

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT COMMITTEE OF ABERTILLERY AND LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 12 September 2025 AT 5:30 pm at the Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery and via video conferencing (Zoom).

PRESENT

Councillors: Barrie Page (Chair), Peter Adamson, Josh Rawcliffe and Ben Owen-Jones (via video-link).

Officers: Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk).

Absent: Tracey Dyson, Lucy Harmer (non-voting).

23. Apologies for absence

Tracey Dyson & Lucy Harmer.

24. Declarations of interest or dispensations

None.

25. Minutes of Previous Meeting – 18 July 2025

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

26. Extra-Curricular School Transport Funding

The Deputy Clerk provided an update; two of the four local schools have responded confirming the number of pupils in receipt of free school meals. The Officers will chase this up with the other schools now that a new school term has begun.

27. Councillor Surgeries

Cllr Barrie Page gave an overview of the first Councillor Surgery, which was held on August 7th. Cllr Barrie Page, the Clerk, two Gwent Police officers and Llanhilleth Ward Borough Councillor Helen Cunningham were in attendance.

Only one person visited the surgery. The Committee hopes to publicise future surgeries better, including purchasing a customisable banner to advertise the date, time and location. A second surgery in the Cwmtillery Ward is intended to be held in October or November.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to authorise the officers to purchase a banner to advertise Councillor Surgeries.

28. Budget Proposals 2026-27

The Committee **RESOLVED** to make the following budget proposals for 2026-27:

- BGCBC Detached Team - £65,000 (previously £60,000)
- Off The Streets - £65,000 (previously £60,000)
- New website - £0 (previously £5,000)
- Extra-curricular transport for schools - £10,000
- Councillor surgeries - £0 (previously £1,000; intend to move the 2025-26 underspend moved to earmarked reserves)
- OPAL Primary Programme - £2,500

29. Date of next meeting

As needed.

The meeting ended at 5:51pm.

These minutes were produced by Molly Jones (Deputy Clerk).

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

Dated:.....