

Aberfest 9th June 2018 Report to Community Council.

Item 7

This event is organised under the banner of Ffrindiau Tyleri, in partnership with Abertillery and Llanhilleth community council.

The Event Organisation committee started meeting at the end of January to plan the event, meetings were held on a monthly basis, then weekly in the month before the event, meetings were open to everyone who wished to help organise the event.

Because Aberfest and Winterfest events are held on the streets we are required to apply for Road closure notices, Temporary Events Licence, and Temporary Trade Licences from the County Borough Council.

These permissions must be applied for at least 6 weeks before the event takes place, and a full inventory of the event must be completed along with risk assessments. A person or persons must be named as event organiser and attend the Blaenau Gwent Safety Advisory Group meeting where the event will be scrutinised by members of the emergency services, environmental health and public safeguarding.

The Aberfest Event was held early this year on 9th June, because of the unavailability of most of the Organisers at the later date 7th July.

It was agreed that the event would consist of ; A Walking Carnival organised by Cllr Ivor Beynon, Craft Stalls through Church Street, Market Street, and the Arcade organised by Cllr Rob Phillips, Cllr Nick Simmons.

a Children's Picnic at the museum car park organised by Cllr Tracy Dyson and Peggy Bearcroft.

Classic Car Show organised by the Abertillery Rotary Club at the Bridge centre Car Park and Children's Fair Ground Rides courtesy of Elliot Deacon fairgrounds also at the Bridge Centre Car park.

Live music was provided at Jubilee square courtesy of our sound man Mr Des Ward who coordinated a string of local talent including the local schools choir, also Sixbells minstrels performed in the Arcade giving it a Cafe culture theme for the afternoon, organised by Cllr Peter Adamson.

Our Volunteer Stewards on the Day we organised by Lee Edwards, the volunteer stewards did a fantastic job putting up road closed signs and pedestrian barriers throughout the town directing stall holders and traffic, these people stay out of the lime light and were only rewarded by a Burger and a soft drink for their hard work.

Publicity for the Event was taken on by Cllr Julie Holt who set up social Media page.

May I extend my thanks to all those councillors who turned up on the Day for all the hard work they put in setting up and taking down 16 Gazebo's more than Twenty Tables, moving dozens of Chairs.

As always most feedback has been very good, it just shows what can be done when we work together, however I was asked why no musical events had been organised in St Michaels church?

I also took criticism from a few businesses in town who feel that these events threaten their businesses, perhaps they should take part in the events with stalls of their own?

Rob Phillips Secretary Ffrindiau Tyleri

Abertillery NPT Town Council Update June 2018

Date for your diaries – Saturday 7th July 2018 10am – 3pm. Abertillery Emergency Services Station Open Day. All three emergency services will once again open the station for members of the public to visit. This is another chance to meet the staff who work at the station and serve the local people.

Updates

Cwmtillery Industrial Estate, male arrested on suspicion of supplying cannabis. This was part of regular patrols the team have been carrying out due to reports of ASB and drug use near the old Travis Perkins site. Male has been released while forensic reports are obtained.

We have had two reported distraction burglaries. One at Lansbury Bungalows, Cwmtillery and at Castle Street. Not known if they are linked at this time but both victims were elderly males. At Lansbury Bungalows the offenders used the pretext of cutting his grass to then gain access to his home. At Castle Street the elderly gent didn't allow them into his home so it has been recorded as an attempt but again the pre-tense of doing work for the occupier was used. Please pass this on to residents, these type of criminals target an area then leave. They also pass on details of the vulnerable and potential victims to their associates.

Our reported crime throughout the last 28 days hasn't been too bad. The vast majority of offences reported was violence related. I must stress that the violence category covers a whole range of crimes such as facebook arguments. The fact that it is the most reported crime is not a reflection on our community and where violence has been used in the main they have been incidents where both parties know each other. There were 38 reported incidents relating to violence but out of those 38 there were 10 incidents where an injury was reported. In total we have had 6 burglaries and 8 reported vehicle crime offences.

ASB has risen slightly but this is typical for this time of year. As the Your Voice priorities show we will be targeting areas where we either have on-going problems or where it is a new issue that has been identified.

We have once again worked with the Fire Service on a road safety campaign. Targeting mobile phone users and persons not wearing seatbelts. We will be taking part in more of these events throughout the year.

Your Voice

The new Your Voice priorities for Abertillery are as follows:

Town Ward – ASB Church Street

Cwmtillery – ASB Off Road Bikes

Six Bells – ASB area around Alexandra Terrace

Llanhilleth – ASB Partridge Road

The team will be targeting those issues over the coming months.

Twitter

Abertillery Neighbourhood Team twitter - @gpabertillery

Gwent Now

Gwent now is the new community messaging system designed to keep the residents of Gwent informed about what is happening. The system is being used for:

1. Appeals for crimes and incidents
2. Circulating crime prevention advice
3. Details about campaigns and initiatives
4. Ability to request CCTV for those residents who use CCTV at
home/business or in their vehicles
5. Sharing results of operations and good news stories

Feedback received from residents relating to previous systems were that they were receiving too many or not enough messages not relevant to their areas; making it impossible to get the balance right. This new system is flexible and can be tailored to individual needs for the type of messages they receive and the chosen means of communication which are: telephone, email or text message.

Majority of the messages are also uploaded to the Gwent now website:

<https://www.gwentnow.org/>

Subscription to the system is FREE OF CHARGE.

Members are able to register multiple locations and this is ideal for those residents who have vulnerable family members/neighbours/ represent a community group and are able to share the information with them. Residents may want to know more about where their children go to school, places to socialise and place of work etc.

Recipients can be in total control and of course they are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Well Being Training report 15th May 2018.

Councillors Tracey Dyson, Nick Simmons and my self attended a One Voice Wales, Well Being of Future generations training session at Pontypool Community Council offices on Tuesday 15th May.

We were made aware of the scope of the Well Being of future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 which is about improving the social economic, environmental and Cultural well being of Wales. Although Community Councils are not specifically included in the act at this moment, much of what we try to achieve comes within the scope of the act, and can as act as guidance on future projects and the decisions we make.

The act sets out seven specific goals;

A prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a healthier Wales, a more equal Wales, a Wales of Cohesive communities, a Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language, and a Globally responsible Wales.

As a Council we should consider these seven principals play in every decision we make.

As part of the course we were asked to complete a survey on how well our councils values and behaviours stood up to the sustainable development principle, on a basis of 1 being bad, and 5 being good we scored 1s and 2s.

We were not the only ones, almost all the others were in the same boat, mainly because we are not ambitious enough in our out look on what we are able to achieve.

Much of what has been discussed in the Well Being group can be rolled together to produce worth while larger projects.

Much Discussion took place on the Funding of projects either one off projects with a specific cost, such as planting trees, or long term projects which may require funding over a long period of time like supporting Children's sports Teams.

We also learned that we need to work closer with the local community to achieve these goals, involve volunteer, community groups and local schools as partners in delivering what is needed.

When it came to funding Well being projects, much discussion took place on setting precepts that reflected what was needed in the Community.

Councils that set a low precept tended to be unambitious too cautious and not for-filling the needs of the communities they served.

Setting Precepts should be part of a business plan, setting out a strategy on what the council wants to achieve in a given period.

As precepts go Abertillery and Llanhilleth are the lowest in Blaenau Gwent, with a larger population than other the town and community councils.

Discussing with members of other councils present, we were surprised on how small our precept is to other town and community Councils, for example Blaenavon's Precept is roughly the same as ours with less than 40% of our population, in line with the other Town and Community councils in the Gwent area our precept should be a least twice what we currently set.

I would recommend that all councillors should attend this training to get a better insight in what we as councillors should be doing for our communities.

Rob Phillips

