



Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council

Annual Report

2024-2025

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Chair's Message

As I approach the end of my second year as Chair, I am proud to reflect on the many successes we have achieved as a council this year, and the promising progress still ahead.

We've hosted many successful events this year which I look forward to growing again, such as the Viaduct Run and Party in the Park.

Our committees have worked hard to improve on existing projects like Town in Bloom, and implementing new ones like our collaboration with Bridges Car Scheme.

The successful delivery of our projects would not have been possible without the dedication and support of our staff. The involvement of our Deputy Clerks has significantly improved the organisation and execution of our initiatives, and has helped the Council operate more efficiently than ever before.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to Councillor Steve Bard and the Finance Committee

for their dedication over the past two years. Their work has been instrumental in ensuring that our financial practices are transparent and robust.

A personal ambition of mine upon joining the Council was to establish youth representation, and I am delighted that this has now been realised. We are not only involved with the Abertillery Learning Community Pupil Senedd, but have also welcomed two Youth Representatives onto the Council. I hope they find the experience both rewarding and enjoyable

I sincerely hope that the Council continues on its current path - open, transparent, and effective.

Thank you for another great year as Chair, and I hope you enjoy this report which details some of our work this year.



Tracey Dyson
Chair of Council
2024-2025

About Us

Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council (ALCC) is comprised of 19 members across 5 wards; Abertillery, Cwmtillery, Aberbeeg, Six Bells and Llanhilleth. These members represent their constituents and make decisions on a range of services and activities to support the local community.

The Council uses a Committee system to delegate responsibilities for certain projects and has an annual budget of over £400,000. Full Council meetings are typically held on the last Wednesday each month. Meetings take place in the Council Offices on Mitre Street, Abertillery, and remotely via Zoom.

Community and Town Councils are the grassroots level of local governance in Wales, and there are over 730 of them working to improve the quality of life and environment for citizens in their area.

The other tier of local government in Wales are the Unitary Authorities; for ALCC this is Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. These authorities have a legal duty to provide services over a wider geographical area, including social services, education, planning & more.



Cwmteillery Ward



Frankie Baker



Bernard Wall



Ralph Henderson



Mark Lewis



Glyn Smith

Abertillery Ward



Tracey Dyson



Lucy Harmer



Chris Hill



Nick Simmons



Rob Phillips

Six Bells Ward



Steve Bard



Bruno Góes Maciel



Peter Adamson

Aberbeeg Ward



Josh Rawcliffe



Ivor Beynon



Graham White

Llanhilleth Ward



Ben Owen-Jones



Barrie Page



Mike Whatley

Information correct as of March 31st 2025

Councillor email addresses can be found at:

http://www.abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/Councillors_28427.aspx

Youth Representatives

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 (Part 7, Chapter 4) allows Community Councils to appoint two Community Youth Representatives aged between 15-26. These representatives should be able to represent those who are under 26 and live, work or receive education in the area. These Representatives are unable to vote, but can participate in meetings and projects.

ALCC gave public notice of its intention to appoint Youth Representatives in September 2024, and received a number of applications for these positions.

On October 30th 2024, ALCC appointed Jackson Powell and Sophie Townsend as its first two Youth Representatives.

These Youth Reps have been given the same training opportunities that Councillors receive, and have completed or are due to complete a number of these courses. They were also assigned their own Council email addresses to receive notices and summons.

They attend Council meetings, representing young people in the area during discussions and bringing relevant issues to the Council's attention. For example, in January, Jackson Powell presented a motion to Council to discuss the issue of parking and pedestrian safety in Abertillery. The PlaCE Committee has since made several suggestions to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council regarding these issues.



Officers

ALCC currently employs three officers;

Steve Edwards - Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

Erika Davies - Deputy Clerk

Molly Jones - Deputy Clerk

Budget:

£114,684

Spent:

£111,110

Contact Us:

01495 217323

clerk@abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk

Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery, NP13 1AE

Staff Training

All Members and officers of the Council shall be offered the opportunity to undertake any and all of the following training modules, plus any additional modules that are added, within twelve months of the beginning of the Council term (or, in the case of co-opted Members, within twelve months of taking office):

- New Councillor Induction
- Code of Conduct
- Local Govt Finance
- Chaining Skills
- The Council Meeting
- The Council as an Employer
- Understanding the Law
- Health and Safety
- Equality & Diversity

All of our staff also hold memberships to the Society of Local Council Clerks to support their professional development. The total cost of these memberships this year was £698.

Budget:

£2,000

Spent:

£1,092



To view our full Training Plan, including a list of training courses undertaken by our staff, please visit our website:

http://www.abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/Strategic_Documents_28430.aspx

Training Plan

Section 67 of The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires community councils to make and publish a plan for training provision for its members.

All Members are offered the opportunity to complete the core training modules shown, as well as Planning, Health & Safety, Equality and Diversity and other courses offered by One Voice Wales. The completion dates for the core modules are shown below:

Budget:

£1,500

Spent:

£1,512

New Councillor Induction *Code of Conduct* *Local Government Finance* *Local Govt Finance - Advanced* *Chairing Skills* *The Council Meeting* *The Council as an Employer* *Understanding the Law* *Equality & Diversity*

Peter Adamson		Nov-17	Feb-24						
Frankie Baker		Mar-25	Mar-25						
Steve Bard		Mar-24	Aug-23		Aug-23				
Ivor Beynon		Jan-25							
Tracey Dyson	Jul-17	Nov-23	Nov-19		Nov-19		Feb-24		
Lucy Harmer	Jun-24	Jun-24							
Bruno Góes Maciel	Jun-24	Jun-24	Sept-24						
Ralph Henderson		Feb-24							
Chris Hill		Jan-24							
Mark Lewis	Jul-17	May-17	Feb-24						
Ben Owen-Jones		Nov-21							
Barrie Page		Nov-21			Feb-23		Feb-23		
Rob Phillips		Nov-21	Nov-19				Mar-23		
Josh Rawcliffe	Oct-22	Nov-22	Nov-22	Aug-23	Aug-23		Nov-23		
Nick Simmons	Jul-17	Aug-17	Nov-19	Dec-19	Sept-24		Aug-24	Nov-18	
Glyn Smith	Jul-17	Jul-24	Jun-24				Jul-24		
Bernard Wall	Jul-17	Aug-17							
Mike Whatley	Jun-24	Oct-24	Dec-24						Jan-25
Graham White	Jul-17	Aug-17							
Jackson Powell (YR)	Feb-25								
Sophie Townsend (YR)	Dec-24	Dec-24							

To view our detailed training plan, please visit:

http://www.abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/Strategic_Documents_28430.aspx

Committees

Leisure & Tourism Committee

Members: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Steve Bard, Lucy Harmer, Ralph Henderson, Mark Lewis, Ben Owen-Jones, Barrie Page, Josh Rawcliffe.

Supports community cohesion and strengthening links with people and communities from elsewhere through the provision of, and support for, public events, projects and initiatives.

Planning, Commerce & Environment (PlaCE) Committee

Members: Barrie Page (Chair), Peter Adamson, Ralph Henderson, Chris Hill, Mark Lewis, Rob Phillips, Nick Simmons, Josh Rawcliffe.

Supports responsible development and maintenance of the environment and of conditions favourable to retail, commercial and business activities in the area, through the provision of, and support for, events, projects and initiatives.

Finance Committee

Members: Steve Bard (Chair), Frankie Baker, Bruno Góes Maciel, Nick Simmons, Glyn Smith, Josh Rawcliffe, Mike Whatley.

Monitors, reviews and assists in the effective financial management and overall governance of the Council.

Community Empowerment Committee

Members: Barrie Page (Chair), Peter Adamson, Tracey Dyson, Ben Owen-Jones, Josh Rawcliffe, Lucy Harmer (non-voting).

Works to combat alienation and social isolation among young people, to support them to engage constructively and influence decisions within their community.

Human Resources Committee

Members: Tracey Dyson (Chair), Josh Rawcliffe (Vice Chair), Rob Phillips, Nick Simmons, Glyn Smith.

Monitors and reviews the performance of the Council's officers and assists them to ensure the effective management of the Council's business.

Other Memberships:

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Scrutiny Committee: Josh Rawcliffe.

Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum: Peter Adamson, Barrie Page.

Blaenau Gwent Armed Forces Steering Group: Josh Rawcliffe.

Joint Committee of Local Councils in Blaenau Gwent: Josh Rawcliffe, Nick Simmons, Peter Adamson, Bruno Góes Maciel, Steve Edwards (Clerk).

Accounts

Our annual returns, financial statements, budget and audit opinions can be found on our website: http://www.abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/Accounts_28429.aspx

Funding

This year, Council had a budget of **£431,131**. Council requested that **£381,131** of this be funded by precept. This funding comes directly from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, who raise it via council tax. The rest of the budget is funded by previous years underspend.

Relationship with BGCBC

We work closely with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, including participating in the Joint Committee of Local Councils in Blaenau Gwent. We do not currently hold any formal charters with BGCBC, nor do we have any asset or service transfers pending.

Complaints

No complaints were received in the 2024-25 financial year.

Reports

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 introduced a new measure requiring local Council authorities in Wales to publish an Annual Report detailing the Council's priorities, activities and achievements from the year. This new legislation came into place as of April 1st 2022. This report is intended to increase transparency and give an insight into the work done by the Council throughout the 2024-2025 financial year. It has been produced by Molly Jones, Deputy Clerk

Our Wellbeing, Biodiversity and other Annual Reports can be found on our website: http://www.abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk/Reports_47956.aspx

Grant Funding

Council Grants

Budgeted:

£17,000

Awarded:

£19,951

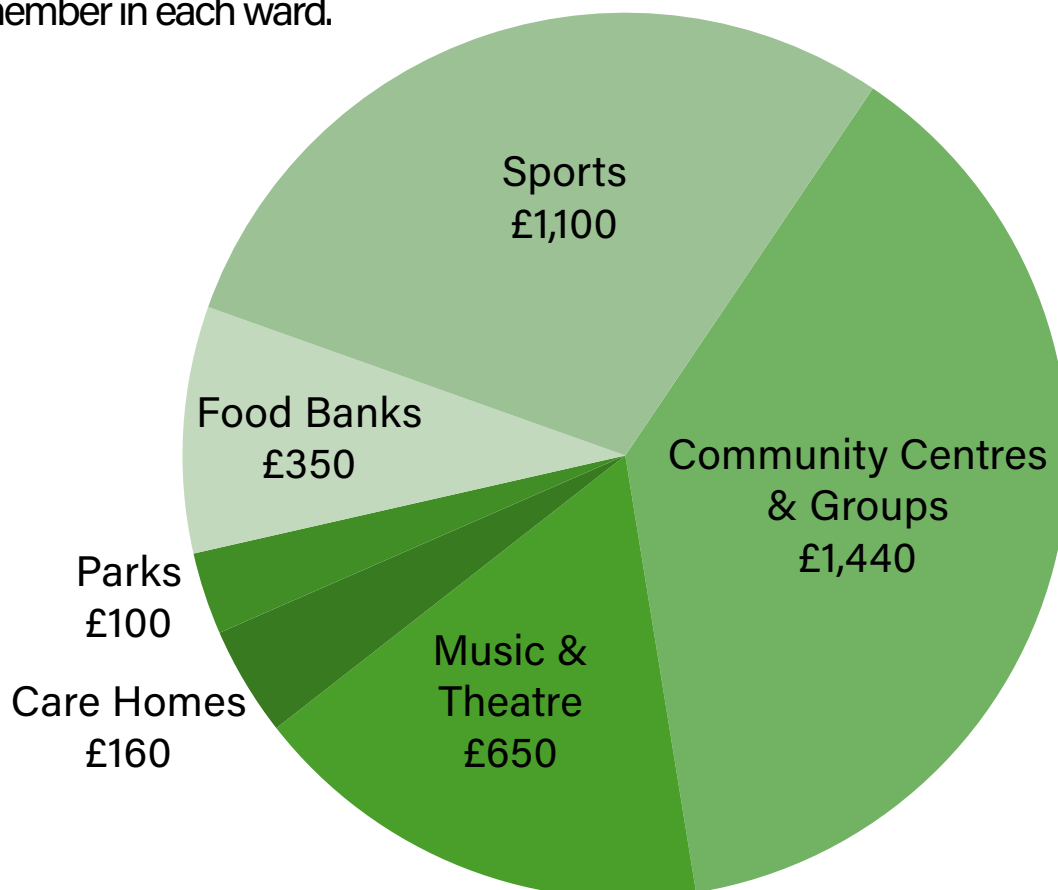


Examples of Grants Awarded:

- Six Bells Bowls Club - £380 for a new security gate to provide disability access.
- AADMS - £300 towards their production of 'Shout!'
- Llanhilleth Miner's Institute - £1,937 to restore the building's integral clock.
- Chillax - £3,000 to fund breakfast/after school provision of 2 youth workers.
- Abertillery Bluebirds FC - £1,000 towards a sporting facility for youth teams.
- Hospice of the Valleys - £500 sponsorship of their festive fundraising concert.
- Six Bells Community Centre - £300 for security lighting and garden revamp.

Ward Grants

£3,800 of funding was distributed through Ward Grants this year, with a budget of £200 per member in each ward.



Solar Farm Grants

Each year, we receive funding from Hafod-Y-Dafal Solar Farm to award as community grants. This year, we had £70,000 to allocate. The following grants were awarded:

- Friends of Blaenau Gwent Village & Roseheyworth Park - £29,506 to purchase play equipment at Roseheyworth Park.
- St. Michael's Church - £25,000 to install a new sustainable heating system.
- Abertillery Learning Community - £7,180 for gates and rugby posts at the pitch adjacent to The Bridgend Pub.
- Abertillery Town Band - £7,300 to refurbish instruments for the Academy.

The remaining £1,014 was given to Abertillery Bowls & Cricket Club, towards a new roof. This was agreed under the condition that they are not excluded from receiving a Solar Farm Grant within the next five years.

Progress is already being made on the play equipment at Roseheyworth Park



Progress from Last Year:

In 2023, we awarded Solar Farm Grants to Llanhilleth RFC for an all-weather pergola and Ebbw Fach Community Group for a 'Happy Cafe' cabin. These projects have now been completed.



Leisure & Tourism Committee

Summer Cinema

Our Summer Cinema programme offers free showings of films throughout the six-week Summer holiday. This year, we held four showings a week at The Met in Abertillery.

Budget:
£10,000
Spent:
£8,664

The showings include a relaxed screening which is quieter and lighter, a screening supervised by Blaenau Gwent Youth Service and a screening supervised by Off The Streets. We also fund a coach for Off The Streets which stops in Swffryd and Llanhilleth.

To increase engagement this year, we reached out to the Abertillery Learning Community pupil Senedd and invited pupils from the school to vote on film choices.

Over 500 people attended the programme this year. We aim to increase this number next year with more advertising and involvement with local schools, as well as reaching out to local groups that could benefit from the relaxed sessions.

Concerts

We host two annual community concerts - a Christmas carol concert and a St. David's Day concert. This year, we held these in St. Michael's Church, Abertillery. These concerts feature local choirs, schools, soloists and the Abertillery Town Brass Band.



Budget:
£2,500

Spent:
£2,731.25

We charge a small entry fee and hold raffles at these events to raise money for the Chair's nominated charity. This year, our carol concert raised £919 and our St. David's Day concert raised £250.

We also provided £2,000 of funding to Abertillery Blaenau Gwent RFC towards insurance & security for Aber Rocks, and bought selection boxes for our young performers at the Christmas concert.

War Memorial

We are responsible for maintaining the Abertillery War Memorial. In January 2025, the grounds maintenance contract was awarded to Green Fingers again. They ensure the site is kept neat & tidy, including planting and maintaining the flowerbeds, cutting the grass and jet-washing the paths.

In April, work is due to begin on repairing and repainting the railings and gate on the site.



Budget:
£3,500
Spent:
£2,130

Christmas Lights

Our central contract provides Christmas lights throughout Abertillery and into Six Bells. We also award the following grants for community groups to provide lights in their areas:

- Llanhilleth Tenants & Residents Association - £3,000
- Brynithel Community Centre - £1,500
- Pentref Tyleri (Cwmtillery) - £1,500
- Bournville Community Centre - £1,500
- Aberbeeg Community Centre - £1,500
- Swffryd Community Centre - £1,500

This year's overspend was due to a budgeting error, as the VAT was not included in the central contract. £1,050 was spent on maintenance this year, and £1,479.37 was spent on electricity.

Budget:
£43,000
Spent:
£50,529.91



Loneliness Project

The Loneliness Project was established to provide funding for groups working to provide and facilitate activities and projects which encourage community engagement and help combat isolation in our communities. This year, funding was awarded to five different organisations:

- Six Bells Tennis Club - £1,600 towards running costs for a local pensioner's group.
- Aberbeeg Sewing Circle - £1,500 towards, rent, machine servicing, sewing kits & materials.
- Ebenezer Baptist Church - £1,580 towards rent and food for a range of groups.
- The Mitre CIC - £1,711.19 towards furnishing their upstairs space for classes, community groups and as a social space.
- Kenny's Vinyl Vault - £1,108.81 for equipment for groups, including a monthly chatter group, spiritual art classes and Moonapause Circle.



Life Drawing Class at The Mitre



Groups at Kenny's Vinyl Vault



Budget:
£7,500
Spent:
£7,500

Party in the Park

Our annual Party in the Park is a free community event providing entertainment for all ages. It is hosted at Abertillery Blaenau Gwent RFC, at Abertillery Park.

This year involved Viking re-enactments, Circus of Positivity, live music, inflatables, food vans, local stallholders & more.

The event had a great reception and was well attended. Pitch fees also raised £200 for the Chair's nominated charities.



Budget:
£15,000
Spent:
£14,675

Annual Grants

As well as the Christmas lights and Aber Rocks Annual Grants, we also awarded:

- £2,000 to Zion Miner's Chapel
- £2,000 to Abertillery Rock & Blues Festival
- £1,740 to Six Bells Park Tennis Club towards their toilet running costs

Viaduct Run - Ras Draphont



We hosted our second annual Viaduct Run - Ras Draphont this year, in partnership with Islwyn Running Club, Swffryd Community Centre, Hafodyrynys RFC, Sofrydd Primary School & Cwtch Media.

This event features a 5k run through Swffryd, a free 1k family fun-run and an awards ceremony with entertainment & refreshments at Swffryd Community Centre.

£249 was raised in entry fees this year, which was donated to Sofrydd Primary School.



Budget:
£5,000
Spent:
£5,888

PlaCE Committee

Town in Bloom

Our Town in Bloom project aims to enhance the natural beauty of our area, and to increase biodiversity. We position planters and hanging baskets throughout the area.

We contract Tillery Action For You (TAFY) to undertake the planting and watering. They work closely with volunteers and the local community. We also offer an allowance of £75 per tub for community groups or residents to look after tubs, such as Ffrindiau Tyleri, Abertillery Knit 'n' Natter & Brynithel Action Group.

In October 2024, we agreed to enter the 2025 Wales in Bloom competition.



Budget:
£17,000
Spent:
£15,659

Defibrillators

In 2022, we made a commitment to install 2 defibrillators in the area every year. This year, we installed one at Aberbeeg Tyres and one at Caffi Tyleri. We also adopted an existing defib at Six Bells Park this year, and we now maintain 13 defibrillators.

We also successfully applied for a free defibrillator from the British Heart Foundation and installed this at Aberbeeg Community Centre, and it is now managed by volunteers there.

Our staff also created and shared a map of all 24/7 accessible defibrillators in the area to help raise awareness of their locations.

Budget:
£7,000
Spent:
£5,481



Bridges Car Scheme

In 2024, we began working with Bridges Community Car Scheme to promote their work and help them recruit volunteers. This included creating flyers and running a leaflet drop in the area.

In June, we granted £1,000 to the scheme to subsidise journeys for passengers in our area. Between June 2024 - March, 2025, this 25% subsidy saved passengers a total of £560.



Budget:

£5,000

Spent:

£1,893



Transport, Roads & Parking

In August 2024, we conducted a public consultation via social media and our website regarding which roads local residents felt should remain at, or revert from, 20mph. We used this data to make representations to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.

In November, we attended a Policy Forum for Wales relating to the future of transport in Wales to learn about developments relevant to our area.

In March 2025, we made a number of recommendations to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council with the goal of improving roads & parking in our area.

Energy Learning Network

In September 2024, we were accepted into an Energy Learning network for Town & Community Councils across the UK to learn more about community energy and receive support in establishing energy projects.

We have attended two workshops and will continue these into March 2026. The project is hosted by the Centre for Sustainable Energy and funded by the National Lottery Community Fund.



Allotments

As part of the 1908 Small Holdings and Allotments Act, it is the Council's duty to provide sufficient allotments according to demand. Therefore, ALCC supports 6 allotments in the area: Gelli Crug, Adam Street, Bishops Street, Gwastod, Brynithel and Pant-Y-Pwden.

Budget:
£650
Spent:
£675

Ffrindiau Tyleri

Each year, we provide grant funding to Ffrindiau Tyleri to support their town centre events. This funding covers Springfest, Aberfest, Scare at Jubilee Square and Winterfest.

Budget:
£7,500
Spent:
£2,959



Human Resources Committee

This year, the HR Committee:

- Implemented a Staff Eye Testing Policy.
- Implemented Ergonomics Assessments to ensure workplace compliance.
- Performed a staffing review.
- Performed staff appraisals.
- Confirmed that both Deputy Clerks had passed probation and confirmed their permanent appointments.
- Agreed that both Deputy Clerks will begin the CiLCA qualification next year.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee began working through the Finance & Governance Toolkit (One Voice Wales/Welsh Government) to improve the governance of Council. They also prepared and reviewed key documents such as the Asset Register, Risk Register and next years' budget. Members of the Finance Committee also perform monthly bank reconciliations, which are then approved by Council.

Community Empowerment Committee

Youth Engagement

Blaenau Gwent Youth Service

We provided £60,000 of funding to BGYS for their Abertillery Detached Teams, who focus on engaging with young people and 'meeting them where they are'



Between September 2023 - September 2024 this service engaged with 1,125 young people. The teams are out in the area three evenings a week, as well as running workshops like wreath-making and cooking classes.

They also host informative sessions like Drug Education, Alcohol Awareness and Anti-Bullying.



Off The Streets

We also provided £60,000 to Off The Streets, whose work covers Llanhilleth, Swffryd and Brynithel.

Between July 2023 - July 2024, Off The Streets delivered:

- 140 sessions in Swffryd, with 2,248 total attendees
- 132 sessions in Llanhilleth, with 2,201 total attendees
- 153 sessions in Brynithel, with 2,068 total attendees

They also partner with Ffin Dance, Aneurin Leisure Sports Development Team, Dragons RFC, Streetgames - SportsWales, Clwb Llan and others to deliver a variety of sessions.

We also provided £5,000 of funding for Off The Streets to host a Llanhilleth Summer Fete, which featured inflatables, local stallholders, live music and other entertainment for the community.

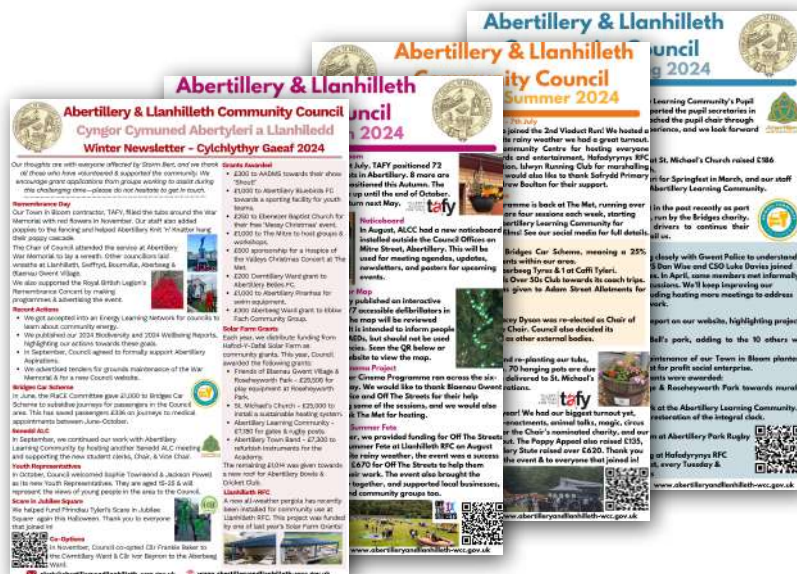


Newsletters

Last year, we produced our first newsletter. These are now published quarterly on our website, Facebook, Instagram, and in shops & noticeboards throughout the area.

These newsletters help increase awareness of our work and encourage community participation.

The fifth edition of our newsletter introduced a more readable format, as well as adding the Welsh language Council name and newsletter edition in the header.



Website

In October 2024, we published an invite to tender for the design & build of a new Council website. This will replace our current website and make it more accessible and easy to use.

In December, we agreed on four applicants to receive more in-depth presentations from. This process took place throughout January-February. Following these presentations, we agreed to enter into a contract with Her Web Solutions.

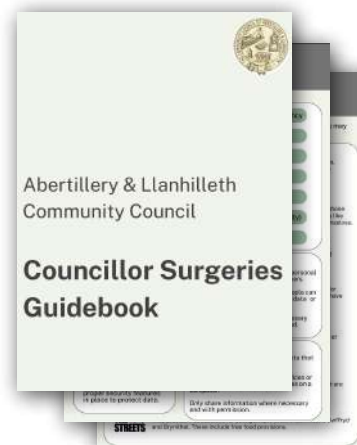
They are a Cardiff based company, specialising in accessible, sustainable, secure, and user-focused websites tailored for local councils, NHS organisations, and public sector institutions.



Councillor Surgeries

In September 2024, we began investigating the possibility of running Councillor Surgeries in the area. These would allow local residents to raise concerns, ask questions and find out more about what we do.

In October, we agreed to trial this by joining existing surgeries hosted by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Councillors. In December, we agreed a policy for these surgeries, and implemented a guidebook for Councillors. We hope to host our first Councillor Surgery in the next financial year.



Other Achievements

Chair's Charity

Each year, our Chair choses local not-for-profit groups to raise money for throughout the year. This year, the following Chair's Charity donations were made:

- £663.78 to Abertillery Ladies Orpheus Choir
- £663.77 to Chillax Charity

Other Actions:

- Some of our Councillors attended a free CPR/AED training session in our Chambers, hosted by local company SLC training.
- In December 2024, we met with the new Gwent Police Sergeant for the Abertillery area.
- Our Chair of Council laid a wreath at the Abertillery War Memorial during this year's Remembrance Service.
- Members of Council also laid wreaths at Swffryd, Llanhilleth, Aberbeeg, Bournville and Blaenau Gwent Village.
- We have hosted meetings of the Abertillery Learning Community student Senedd, continuing our partnership from last year.
- Our offices have been used by Ffrindiau Tyleri, Abertillery Lions and a local Knit 'n' Natter group, free of charge.
- In September 2024, Council agreed to formally support the Abertillery Aspirations group.
- In July 2024, we began collaborating with the Blaenau Gwent Integrated Wellbeing Network to help them engage with more groups in our area.



Plans for 2025-2026

Leisure & Tourism Committee

2024-2025 Budget: £105,800 | 2025-2026 Budget: £123,040

- To host a Six Bells Park Centenary celebration for the community.
- To improve on annual events like Party in the Park.
- To repair/repaint the railings around the Abertillery War Memorial and investigate replacing the paving.
- To continue providing Christmas lights, including allocating a new grant to the Friends of Blaenau Gwent Village & Roseheyworth Park.

Planning, Commerce & Environment Committee

2024-2025 Budget: £47,150 | 2025-2026 Budget: £43,050

- To provide another 2 defibrillators for the community.
- To enter the Wales in Bloom contest.
- To provide funding to the Adam Street Allotment to install their own apiary.
- To continue providing floral displays as part of the Town in Bloom project.
- To keep supporting the Bridges Car Scheme.

Community Empowerment Committee

2024-2025 Budget: £120,000 | 2025-2026 Budget: £136,000

- To go live with the new Council website.
- To continue funding vital youth work in the area.
- To provide funding for extra-curricular transport for local schools, to enable lower income families to attend trips.
- To begin hosting Councillor Surgeries.

Other Plans

- For both Deputy Clerks to begin the CiLCA qualification.
- To appoint two new Youth Representatives.
- To continue improving the governance of the Council.
- To continue working alongside local groups and organisations, such as Gwent Police, Blaenau Gwent Integrated Wellbeing Network and the Abertillery Learning Community.

Overall Budget
2024-2025
£431,131

Overall Budget
2025-2026:
£464,023

Precept
2024-2025
£381,131

Precept
2025-2026:
£434,023

Funding
A precept request of £434,023 has been submitted for the 2025/26 financial year. The rest of the budget is funded by previous years underspend.