

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL OF ABERTILLERY AND
LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL (ALCC) HELD ON
24 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.00pm
virtually and in the Council Chamber at Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Gary Oakley (Chair); Nick Simmons (Vice Chair); Peter Adamson; Mark Lewis; Perry Morgan; Barrie Page; Rob Phillips; Allen Rees; Bernard Wall; Graham White.

Officers: David Cartwright (Clerk).

BY VIDEO LINK

Councillors: Jaqueline Ledbury; Beverley Lucas; Ben Owen-Jones.

137. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND WELCOMES

Apologies were received from Michaela Assiratti, Tracey Dyson, Glyn Smith and Mihangel ap Williams.

138. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Allen Rees declared a personal interest with regards to Item 141 as he is a member of Llanhilleth Tenants and Residents Association through residence.

Cllr. Barrie Page declared a personal interest with regards to Item 141 as he is a member of Llanhilleth Tenants and Residents Association through residence.

Cllr. Rob Phillips declared a personal interest with regards to Item 141 as he is an honorary member of Abertillery & Blaina Rotary Club.

Cllr. Gary Oakley declared a personal interest with regards to Item 141 as he is a member of Abertillery & Blaina Rotary Club.

139. MINUTES – 27 OCTOBER 2021 AND 3 NOVEMBER 2021

Cllr. Graham White complained that the nature of his exchange with the Chair under Item 120 of the meeting of 27 October 2021 had not been recorded correctly in the minutes, but offered no amendment. Council **RESOLVED** to accept Cllr White's objection and to confirm the minutes as a correct record with Cllr. White's objection duly recorded.

Cllr. Allen Rees noted that he had been present at the Extraordinary Council Meeting of 3 November 2021. Council **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes as a correct record subject to Cllr. Rees's attendance being recorded.

Cllr Bernard Wall asked why a letter submitted by the trade union Unison on behalf of the Council's former clerk Mr Graham Bartlett had not been read out at the Extraordinary Council Meeting of 3 November 2021. The Chair answered that he had stated at the start of the Extraordinary Council Meeting that he would not allow speeches from Councillors giving their version of what did, or did not, happen in 2014. He had, therefore, decided that it would not have been appropriate to read out the letter from Unison which largely repeated evidence from 2014 that Mr Bartlett had previously given to Audit Wales. This had been communicated to Unison before the meeting and the letter was subsequently withdrawn.

140. STATEMENT FROM CHAIR

Cllr Gary Oakley (Chair) noted that he had commented during the Extraordinary Council Meeting of 3 November 2021 that Cllr. Perry Morgan should have known that the Council was no longer a member of One Voice Wales as he had attended the

Council meeting at which it had been decided not to renew membership. Cllr. Morgan had not pursued the matter further during the meeting of 3 November 2021 but had “very courteously” pointed out to the Chair in private that he had not, in fact, been present at the Council meeting in question. The Chair offered an unreserved apology for his comment and any distress caused.

141. COUNCIL GRANTS

Gary Oakley (Chair) left the meeting at 7.26pm before discussion of a grant application submitted by Abertillery & Blaina Rotary Club. Nick Simmons (Vice Chair) took the chair.

Council **RESOLVED** that officers should request more information regarding whether the Rotary Club of Rhondda, or any organisation in the Pontypridd area, had been approached for funding and that consideration of the application submitted by Abertillery & Blaina Rotary Club be deferred to a future meeting.

Gary Oakley returned to the meeting at 7.35pm and resumed the chair.

Council **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £271 to Tenovus Cancer Care.

Council **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £500 to Abertillery Ladies Orpheus Choir.

Council noted that Llanhilleth Tenants and Residents Association had requested a grant in excess of the usual limit of £500. Council **RESOLVED** to defer consideration of the grant application and to invite the Chair of Llanhilleth TRA to a future Council meeting.

Cllr. Perry Morgan left the meeting at 7.55pm.

Council **RESOLVED** not to support a request from Brynmawr Rotary Club for “a financial donation.”

142. ADOPT-A-KIOSK

The Clerk reported that a telephone kiosk in Cwmtillery had passed into the Council's ownership under BT's Adopt-a-Kiosk scheme. Cllr Allen Rees stated that the Council would now begin discussions about future use of the kiosk with Pentref Tyleri.

143. WAR MEMORIAL UPLIGHTERS

Cllr Bev Lucas reported that the Leisure and Tourism Committee had considered three tenders to provide replacement uplighters for the Abertillery War Memorial. The tender from the preferred bidder would take spending on War Memorial Maintenance above the planned budget for 2021-22. Council **RESOLVED** to allocate an additional £690 to the appropriate budget line.

144. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Council **RESOLVED** to exclude the Press and Public by virtue of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 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.

145. AUDIT WALES REPORT FOR 2015-15

The Clerk informed Council that the remainder of the meeting would involve discussion of legal advice that was protected by both legal advice privilege and litigation privilege.

Full minutes of this agenda item are contained in Confidential Annex FC1-2021

Cllr. Allen Rees left the meeting at 9pm.

Council **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 3x to enable the meeting to continue.

Council **RESOLVED** to institute protective proceedings to seek to recover overpayments and unauthorised payments made to its former clerk and former secretary and to authorise the payment of the required court fees and legal costs.

- 146.** The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed to be 24 December 2021 at 7.00pm.

The meeting ended at 9.12pm.

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

Minutes produced by David Cartwright, Clerk.

DRAFT

Zero Carbon Britain

Carbon Literacy for Local Authorities



Centre for Alternative Technology
Canolfan y Dechnoleg Amgen

Explore climate solutions, create an action plan for you and your work, and gain Carbon Literate certification.

Specifically developed for those working in local authorities, this online course will cover the science of climate change, local and global impacts and how these will affect the work and duties of local authorities. Drawing on our Zero Carbon Britain research, we'll look at low carbon objectives in the local authority sector and create an action plan to influence others. Your output from this course will be evaluated by the Carbon Literacy Project in order for you to be certified as Carbon Literate.

What is Carbon Literacy?

The Carbon Literacy Project describes it as 'An awareness of the carbon costs and impacts of everyday activities and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis.'

Key information

- Duration: two morning sessions
- Upcoming dates: Thursday 9 – Friday 10 December 2021, 9:30 – 13:00 both days
- There is up to two additional hours of independent work for accreditation
- Fees: £140
- Includes: tuition, question and answer sessions, online course materials, Carbon Literacy Project accreditation

What you will learn

CAT's Zero Carbon Britain project offers the hard data and confidence required for visualising a future where we have risen to the demands of climate science. It helps to reduce fear and misunderstandings and open new, positive, solutions-focused conversations.

This Carbon Literacy Project accredited online course will explore the solutions offered by the Zero Carbon Britain end point vision. Drawing on case studies and real life examples, we'll look at practical steps to reach net zero from a Local Authority perspective.

During the course you'll commit to two carbon reducing actions; one as an individual and one which will influence a group of individuals. We encourage these to be work-based actions in order to support low carbon culture change within councils. These actions will be evaluated by the Carbon Literacy Project in order for you to be certified as Carbon Literate, enabling you to go on to train others in your sector or area of work.

This online training is suitable for all roles within a Local Authority, including elected members, officers and leaders. Across the day there will be timetabled discussion and reflection sessions, Q&As, networking and offline breaks to keep the online format refreshing and engaging.

Recommendations of Solar Farm Working Group 8 December 2021

Abertillery Bowls Club

Richard Cook, Secretary and Development Officer, Abertillery Bowls Club, attended the meeting. He confirmed that the proposed projects (irrigation system; improved access for disabled people) are not dependent on the completion of other work (installation of new ditch channels and secure sports fencing), the start of which was delayed by Covid-19 restrictions in 2021. However, it would be of great benefit in terms of project planning to complete the installation of a new irrigation system and improved access for disabled people before the other work.

In order to complete all the planned improvements this year, work on the irrigation system would need to begin in late February/early March 2022.

The Working Group noted the club's recognised success in inter-generational work and its progressive plans for the inclusion of disabled bowlers of all ages.

The Group also noted the urgency of tackling the mining bees infestation which has now become chronic and threatens to halve the times when the rink is available.

The Working Group recommended that a grant of £24,050.53 should be awarded.

Note: The Council meeting of 27 October 2022 resolved to amend the Solar Farm Grant criteria to permit applications from groups that have not received a Solar Farm Grant within the last two years. Abertillery Bowls Club received a Solar Farm Grant in October 2019. This was within the last two annual award cycles.

However, that award was more than two *calendar* years ago and the Working Group was also of the opinion that the urgency of dealing with the mining bee infestation met the principle of 'exceptional circumstances' allowed for in the Solar Farm Grant criteria.

Abertillery Workmen's Welfare Institute

No representative from the Stute was available to attend the meeting but the Working Group appreciated the Stute's re-submission of a clearer and more informative application.

The Working Group recognised the clear cultural and community benefit aims of the Stute and its foundation on volunteering principles.

The Working Group recommended that the balance of the available Solar Farm grant funding (£10,949.47) should be awarded.

Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council (ALCC)

Solar Farm Grant 2021 – Application

(see criteria and process attached before applying)

Name and Address of your group or organisation:

Abertillery Bowls Club Ltd
97 Gladstone Street
Abertillery
NP13 1NE

Contact name: **Richard Cook**

Role in group: **Secretary & Development Officer**

Telephone number: **07895 654 692**

Email: **aberbowls@gmail.com**

What is the name of your project?

Bowling Green Irrigation and disabled access improvements

What are the aims of the project?

Project Aims - Installation of an automatic pop up irrigation system:

- Improve the bowling green surface
- Prevent 'Mining Bees' activity and associated damage to the bowling surface and cutting machinery. Mining Bees thrive in dry sand based surfaces, during a six week period our bowling green is unplayable. 'Volcanic holes' damage covers approximately 90% of the playing surface and is a daily problem. This lead to six games being cancelled during 2021 season. (Photo evidence and video attached).
- Ensures the bowling green surface is covered evenly and effectively.
- Reducing the enormous volunteer hours associated with watering green by hand. This takes 4 hours per day during dry periods.
- The water can be applied in your absence in the early hours of the morning, reducing water wastage through evaporation.

- Without a watering system in place we risk losing the green and with it the bowling club, its heritage and the important role it plays in the local community.

Project Aims – Disabled Access improvements:

- The investment will help unlock current barriers to participation for players that are less mobile or have a disability.
- Creation of an inclusive environment and wheelchair friendly facility (over 20% of the population has a disability - 2001 census)
- Help retention of players by creating a safe environment with no access barriers (no steps and level paths)

How will your project benefit the Abertillery and Llanhilleth area or its residents?

The project will see an improvement to the bowling surface, allowing increased hours of play and prevent games being postponed.

Bowls is unique, unlike most sports it can be played by all ages (unique intergenerational links in the community) abilities and disabilities.

Abertillery Bowling Club run six sides at Abertillery Park including Mens, Ladies and Junior teams. Disabled access improvements will also allow the introduction of a disabled bowling hub in 2022.

Abertillery Bowling Club has created the best junior bowls structure in Wales and is widely regarded as a leading club in the UK for Junior Bowls development (Bowls International Magazine). Our KidsBowls project encourages over 1200 children to participate in free coaching events each year!

Approximate number of beneficiaries

1300 Adults and Children

What will be delivered as a result of the Solar Farm Grant?

- Installation of irrigation system to bowling green
- Disabled access improvements to the bowling green area, including paths.

Project costs:

A. Project costs met by your group	Amount (inc. VAT)
Construction of a Secure Storage Facility	£ 5,900.00
Power supply to Bowling Green area	£ 3,800.00
	£
Sub Total	£ 9,700.00
B. Funding being provided by other organisations	Amount (inc.VAT)
Sport Wales - Installation of new Ditch Channels	£ 14,035.00
Comic Relief Community Fund – Secure Sports Fencing	£ 7,000.00
Solar Farm Community Fund – Secure Sports Fencing	£ 5,000.00
Sub Total	£ 26,035.00
C. Funding requested from ALCC Solar Farm Grant	Amount (inc.VAT)
Irrigation System	£ 12,110.53
Disabled access improvements to Bowling Green area	£ 11,940.00
Sub Total	£ 24,050.53
D. Total project costs (A + B + C) TOTAL	£ 59,785.53

How will your project improve the local environment?

Abertillery Bowling Club are committed to help make Abertillery Park a vibrant place for sporting organisations, visitors and our community.

Past partnerships with National organisations has helped improve the biodiversity of our area, creating wild flower beds and community growing areas.

Our project will transform the bowling green into a modern fully accessible sporting facility. A facility that will ensure the safety of all players and enable our club to grow.

Our club are litter Champions for Abertillery Park, this involves volunteers litter picking and collection of bags covering an area of two miles.

How does your project contribute to sustainability?

By scheduling watering of bowling green overnight less evaporation and scorching will occur. This will dramatically decrease water usage.

Utilising water harvesting from Bowling Green storage facility roof this will reduce mains water usage. All water will be stored in a ten thousand litre tank.

How does your project link with local schools?

Abertillery Bowls Club has actively promoted Bowls in local Schools and our community since 2012. Our KidsBowls project sees over 1200 children participate in free coaching days each year!

Access improvements to the Bowling Green will ensure all school children from our Community have the opportunity to visit the Park and experience KidsBowls.

How does your project promote volunteering?

A dedicated group of skilled volunteers maintain Abertillery Bowling Club green. All volunteers are provided necessary training and health and safety guidelines.

Our community coaches have excellent links with local Sports Development Officer, 3-16 Learning Community and Coleg Gwent regarding Sport Wales 'Coaches of the Future' and 'Sport Ambassadors' programmes.

Abertillery Bowling Club will also continue our weekly volunteer litter picks at Abertillery Park and encourage the wider community to take ownership of their facility.

How does your project promote links between communities?

Abertillery Bowls Club work closely with 3-16 Learning Community, Coleg Gwent, Aneurin Leisure Sports Development Team. We also maintain close links with other community groups and sports organisations.

In 2022 our club will be part of the GP Referral Scheme, expanding our work with those in the community with various health related issues and disabilities. Encouraging them to get and stay active for as long as they are able. Bowling is one of very few sports where able-bodied and those with a disability or long term health issue can play together.

How does your project help deliver the seven well-being goals in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, namely:

- **A prosperous Wales**
- **A resilient Wales**

- **A healthier Wales**
- **A more equal Wales**
- **A Wales of cohesive communities**
- **A Wales of vibrant culture**
- **A globally responsible Wales?**

Our project helps deliver the seven well-being goals in Wales:

A prosperous Wales – Our project will create opportunities for training and volunteering.

A resilient Wales – By maintaining the bowling green we are helping to support eco systems within the land. All products used on the green are environmentally friendly and will not harm any wildlife or habitats.

A healthier Wales – Abertillery Bowling Club plays an integral part to the mental, physical health and well-being of all players. We proudly encourage physical activity for people of all ages in our community.

A more equal Wales – Abertillery Bowling Club run a total of six sides at Abertillery Park including Mens, Ladies and Junior teams. Disabled access improvements will also allow the introduction of a disabled bowling hub in 2022.

A Wales of cohesive communities – Bowls allows people of all ages, abilities, gender and of any background to participate in our sport.

A Wales of vibrant culture – Abertillery Bowls Club was established in 1911 and has played a vital role in our communities' history and central to the health and well-being of our residents. We want to play a positive role in our towns future.

A globally responsible Wales – Abertillery Bowls Club is passionate about working with local companies and reducing our Carbon footprint. By 2023 we aim to operate battery powered Greens Maintenance Machinery and produce our own energy using sustainable methods.

If funding is granted, what will successful delivery of the project look like?
Creation of a safe, sustainable & vibrant facility.

Will you (and when will you) supply completion reports / evidence / photos?
The project completion date is 5th April 2022. The project manager will submit a

project completion report, this will include photographs and evidence of spends. Abertillery Bowling Club will actively promote the use of this fund via our Social Media Channels (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter).

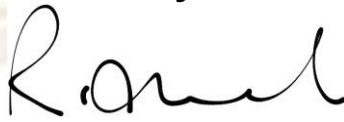
Is your organisation a: Charity/community group/sports club/company/not for profit business/other (explain and provide evidence)

Sports Club & Not for Profit organisation

Abertillery Bowls Club became a Limited company in 2017 to complete the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of our facility from the Local Authority. We are registered as a 'Not for Profit' organisation, this is stated in our Constitution (constitution provided).

Payee name: **Abertillery Bowls Club Ltd**

Signed:



Print Name: **Richard Cook**

Date: **13/11/2021**

This form must be submitted with any relevant supporting documents you wish to submit (e.g. business plan, group constitution, bank or financial statements, letters of support etc) to Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council by Sunday 14th November 2021, either by mail to Town Clerk, Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council, Mitre Street, Abertillery, NP13 1AE or email clerk.alcc@gmail.com

Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council (ALCC)

Solar Farm Grant 2021 – Application

(see criteria and process attached before applying)

Name and Address of your group or organisation:

Abertillery Workmen's Welfare Institute
Division Street
Abertillery
NP13 1EF

Contact name: ...Tracey Dyson.....

Role in group:
.....Treasurer/Trustee.....

Telephone number:
.....07921022881.....

Email:
.....abertillerystute@outloo.com.....
....

What is the name of your project?SOS Save our Stute

What are the aims of the project?

The overall aim of this project is to have a functional, working community hub, that will be a link in a network, connecting different groups within many communities. We are looking to re-organise and refurbish the building and get it opened for the community to use. It will be a much needed safe and inclusive hub where the community can participate in educational, creative and social activities.

We are Planning a Community cafe, and have already started talks with Caffi Tyleri about joining their Youth programme and having the two cafe's run by the young people. This will mean young people, in our community, will have more opportunities to enhance their skills of running a business and improving their CV's for their

futures.

We have had lots of interest from local groups that would like to use the building, including Drama and dance groups, Board Gamers, Exercise groups and Local Crafters. We are looking to hold craft fayres, table tops sales etc.

We have also been having conversations with Dementia Friendly links within our area, which mean we would join the like that is formed between Blaenavon Stute, Llan Stute and Newbridge Memo. This would mean that we would arrange activities around what is going on in the other locations, so that people with Dementia would have more places to attend. We have looked at creating a link between the Dementia groups and Toddler groups within our community, as we feel it would benefit both groups.

We also have plans in place to meet with a few different Youth workers to help us to create a Youth committee within the Stute, who would look after activities that they would like to see running in the building. This would empower young people to have a say in their own community, and could work well in partnership with ALCC youth project.

Another Partnership we are fostering is with Armed Forces Covenant, We are looking to set up a Veterans hub, like they have in Cardiff and Caerphilly and have been offered help to do this with the organisers of the Cardiff Hub. We have also been in talks with Your North who offer free training to Veterans and their families as well as serving Military personnel.

Overall this will be a community building, run by the community and used by the community, and the support shown by this community to help fundraise the £170,000 it cost us to replace the roof, especially with all the set backs, has been both staggering and encouraging, helping us never to give up.

How will your project benefit the Abertillery and Llanhilleth area or its residents?

As stated above there are many benefits to The Stute being open to the community, it can help with employment, health and wellbeing, Youth activities will hopefully reduce anti social behaviour within our community. We will be keen to help with Loneliness and social isolation which is a big problem within every community.

Another thing that Abertillery is missing is Public Toilets, and the public will be able to use the toilets, whenever this building is open, and as we are hoping that we will have users in the evenings as well as the daytime, this will be an added advantage

to the community, especially if people don't feel comfortable going in a public house to use their facilities at night.

We will also be offering a big function room for weddings and events, there is not a large room in the Vicinity of Abertillery. There are smaller function rooms but for a big event we will have the room.

There are so many uses for this building that has not yet been explored but the project will grow with the need to the community.

Approximate number of beneficiaries The whole of the Abertillery and Surrounding areas

What will be delivered as a result of the Solar Farm Grant?

The Solar Farm Grant would help slot into the puzzle of the overall picture, we hope to replace the Windows with Triple Glazing. We are looking to use materials which are environmentally friendly and sustainable. Triple glazing will not only keep our energy bills lower but it will help our carbon footprint. It will also help our neighbours, to reduce noise levels from the building when we have an event on, ensuring that we are not disturbing their everyday lives, and maintaining that relationship that we have already built with them.

Project costs:

A. Project costs met by your group	Amount (inc. VAT)
Contingency Fund (for any extra costs as stipulated on the quote)	£5,000
	£
	£
Sub Total	£
B. Funding being provided by other organisations	Amount (inc.VAT)
	£
	£
Sub Total	£
C. Funding requested from ALCC Solar Farm Grant	Amount (inc.VAT)
Cost of Windows	£17,502
	£

	Sub Total	£
D. Total project costs (A + B + C)	TOTAL	£22,502

How will your project improve the local environment?

The project will improve the local environment by giving our community a safe place to congregate both daytime and evenings. It will give people the chance to volunteer, to help with steps to improve CV's and giving them work experience.

We intend to use environmentally friendly materials in the refurbishment of the building and we will promote sustainability and protection of our local environment at all times.

We are also going to improve the aesthetics of the surrounding area, with moving of the entrance to The Stute from Powell street, to a glass atrium which will overlook the Foundry bridge and house our community cafe. We will be looking to planting trees and flowers in the grass area's surrounding our building. We are also looking to using the parcel of land at the side of the building for disabled parking for users of The Stute.

How does your project contribute to sustainability?

We will keep energy costs down by using environmentally friendly materials, such as Energy efficient lighting, triple glazed windows and up to date heating systems.

We are planning to use volunteers to run various groups, and as this will be a forever growing and fluid project, we can adapt and grow with the needs of the community.

How does your project link with local schools?

As discussed earlier, we will be looking to offer school leavers, opportunities to work within the community cafe, linking this project with Caffi Tyleri.

We will be running many Youth activities, encouraging the young people to take responsibility for what they want to see in the building.

We would also like to work with local schools offering them events for their children like Breakfast with Santa etc

How does your project promote volunteering?

As stated many times, the corner stone to this whole project is about volunteers. The Stute has 8 volunteer Trustee's at the moment, who is overseeing the opening of this iconic building, We feel we have been entrusted by the mining community to re-open a building that they paid for out of their wages, when the pits were open.

We are hoping that this project will carry on and adapt with the young people who are already keen to get going, and look to build something for themselves.

We will be working heavily with other voluntary groups, to offer opportunities to the whole community

How does your project promote links between communities?

As previously stated we are already building relationships with other community hubs to slot into links that already exists, like the Dementia Friendly Network, The Youth projects with Caffi Tyleri and working with the Military communities. We intend to grow our link and work with other community groups in our area.

How does your project help deliver the seven well-being goals in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, namely:

- **A prosperous Wales**
- **A resilient Wales**
- **A healthier Wales**
- **A more equal Wales**
- **A Wales of cohesive communities**
- **A Wales of vibrant culture**
- **A globally responsible Wales?**

Our project will be a non-profit organisation which will accommodate and encourage enterprise and increase the footfall in our town.

We will be promoting both mental and physical wellbeing by providing classes and courses for the community to attend, We are also looking to provide volunteer councillors who will catch people who are too far down the waiting list but desperately need the help.

We will promote equality and cohesion by welcoming a diverse range of activities withinn our project and by encouraging the community to come together and support our objectives.

We will ensure that the Welsh culture is embedded into everything we do, by promoting the history of our town and building and promoting the Welsh language by introducing Welsh speaking coffee mornings and seeing where that leads.

The regeneration of local towns is high on the political agendas and Welsh government are supporting this. We have plans to meet with Transforming towns consultants in November to help with us with our business plan, so we meet their goals of regeneration.

We will endeavour to be as carbon neutral as possible, and we are already looking at the materials that will be used in this building.

If funding is granted, what will successful delivery of the project look like?

If the grant is allocated to The Stute, the windows will be the next big project that would be done. Depending on the contractors committments we would look to get it done as soon as we could

Will you (and when will you) supply completion reports / evidence / photos?

As soon as the windows have gone in we will share photos and reports with the council, to be forwarded to the solar farm company, we will also be sharing this milestone with the community on our facebook page

Is your organisation a: Charity/community group/sports club/company/not for profit business/other (explain and provide evidence

We are a Registered Charity, our charity number 524312

Payee name: Abertillery Workmens Welfare Institute (Bank details on request)

Signed: *TJ Dyson*

Print Name: **Tracey Dyson**

Date: 4/11/2021

This form must be submitted with any relevant supporting documents you wish to

submit (e.g. business plan, group constitution, bank or financial statements, letters of support etc) to Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council by Thursday 11th November 2021, either by mail to Town Clerk, Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council, Mitre Street, Abertillery, NP13 1AE or email clerk.alcc@gmail.com



Extra Information

The plan is to open the building in 2023. The overall project costs will be £1.3M

This grant fits into a jigsaw of other things that have already been achieved and are still in process.

Already Achieved:

Small Lottery grant - £20,000 Paid to employ a project manager to do the design drawings and to cost the project overall. We have the drawings done but are unable to share them at this time.

We have raised £170,000 to completely replace the roof, which was completed earlier this year

We have been awarded a £10,000 grant for the installation of the community cafe, this will provide the equipment needed.

In Place:

We are meeting with Transforming towns business consultants in November (date to be confirmed), who will be helping us re-do our business plan with the view to apply for a larger grant to help with the Atrium and the mechanical needs of the building (new lift etc)

April 2022 – The main Lottery grant will be submitted for £495,000 for refurbishment of the inside of the building.

We will continue to fundraise to pay other costs like insurance and any other costs that come up, like recently we have had fly tipping down the side of the building, so we are going to put in security cameras.

Even though it looks like we got a lot going on and things will be covered, this grant will enable us to achieve another step along the path to getting this amazing building open for our community. We are not going to give up and if this grant is not awarded we will not give up, it will just take us a bit longer to raise the money to get the windows done. We have had some setbacks one being a contractor stealing £20,000 off us, without doing the work he was employed to do. This is being dealt with by a solicitor who has offered his services for free.

We are hoping we will be able to work with the community council in the future, as I am sure a few of your projects will work within our building, especially Shop locals

ideas to have craft, book, music and food fayres within the town. Our remit is to bring as much footfall into our town as possible and we have the building that can achieve this, working alongside Trinity chapel, who will be providing a library, gallery and credit union and giving advice to people who need help back into work. We are looking at cohesive working with them, and looking if we can maybe share staff, like cleaners and caretakers.

I hope we have provided you with more information and that you can support this project.



On 24 November, Council deferred consideration of the application for Council Grant funding from Abertillery & Blaina Rotary Club pending further information from Laura Thomas (see over) on whether other Rotary Clubs, or similar organisations, had also been approached for funding.

Ms Thomas replied:

“I have approached Rhondda Rotary Club and Cardiff Rotary Club, who have both been unable to help. I have also approached Blackwood Rotary Club who asked for information regarding support and fundraising already received, but have heard nothing more.”



Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council (ALCC)

Council Grant Application

(see criteria and process attached before applying)

Name and Address of group, organisation or project:

Abertillery & Blaina Rotary Club
c/o 2 The Pines, Roch Street
Abertillery
Blaenau Gwent
NP13 1HH

Group Contact name: Steve Harford

Role in the group: Treasurer

Telephone number: 07890274900

Email: steve.ski@hotmail.co.uk

What are the aims of your project?

To match fund a grant application to support Emilie Thomas, please see attached email information.

How does your project benefit the Abertillery and Llanhilleth area or its residents?

Benefit to one resident and family to represent Wales at the upcoming Cheerleading World Championships in Florida in April 2022 which will then become an Olympic sport in which we hope she will qualify.

Approx number of beneficiaries 1 family

Details of project costs:

A. Project costs met by group (include match funds)	Amount (inc. VAT)
	£
Rotary Contribution	£250.00
	£
Sub Total	£
B. Costs requested from ALCC	Amount (Inc. VAT)
	£
Match Funding	£250.00
Sub Total	£
C. Total project costs (A + B) TOTAL	£500.00

Is the organisation a: Charity/community group/sports club/company/not for profit business/other (explain and provide evidence)

Abertillery and Blaina Rotary Club is a Community Group

Payee name: Abertillery & Blaina Rotary Club

Name of person making the application:

Print Name: ...Steven John Harford.....



Signed: Signed:

Date:9 November 2021

Please return this form with any relevant supporting documents (group constitution, financial statements, letters of support etc.) to: Town Clerk, Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council, Mitre Street, Abertillery, NP13 1AE or to clerk.alcc@gmail.com

Attached email information:



laura Thomas

Re: Your request for funding from Rotary

To: Gary Oakley

Laura 20 October 2021 at 11:56



Dear Gary

Thank you for speaking with me today, i really appreciate you taking the time to look into our request.

As you know, Emilie has been selected to represent Wales at the upcoming Cheerleading World Championships in Florida in April 2022. Thanks to Covid the competition didnt not run last year, but so that you get an idea of what exactly cheersport is, the following link opens up a video of Emilie's team competing at Worlds in 2019: <https://youtu.be/N8ExTq4Yu1Y>

As I explained, I live in Pontypridd, but because of my health issues and Emilie's gymnastic training commitments of 20+ houes per week in Crumlin, Emilie spends much of her time residing with her grandparents who live in Abertillery.

Because of her gymnastics abilities, Emilie is one of the main tumblers in the team as well as the main flyer (the person up in the air), so alot of the routine is centered around her. Should she be unable to attend the competition in Florida, it would be very difficult, if not impossible for team Wales to attend and compete in the youth division as there would not be anyone to replace Emilie within the routine.

Cheersport is becoming an extremely popular sport worldwide, and Wales are up there with the best teams in the world, so to compete at the World Championships is not only a huge honour, it is also the first important step on the road to the Olympics where cheersport is soon to make an appearance.

Unfortunately, these competitions come with a huge cost to the athlete, with little to no funding available, leaving many amazing athletes unable to fulfil their potential. Emilie is one of those athletes who genuinely has the talent, but because of my health, our family situation has left us in a difficult position.

Back in 2011, I had a stroke following meningitis, and subsequently developed a rare autoimmune condition called Behcets Syndrome, as well as fibromyalgia and other health conditions. I am therefore unable to work, and my husband had to give up his job to care for me full time. Emilie is also a registered young carer and provides a huge support to myself when she is at home.

The cost of Emilie's additional training fees and kit is to paid in instalments, but the flights and accommodation we have to arrange ourselves and therefore does not need to be paid for until closer to the departure date. Because Emilie is a junior, she has to be accompanied by myself as her guardian, and because of my health conditions, I also need to have a carer with me. These additional flight costs also have to be factored into the overall cost of the trip. As well as flights, we need to arrange approximately 2 weeks accommodation as Emilie has to be in florida at least the week previous as she will need to attend training sessions with team wales whilst out in Florida.

Thank you again for considering oir request for help, and if there is anything else that you need, please do not hesitate to ask.

Many thanks and best wishes

Laura



laura Thomas

Re: Your request for funding from Rotary

To: Gary Oakley

RE: Team Wales World Cheerleading Championships April 2022 – Florida

I am reaching out to you on behalf of my daughter to enquire about possible support for Emilie, who is 12 and has been selected to represent Wales at the 2022 World Cheerleading Championships in Florida as a member of the All Girl Youth team. This is a great honour and a fantastic opportunity in order for her progress along the path to becoming an elite and international sports person, especially as cheer sport is set to be included in the Olympics in the future, but as I am sure that you can appreciate, it also comes with additional costs.

Emilie attends Cardinal Newman High School and currently trains 5 days per week at Valleys Gymnastics Academy, Crumlin, and 2 days per week at RSD Cheer and Dance, Treforest, as well as coaching gymnastics one day per week. Emilie is also a young carer for myself, and has been recognised for her achievements by winning the Wales Online Sporting Inspiration award, South Wales Argus courage award, and SportCheer Wales Inspiration award for her role as school girl, sports person and young carer all rolled into one.

Covering the vast cost of Emilie's training and equipment is already a struggle, and whilst every little gymnast and dancer dreams of one day competing on the world stage, for Emilie, this is within her grasp, but can only become a reality with the help of fundraising and businesses like yourselves. I have attached a list of costs associated with the trip, including training and uniform costs. On top of these costs, we also need to cover the cost of Emilie's flight, accommodation, visa, and training and travel costs whilst in America. Because of her age, I have to accompany Emilie as her guardian, adding to the costs, and because of my health conditions, I cannot travel alone, meaning that I also need an adult carer with me.

If there is any help that you may be able to offer in order to help Emilie achieve her world championship dream, and help her on the way to her Olympic dreams, however small the contribution, it would be very much appreciated, and every little bit really does help, even if it is just the cost of her training top.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, it is very much appreciated, and we would be incredibly grateful if you could share this with any other acquaintances that you feel may be in a position to help.

Yours Sincerely

Laura Thomas and Emilie Allen

Costs Associated with World Cheerleading Championships 2022

Yours Sincerely

Laura Thomas and Emilie Allen

Costs Associated with World Cheerleading Championships 2022

Uniform and Required Kit Team

Wales Practice T-shirt £17.50

Opening Ceremony Kit £50

Warm-up Kit £40

Team Wales Uniform £110

ICU Wales T-shirt £15

Training and Entry Fees

UK Training Fees £50

Athlete Entry Fee £450

Florida Gym Practice Fees £30

Florida Gym Travel Fees £20

Additional Costs

Return Air fare Approximately £650 per person

2 Weeks Accommodation

US Visa

Spectator tickets £300 each



The last eighteen months have been incredibly challenging for Marie Curie as an organisation. Our frontline services have been more in demand than ever, and on top of this in March 2020 our fundraising activities literally came to a halt.

We urgently need your support to fund these services, and wonder if Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council might consider making a financial donation to support our local activities.

Throughout the pandemic, Marie Curie continues to be there for the people who need us providing a wide range of information and support services. These have been a lifeline for many people particularly throughout Covid where the changing regulations left people feeling lost and confused. As part of this service we offer bereavement support, check-in-and-chat, a free and confidential phonenumber and webchat service where people can speak to a specially trained support line officer or Marie Curie support line nurse.

The Information & Support Line is based in Wales and is available for everyone, ensuring that everyone who needs us can get the information and support they need. They can speak to one of our trained Support Line Officers and Marie Curie Support Line Nurses either via phone or webchat or access a wealth of information on the support section of the Marie Curie website.

In 2020 we were proud to launch a bereavement service where people needing support following the death of a loved one will be paired with a dedicated and trained bereavement volunteer to receive support sessions. This service launched in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic and our officers and volunteers have been and continue to be there for those who need this support throughout this challenging time and beyond.

As well as this we have recently created new pages that can be found at www.mariecurie.org.uk/grief-at-work which are resources for employers and employees to help support with bereavement in the workplace. The website includes guidance, templates, and information for bereaved employees, those who work with or manage someone who's been bereaved, and HR professionals, such as:

- how to support a bereaved employee
- how to talk to someone who has been bereaved, including an animation with practical tips on what to say
- how to create a bereavement policy (based on our own bereavement policy)
- going back to work after a bereavement

All money donated supports the local Marie Curie services, so you can rest assured that in your community patients and families will directly benefit from your gift.

It is important to make you aware that all of our services are free to those who need them. However they aren't free to run, your support is vital, as it costs the charity:

£24 pays for a call to our support line, meaning someone in need can pick up the phone and receive practical information and emotional support

£44 pays for an hour of clinical support from an expert nurse via our support line, so there's always someone with the right knowledge and experience to answer questions about terminal illness.