MEETING OF THE PLANNING, COMMERCE AND ENVIRONMENT (PlaCE) COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 29 OCTOBER 2026 AT 6:33 PM at the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.

PRESENT

Councillors: Barrie Page (Chair), Peter Adamson(non-voting) Richard Catlin, Lucy Harmer, Ralph Henderson (MBE),Chris Hill (via video link), Nick Simmons and Rob Phillips

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk)

Absent: Josh Rawcliffe and Mark Lewis

44. Apologies for Absence

No apologies were noted at the meeting but Josh Rawcliffe had sent his apologies prior to the meeting.

45. Declarations of Interest or Dispensations

None

46. Minutes – 24 September 2026

The Committee **RESOLVED** confirm the minutes as a true and correct record.

47. Public Questions

There were no public questions.

48. Planning

No Planning items. The Clerk gave an update on the proposed installation of a Solar Powered Defib Unit at St Illtyds. BGCBC had put forward a number of objections/issues on the units location. The Clerk is in dialog with them to sort it out which now includes a site visit. The Committee asked for this to be progressed to Dave Leach if progress of the siting of the unit is further delayed.

49. Walking Routes Working Group

Walking Trails Working Group: Rob Phillips gave an update.

A number of the Hub sites already had Notice Boards. A Notice Board would be required for the Llanhilleth Station/Institute area.

A mock-up of a walking leaflet that had three walking routes was presented to the Committee. There is an existing Tyelri Trails leaflet produced by Blaenau Gwent county Borough Council.

There was agreement that a walking trail to visit the murals within the Town Centre could be created, estimated time for the walk would be one hour.

There was discussions about various other components such as QR codes, metal plaques so rubbings can be done on trails and digital information.

50. Town in Bloom

There was some concern about the sate of the Tubs in the Swffryd area. There is going to be a full audit of tubs 5th November, with TAFY. ”

51. Budget Proposals 2027-2028

DRAFT

The “In Bloom budget lines to merged into one with the exception of the Community Involvement budget line.

Town In Bloom Contract: Reduced to £11,200. It is expected that the number of tubs will be reduced but TAFY would take on watering some of the Wales in Bloom containers.

Town In Bloom Maintenance: This is increased by a substantial amount to £10,000 cover the potential costs of replacing all the Tubs. Once the Audit has been conducted than we should have a clear idea of the actual costs.

Wales in Bloom: This has increased to cover off the costs of the awards evening and entrance fees which were covered in 2026 by Clerks delegated spending. Budget requested £12,000

Town in Bloom Community Involvement: Remain the same £3,000.

Allotments: Remains at £800, Council have a contract until 2028 to lease Adam Street.

Defibrillators Provision: Reduce from £3,800 to £2,000, one new defib unit per year.

Defibrillators Maintenance: Reduce from £1,300 to £1,000 as spending is lower than expected this year.

Subway Mural Maintenance: Stays the same at £1,600

Community Transport: Reduce from £1,500 to £1,000. The Clerk stated that the scheme was suffering from a lack of volunteer drivers.

NEW: Walking Group: £2,500 to cover costs of notice board in Llanhilleth area, printing/design of walking leaflets and a Walking Festival.

NEW: Signage and Heritage signs: Ralph Henderson proposed putting up signs on the entrances to the Community area celebrating the success of Gold award winners in Wales in Bloom. He was already in discussions with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. There also needs to be consideration for more heritage signage throughout our area. A placeholder budget of £10,400 was suggested, this can be refined later as actual costs and workability is confirmed.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend the budget proposals for 2027/2028.

Ralph Henderson mentioned Blue Plaques , but this is for the Leisure and Tourism Committee.

It was confirmed that the Vivian Street Playground is being dealt with by Leisure and Tourism Committee

52. Date of Next Meeting

As required

The meeting ended at 7:36 pm

These minutes were produced by Steve Edwards (Clerk).

Signed as a correct record by the Chair:……

Dated:……