

**MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY
AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 14 November 2025 at 6:00 pm
at the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Steve Bard (Chair), Lucy Harmer, Frankie Baker.

Barrie Page (Chair of PlaCE and Community Empowerment Committees)

Officers: Steve Edwards (Clerk) and Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk -(via video-link)

Absent: Bruno Gôes Maciel, Nick Simmons, Mike Whatley. The Chair of the Leisure and Tourism Committee, Tracey Dyson, had been invited to the meeting but was unable to attend

42. Apologies for Absence

Nick Simmons, Mike Whatley

43. Declarations of Interest or Dispensations

None

44. Minutes 10 October 2025

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

45. Budget 2026/2027

The committee reviewed the current budget proposals for the next financial year.

The Clerk informed the Committee that changes had to be made to the original budget numbers. The Internal Auditor has confirmed that VAT should not be included in the budget where it can be reclaimed. Instead a VAT estimate is made and funds transferred from General Reserves to pay the VAT.. When the end of year VAT reclaim is made, that is put back into the General Reserves and a VAT reconciliation is made. This has the practical step of reducing the precept.

- **RFO Section:** No additional queries
- **PlaCE Section:** The £1,000 proposal for Community Asset Transfers' was removed as it was felt there was not sufficient plans in place to spend this money.
- **Community Empowerment Section:** There was a long discussion about the value of money that Council was getting from the BCBC Detached Team and Off The Streets. The Committee left the budget proposals. It also recommended that a public engagement/survey exercise be conducted in 2026 to see where the public wanted the Councils focus to be.
The Chair pointed out that the increase should read £4,000 not £20,000.
- **Leisure and Tourism Section:** No changes were proposed.

The Clerk stated that because the VAT changes had only been done this week that the Officers would need to recheck all the figures. The revised budget spreadsheet would be sent out to the Finance and Governance Committee members to then check the figures before being released to the Council before Christmas closedown.

The Committee did not require any further budget meetings.

Initial:

Date:

46. Financial Regulations

The Committee has to conduct an Annual Review of the Financial Regulations. The previous review was October 2024. A question was asked about the debit card as we have recently had a new one. The clerk sated that the Regulations only state “debit card” so no changes required on this.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council the following changes to the Financial Regulations..

- All references to the Finance Committee be amended to read The Finance and Governance Committee.
- An additional entry in part 7.9 to be made to refer to the mobile phone being paid by direct debit.

47. Date of Next Meeting

No date set

Minutes produced by Steve Edwards Clerk.

The meeting ended at 6:49 pm.

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

Date.....

Initial:

Date:



DRAFT

Initial:

Date: