MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 6 NOVEMBER 2026 at 10:01AM in the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery

PRESENT:

Councillors: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Frankie Baker (via video-link), Lucy Harmer, Chris Hill (via video-link), Josh Rawcliffe (via video-link), Ralph Henderson MBE, Barrie Page and Ben-Owen Jones (via video-link).

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

Absent: Steve Bard

45. Apologies for absence

Steve Bard

Ben Owen-Jones Joined the meeting at 10:06

46. Declarations of interest or dispensations

Barrie Page for item 5 Grants – Llanhilleth Tenants and Residents Association Christmas Lighting Grant. He is the treasurer.

47. Minutes – 2 October 2026

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

48. Public Questions (standing order 3d)

None.

49. Grants

The Committee **RESOLVED** the awarding of the following grants.

Loneliness Grant: - £5,182 left in the budget.

- Six Bells Regeneration - £3000 towards providing equipment for an outdoor area for a community space (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19).
- Six Bells Over 50s Club - £500 to fund monthly trips between April and September (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19).

This will leave £1,682 remaining for Loneliness Grants

Christmas Lighting Grant:

- Swffryd Community Centre - £1345.03 towards the costs of replacing the Christmas tree and updating Christmas lighting (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19).

  Barrie Page left the meeting (he remained in the room)

- Llanhilleth Tenants and Residents Association - £121.50 to purchase 50 lanterns for children attending Community Carol Service. (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19).

  Barrie Page returned to the meeting.

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50. Budget Setting – 2027/2028

This was the second budget setting meeting for the Committee. After discussion around current and predicted spending, the following budget proposals have been allocated for 2027/28. The Committee **RESOLVED** the following budget lines to be recommended to the Finance and Governance Committee for inclusion in the Councils overall budget.

Chris Hill left the meeting at 11:08 during the budget discussions.

All figures are exclusive of VAT.

- Christmas Lights Central Contract: £31,750
- Christmas Lights Maintenance: £800
- Christmas Lights Lamppost Testing: £1000. Confirmation require from BGCBC if testing still required.
- Christmas Lights Electricity: £1,000
- Christmas Lighting Grants: £5,000
- Remembrance Events: £300
- Abertillery War Memorial – Development: £8,000. There was £4,000 assigned in the 2026/2027 budget which remains unspent.
- Abertillery War Memorial – Grounds: £3,500
- Loneliness Project: £7,000
- Viaduct Run: £6,000
- Summer Cinema: £7,250 A discussion was had about value for money as this year's costs worked out at £16.10 per attendance.
- Party in the Park: £15,000
- Off the Streets Summer Fete: £4,000
- Musical Concerts: £650
- Six Bells Park Bilingual Event: £4,000 The Council would not hold the event. The Local Tenants and Residents Association to be asked if they would run an event funded by Council.
- Brynithel Rugby Club Event: £3000. A check would be made to see if the Rugby Club will run a similar event in 2027.
- Blue Plaques £2000. This is a new budget line
- Job Fair: £0. Confirmation required from Karen Williams (Town Centre Manager) if the job fair could again be part of the beach party.
- Halloween (Aber-Scarey): £3,000
- Winterfest: £7,000
- Late Night Christmas Market £5,000
- Town Centre Market: £5000. A new budget line.

A discussion was also had about funding for the renovation of the disused Vivian Street Playground. The committee did not agree any budget as it was felt this would be a decision for the new Council in May 2027. It may also be an ideal joint project with BGCBC as part of "The Deal"

Ben Owen-Jones left the meeting at 11:44 am

51. Date of Next Meeting

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As needed.

The meeting ended at 11:45 am

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards, Clerk

Signed as a correct record by the Chair……

Dated ……...

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