Góes Maciel, Steve Edwards (Clerk).

Accounts

Our annual returns, financial statements, budget and audit opinions can be found on our website: https://abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/finances

Funding

This year, Council had a budget of **£464,023**. Council requested that **£434,023** of this be funded by precept. This funding comes directly from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, who raise it via council tax. The rest of the budget is funded by previous years underspend.

Relationship with BGCBC

We work closely with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, including participating in the Joint Committee of Local Councils in Blaenau Gwent. We do not currently hold any formal charters with BGCBC, nor do we have any asset or service transfers pending.

Complaints

No complaints were received in the 2025-26 financial year.

Reports

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires local Council authorities in Wales to publish an Annual Report detailing the Council's priorities, activities and achievements from the year. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires local Council authorities in Wales to publish an annual report detailing its actions towards the five wellbeing goals. This joint report has been produced by Molly Jones, Deputy Clerk.

Our Biodiversity and other Annual/Wellbeing Reports can be found on our website:

https://abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/reports

Grant Funding

Budget: £17,000
Awarded: £16,999

Council Grants

Examples of Grants Awarded:

- Abertillery Ladies Darts - £500 towards a family darts day.
- Six Bells Tenants & Residents Association - £1,766 towards an event commemorating the 65th anniversary of the Six Bells Miners' Disaster.
- Abertillery 1st Scouts Group - £1,330 for tools and supplies for an outdoor space.
- Llanhilleth Miner's Institute - £1,000 towards a Christmas party and presents for children.
- Piranhas Swimming Club - £1,000 for new equipment and training for coaches.







Ward Grants

Budget: £3,800
Awarded: £1,600

These smaller grants were awarded for the benefit of each community represented by the Council.

Cwmtillery Ward:

- Roseheyworth PTFA - £200 for supplies to start an arts and crafts club.
- Cwmtillery Community Hall - £200 towards the Little Ducklings children's group.
- Abertillery Excelsiors - £600 towards building a multi-use community space.

Llanhilleth Ward

- Llanhilleth Miner's Institute - £600 to fund 24 emergency food hampers.

Solar Farm Grants

Each year, we receive funding from Hafod-Y-Dafal Solar Farm to award as community grants. This year, we had £35,000 to allocate. The following grants were awarded:

- £16,500 to Abertillery Town Cricket Club towards the restoration of cricket facilities at Abertillery Park.
- £5,500 to The Mitre Live Music Venue towards the purchase of a PA system.
- £13,000 to Brynithel RFC for a disabled access ramp and towards an outdoor seating area.



Progress is being made at Abertillery Town Cricket Club, and The Mitre has purchased their new PA system.

Progress from Last Year:

Here's how our projects funded by the 2024 Solar Farm Grants have been progressing:

- Friends of Blaenau Gwent Village & Roseheyworth Park - play equipment has been installed at Roseheyworth Park.
- St. Michael's Church - planning is underway to refurbish the building, including a new heating system funded by the grant.
- Abertillery Learning Community - new gates and rugby posts have been installed on the rugby pitch.
- Abertillery Town Band - instruments have been refurbished for the Academy.



PlaCE Committee

Town in Bloom

Our Town in Bloom project aims to enhance the natural beauty of our area, and to increase biodiversity, with planters and hanging baskets throughout the area.

We contract Tillery Action For You (TAFY) to undertake the planting and watering. They work closely with volunteers and the local community. We also offer an allowance of £75 per tub for community groups or residents to look after them, such as the Brynithel Action Group and the Ebbw Fach Community Group.







Budget: £19,000
Spent: £13,565

Wales in Bloom

In our first year entering, we received Silver Gilt in the 'Town' category of Wales in Bloom. Our area saw many other successes in categories including 'It's Your Neighbourhood', hotels, and schools.

Cllr Ralph Henderson MBE was also recognised as a Wales in Bloom Community Champion – of which four were selected across Wales.

This project was made possible by the work of many volunteers, community groups, and partner organisations. It was led by the Abertillery Aspiration Group.





Budget: £750
Spent: £842







Bridges Car Scheme

We continued our work with Bridges Community Car Scheme this year.

We granted an additional £1,000 to the scheme and increased the subsidy from 25% to 50%. Between April 2025 and March 2026, this subsidy saved passengers a total of £508.

The scheme offers friendly, flexible transport for people who need support travelling to appointments, shops or social activities.

Budget: £2,500
Spent: £1,000

Ffrindiau Tyleri

We provided grant funding to local community group Ffrindiau Tyleri, supporting four events in Abertillery town centre: Springfest, Aberfest, Scare at Jubilee Square and Winterfest.





Budget: £10,000
Spent: £8,842

Defibrillators

We installed a defibrillator at Shore MMA in Llanhilleth, and purchased one to be installed at the Mount Pleasant Inn, in Brynithel.

We also adopted a defibrillator at Bethany Baptist Church. We provided a new battery and new pads, and updated its details on The Circuit. We are currently responsible for maintaining 15 24/7 accessible defibrillators.

Budget: £5,000
Spent: £4,236



Allotments

It is the Council's duty to provide sufficient allotments according to demand. Therefore, ALCC supports 6 allotments in the area: Gelli Crug, Adam Street, Bishops Street, Gwastod, Brynithel and Pant-Y-Pwden. Work is being undertaken to review the leases of these allotments.

Budget: £800
Spent: £654

Adam Street Apiary

We provided funding for Adam Street Allotment to replace their apiary. This project was completed in April 2025, and the Allotment has since received excellent results in their Environmental Health and Trading Standard inspections.

Budget: £5,000
Spent: £4,074



Human Resources Committee

This year, the HR Committee:

- Established a list of policies which the Council should seek to adopt by the end of 2026.
- Established a sub-committee to handle a disciplinary matter.
- Performed a staffing review.
- Conducted and approved staff appraisals.

Finance & Governance Committee

This year, the Finance & Governance Committee:

- Reviewed core documents and policies, such as the Financial Risk Register and Financial Regulations.
- Completed monthly bank reconciliations.
- Continued working on the Finance and Governance Toolkit, including conducting consultation on the Council's new mission statement.
- Scrutinised committee budgets for 2026-27.
- Made recommendations which Council agreed to implement, including a new grants policy and a requirement for members to undertake Code of Conduct training every 5 years.

Leisure & Tourism Committee

Summer Cinema

We organise free showings of films throughout the six-week Summer holiday, held four times a week at The Met in Abertillery.

We offer relaxed screenings (quieter and lighter), and sessions with Gwent Youth Service and Off The Streets. We also fund a coach from Swffryd, Brynithel and Llanhilleth.

The programme had low attendance this year, and will be reduced to three showings a week next year.

Budget: £10,000
Spent: £6,636

Concerts

We host a Christmas carol concert and a St. David's Day concert, in St. Michael's Church, Abertillery, with local performers.

These events raise money for the Chair's nominated charity. This year, our carol concert raised £1,011 and our St. David's Day concert raised £467.70.

We received a Welsh Government Grant from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council which allowed us to offer free welshcakes and hot drinks at the St. David's Day concert. This also funded decorations and a performance by Gwenan Dickenson, a local harpist.

Budget: £750
Spent: £295



War Memorial

We are responsible for maintaining the Abertillery War Memorial. We contract Green Fingers to maintain the flowerbeds, cut the grass and clean the paths.

In July 2025, we had the railings and gate sandblasted and repainted.

Budget: £8,500
Spent: £9,060



Christmas Lights

Our central contract provides Christmas lights in Abertillery and Six Bells. We also award the following grants for community groups to provide lights in their areas:

- Llanhilleth Tenants & Residents Association - £3,000
- Friends of Blaenau Gwent Village and Roseheyworth Park - £1,500
- Brynithel Community Centre - £1,500
- Pentref Tyleri (Cwmtillery) - £1,500
- Bournville Community Centre - £1,500
- Aberbeeg Community Centre - £1,500
- Swffryd Community Centre - £1,500

Budget: £51,750
Spent: £39,371

This includes our central contract, grants, electricity and maintenance costs.



Swffryd



Llanhilleth

Loneliness Project

We provide funding for groups which encourage community engagement and help combat isolation in our communities. This year, funding was awarded to four different organisations:

- Six Bells Tennis Club - £1,600 for a local pensioner's group.
- Friends of Bethany - £250 for a Mother's Day event.
- Llanhilleth Institute - £1,200 to fund live musicians for 12 of their monthly luncheon clubs.
- Abertillery Aspiration Group/St. Michael's Church - £4,000 to provide a warm and secure meeting place for the Aspirations Legends Club.



New cabin at St. Michael's Church



October 2025 - Luncheon Club

Budget: £7,500
Spent: £7,050

Party in the Park

Our annual Party in the Park is a free community event providing entertainment for all ages. It is hosted at Abertillery Blaenau Gwent RFC, at Abertillery Park.

This year involved a climbing wall, animal encounters, Circus of Positivity, live music and more.

Pitch fees raised £410 for the Chair's nominated charities.

Budget: £15,000
Spent: £11,808





Annual Grants

We awarded the following annual grants this year:

- £2,000 to Zion Miner's Chapel.
- £2,000 to Abertillery Rock & Blues Festival.
- £1,740 to Six Bells Park Tennis Club towards their toilet running costs.
- £2,000 to Abertillery Blaenau Gwent RFC for security at Aber Rocks.
- £4,000 to Off The Streets to host a Llanhilleth Summer Fete.

Viaduct Run - Ras Draphont





Budget: £6,500
Spent: £5,642



We hosted our third annual Viaduct Run - Ras Draphont this year, in partnership with Islwyn Running Club.

This event features a 5k run through Swffryd, a free family fun-run and an awards ceremony with entertainment & refreshments at Swffryd Community Centre.

£440 was raised in entry fees. This was donated to Sofrydd Primary School.

Six Bells Park Centenary






We held a two-day celebration for the 100th Anniversary of Six Bells Park.

On May 9th, we hosted pupils from the Abertillery Learning Community Six Bells Campus and other special guests, including Brigadier Robert Aitken CBE His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Gwent and Idwal Walters and his family. Idwal is the great-grandson of David Walters, who originally opened Six Bells Park in 1925.

Idwal and his granddaughter Emily performed a ceremonial gate-opening with the original key used to open the gates to Six Bells Park on April 25th 1925, by Councillor David Walters.

Speeches were received, then pupils from the ALC Six Bells Campus performed songs. They also received commemorative medals, and partook in bowls, tennis and games in the park.

On May 10th, we held a free community event at the park. This included live music, tennis matches, food vans, inflatables, animal encounters and local stallholders.

Budget: £10,000
Spent: £9,554





Remembrance Events

Our Chair laid a wreath at the Abertillery War Memorial during the Remembrance Sunday service.

Representatives from Council also laid wreathes at Llanhilleth War Memorial, Aberbeeg, Swffryd Community Centre, Bournville Community Centre and Blaenau Gwent Church.

Members also laid wreaths at events to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE & VJ Day.

Budget: £300
Spent: £398

Community Empowerment Committee

Youth Engagement

Blaenau Gwent Youth Service

We provided funding to BGYS for their Abertillery Detached Team, who focus on engaging with young people and 'meeting them where they are'.

Budget: £60,000
Spent: £60,000







Between April 2025 and March 2026, the team engaged with 1,265 young people. There were also 346 anonymous contacts, where the team met young people on the streets.

Their provisions include a van with a kitchen and gaming space, informative sessions on issues like anti-social behaviour, open-access football and more. Early indicators from Gwent Police have shown a decrease in reported ASB in targeted areas.







Off The Streets

We also provided funding to Off The Streets, who engaged with 4,689 young people in the following areas this year:

- Swffryd: 1,705
- Llanhilleth: 1,568
- Brynithel: 1,147
- Trips/One-Off Events: 269

Budget: £60,000
Spent: £60,000

Their provisions include physical activities and sports, arts and crafts, games, workshops for skills like cooking, volunteering opportunities, and more. They partner with other organisations like Ffin Dance, The Hold-Up and Llanhilleth Insitute.

> **"I love Off The Streets and everything they do for not just my daughter but our community. They provide so much for the local kids and work hard to make sure everything is fair for everybody." - Local Parent**

Newsletters

We publish a quarterly newsletter with information about upcoming events and updates on the council's activities.

These are posted on our website, social media and in noticeboards and shops throughout the area.



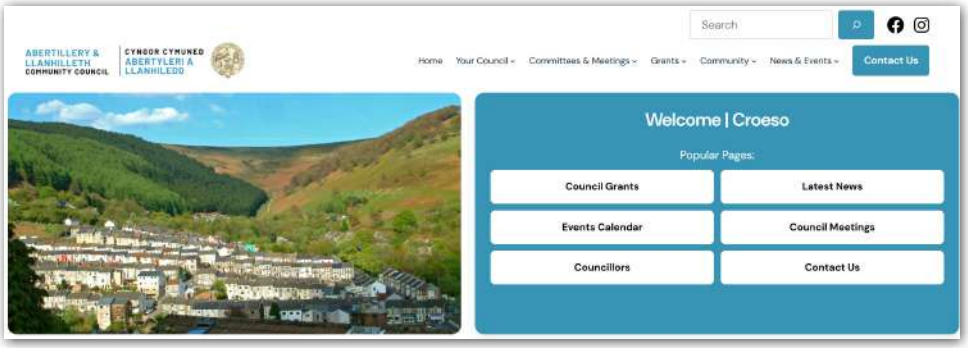
Website

Last year, we contracted Her Web Solutions to build a new Council website. This was due to technical issues with the old website. Our new site launched in January 2026.

The new site has a strong focus on accessibility and usability on all devices. It is WCAG2.2 compliant.

New features on the site include an events calendar which can connect to Google, Apple and Outlook, an interactive defibrillator map, and a search function.

Her Web Solutions is a Cardiff-based company with a focus on sustainability. They work remotely to reduce emissions, and our website is hosted via Krystal, a B Corp powered by 100% renewable energy.



Budget: £5,000
Spent: £5,000

Councillor Surgeries

We participated in two surgeries in partnership with councillors from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and officers from Gwent Police this year.

These surgeries are an opportunity for residents to raise concerns, ask questions, and find out more about what we do. The Chair of our Committee Empowerment Committee attended one in Cwmtillery and one in Brynithel this year, and plans are in place to attend more next year.

Other Achievements

Chair's Charity

Each year, our Chair chooses local not-for-profit groups to raise money for throughout the year. This year, the following Chair's Charity donations were made:

- £1,076.14 to The Mitre Live Music Venue
- £1,076.13 to Abertillery Youth Drama and Musical Society

Other Actions

- We met with lots of organisations this year, including Cartrefi Hydrogen Homes, Volunteering Matters, and Gwent Police.
- We also met with Dave Leech, Strategic Director for Adults & Communities for Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent Councils and Deputy Chief Executive for Torfaen Council, to discuss the Blaenau Gwent Deal.
- Council was also involved in discussions for developing the 'Blueprint for Growth', which is being drafted for Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.
- We have hosted meetings of the Abertillery Learning Community student Senedd.
- Our offices have been used by Ffrindiau Tyleri, Abertillery Lions, Gwent Drug & Alcohol Service, Aspire2Be (Employability Coaching) and a local Knit 'n' Natter group, free of charge.
- We took on the license for the care of the newly renovated Abertillery Underpass Mural/Mosaic, and contracted TAFY to undertake this.
- We began awarding Extra-Curricular School Transport Grants to local schools, enabling more children to attend extra-curricular trips by lowering their costs.



Plans for 2026-2027

Leisure & Tourism Committee

2025-2026 Budget: £123,040 | 2026-2027 Budget: £96,200

- To host Blaenau Gwent's first bilingual festival celebrating Welsh language and culture.
- To continue improving our annual events.
- To investigate replacing the paving inside the Abertillery War Memorial.
- To continue providing Christmas lights.
- To host a day trip as part of the Loneliness Project.

Planning, Commerce & Environment Committee

2025-2026 Budget: £43,050 | 2026-2027 Budget: £42,567

- To provide another 2 defibrillators for the community.
- To enter the Wales in Bloom 2026 contest.
- To continue providing floral displays as part of the Town in Bloom project.
- To keep supporting the Bridges Car Scheme.

Community Empowerment Committee

2025-2026 Budget: £136,000 | 2026-2027 Budget: £140,000

- To continue funding vital youth work in the area.
- To increase the council's community engagement.
- To begin conducting surveys to help inform future budgets and projects.

Other Plans

- For both Deputy Clerks to complete the CiLCA qualification.
- To appoint two new Youth Representatives.
- To continue improving the governance of the Council.
- To continue working alongside local groups and organisations, such as Gwent Police, Blaenau Gwent Integrated Wellbeing Network and the Abertillery Learning Community.
- To implement a new Grants Policy.

Overall Budget 2025-2026: £464,023

Overall Budget 2026-2027: £503,400

Precept 2025-2026: £434,023

Precept 2026-2027: £445,611

Funding

A precept request of £445,611 has been submitted for the 2026-27 financial year. The rest of the budget is funded by previous years underspend.

To view our detailed budget, please visit: https://abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/finances

Meeting the Wellbeing Goals



A Globally Responsible Wales

- We are committed to recycling at our offices and events.
- We litter pick our events and our members partake in litter picking days.
- We have a paperless policy and single-use plastic policy to reduce waste.
- Our PlaCE Committee reviews planning applications and raises sustainability concerns with BGCBC when applicable.

A Prosperous Wales

- We promote the Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council area via social media, events, our website, newsletters and more.
- We work in partnership with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and participate in regional meetings.
- We support local groups and provide funding by way of grants.



A Resilient Wales

- We support groups looking after local nature spots with grant funding.
- We support and partake in litter picking events.
- We put biodiversity at the forefront of all of our activities and actions.



A Healthier Wales

- We share information on our social media channels to raise awareness of health and wellbeing groups.
- We support and fund local community groups that look after health and wellbeing.
- We provide 24/7 accessible defibrillators throughout the area
- We host a running event to promote involvement in sports.



A More Equal Wales

- We provide a structured training schedule for staff and Councillors.
- We implement an Equality and Diversity Policy.
- We have Youth Representatives to give young people in the community a voice.
- We support a wide variety of groups and organisations.



A Wales of Cohesive Communities

- We nurture working partnerships to benefit the local community.
- We allow the use of the Council Chamber for community groups, at no cost.
- We partner with a local school's Student Senedd programme.
- Our initiatives focus on bringing the community together.



A Wales of Vibrant Culture and a Thriving Welsh Language

- We have a Welsh Language Policy.
- We provide documents in the Welsh language where appropriate and if requested.
- We host an annual St. David's Day concert featuring performances in Welsh.