

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 1st May 2024 AT 7PM ON MS TEAMS & IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM, TOWN HALL, ABERGAVENNY

Present: Cllr G Jones (Chair)
Cllr M Barnes
Cllr S Burch
Cllr B Nicholson
Cllr D Simcock
Cllr A Wilde
Cllr G Wilde

Absent without apologies: None

In attendance: S Rosser – Principal Officer/RFO
J Shipley – Deputy Principal Officer/Deputy RFO

Public in attendance: Dr Rachel Watson
Gwent Police Representative

PC27/24	Receive and approve apologies for absence. Cllrs George, Eldridge and Powell. All Councillors resolved to accept the reasons for absence.
PC28/24	Receive Declarations of Interest. No declarations of interest were received.
PC29/24	To receive and approve the minutes from the last meeting on 6th March 2024. Cllr Nicholson proposed the minutes from the meeting on 6 th March 2024 should be accepted as a true and accurate record, seconded by Cllr A Wilde. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal. Minutes were signed by Cllr Jones.
PC30/24	To receive an update from PC Thompson on neighbourhood policing: Biggest rise is in anti-social behaviour mostly initiated by visiting youths; waste bin fires late at night and rural theft. Community Protection Orders have been issued to ban these youths from Abergavenny. Officers are maintaining an increased presence at

	<p>town events, and in the countryside, to dissuade these behaviours. The pattern in and around the town centre is quiet. Re: rural crime, the main targets are tools and quad bikes. With regard to rough sleepers/beggars: the police are working with the Modern Slavery Team. Cllr Nicholson requested that crime figures be presented as ward specific and that the previous month's figures be presented alongside new month figures so that the narrative is clearer for the Town Council to understand. This was agreed as possible. Cllr Nicholson asked if Crime Prevention/Awareness messages, in co-operation with the Communications Team, could be put on ATC Media. Cllr Nicholson further offered a vote of thanks for the successful crime prevention work that is done.</p>
PC31/24	<p>To receive a presentation on the Youth Service's Shift Project: SHIFT co-ordinates referrals eg from school, CAMHS, police, families, NHS, based on the needs of the young person (11-25 years). SHIFT can escalate the support if crisis develops. Referrals are allocated as they come in. High level concerns – above Youth Workers are referred to parents and support agencies eg CAMHS. 1-1 appointments/support with Youth Workers may take 2-3 months. SHIFT has access to family support. Referrals written by professionals are key to multi agency support for the young person. The youth workers move around the county and have good links to other support groups eg MIND/NHS/CAMHS/CAB for family support.</p> <p>Thanks to Abergavenny Town Council for recognising the importance of the SHIFT project and supporting the team. The funding helps reduce waiting list in Abergavenny. No other Town or Community Council in Monmouthshire contributes funds, other councils do offer support in different areas of the work, there are plans to approach other Town/Community Councils for support similar to the ATC model. Abergavenny has the most referrals in Monmouthshire and also a youth worker for 1^{1/2} days/week as opposed to 1 day as other parts of the county.</p>
PC32/24	<p>To receive and approve Abergavenny Fairtrade Statement for the Town Council website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Adopting a stronger revised statement for 'Town of Sanctuary and Fairtrade Town' would be suitable for consideration at a future Policy and Resources Committee. ii) Procurement: to explore Fairtrade options. iii) To use ATC Social Media Platforms to advertise Fairtrade events.

	<p>Cllr Nicholson proposed the Fairtrade Town statement be accepted 'though should request it be strengthened by Fairtrade Foundation and reconsidered before publishing. Cllr G Wilde seconded. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal.</p>
<p>PC33/24</p>	<p>To receive a report on the Events to be held in Abergavenny in 2024</p> <p>There are new regulations surrounding holding/planning events to include provision for Martyn's Law: 'The law aims to improve protective security and organisational preparedness across the UK by making those responsible for certain premises and events consider the terrorist risk and how they would respond to an attack.' It is possible to arrange a training session to review safety/security/licensing/anti-terrorism.</p> <p>Cllr Nicholson/business community offered a skills based online training session to develop a toolkit exploring what help/advice groups would like for events.</p> <p>Cllr Jones acknowledged that there was a busy and varied programme for 2024. Request for Cllrs to diary events and attend where possible to help with preparation and facilitating, especially D-Day Anniversary; Wales in Bloom July and Sept; 125 Year celebration; Remembrance Parade; Christmas Light Switch-on. Principal Officer has qualified to manage traffic. Cllr Jones thanked Principal Officer for work in facilitating and planning the programme.</p> <p>2024 EVENT LIST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AM Fest – Sunday 5th May 2024 Monmouthshire Markets Toy Fair – Monday 6th May 2024 Rotary Canal Walk – 12th May 2024 Abergavenny Rotary Steam Rally – 26th & 27th May 2024 D-Day Anniversary – Thursday 6th June 2024 Abergavenny Art Festival – Saturday 15th June 2024 Rotary concert St Marys Priory – 22nd June 2024 Abergavenny Symphony Orchestra Summer Concert – 23rd June 2024 Abergavenny Pride – Saturday 29th June 2024 Wales in Bloom judging – first week July 2024 TBC 7 Corners IYE Festival - 13th July 2024 Long Walk Home Bailey Park – end July/beginning August 2024 Open Air Concerts – summer dates and venues TBC Abergavenny Carnival – 7th September 2024

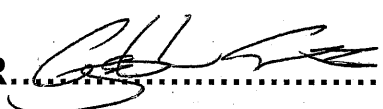
	<p>Wales in Bloom Ceremony – Friday 13th September 2024 Abergavenny Food Festival – 21st & 22nd September 2024 Wall to Wall Jazz Festival – 27th – 29th September 2024 Greener Abergavenny – Sunday 20th October 2024 Abergavenny Town Council’s 125 years – 1st November 2024 Round Table Fireworks – Tuesday 5th November 2024 Remembrance Parade 2024 – 10th November 2024 Christmas Light Switch On – 16th November 2024</p> <p>The Abergavenny Carnival has reformed. Cllrs invited to meet the committee. Meetings at ‘The Grofield’ Wednesdays 7pm</p>
PC34/24	<p>To receive and note the Principal Officer’s update. Report received and noted. Offer of support where we can and pass to MCC for input and support.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GREENER ABERGAVENNY Date confirmed as 20th October 2024 for this year. 2. THE LONG WALK PROJECT (i) Veteran Darren Foote Darren will march the 395 miles from the Dragon Monument at Mametz Woods to Bailey Park Abergavenny, in military kit and aims to do this in 10 days. (Early August). The whole event is to raise money for the Army Benevolent Fund. (ii) To note Abergavenny and Caldicot are competing to host the Armed Forces Day 2025. Several Cllrs raised their concerns about funding or supporting a display militarism given the current state of world conflict. 3. SUMMER CONCERTS Friends of Bailey Park have approached ‘Abergavenny’s Elvis’ to offer a concert in Bailey Park. No further discussions on dates or costs at this stage. Borough Band have asked to perform a concert at the Band Stand in August. Dates are being discussed to organise a ‘Picnic in the Park’. This could showcase talent in the town.
PC35/24	<p>Finance:</p> <p>(a) to receive and approve the budget report for specific budgets allocated to this committee. Cllr A Wilde proposed the Finance Report be accepted. Seconded by Cllr Burch. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal.</p>

	<p>(b) Grant application from the Tithe Barn Community Wellbeing Café. Community voluntary group 'Crafting for Cancer' has been running for 6 years; the team wish to expand into a well-being café. The thorough grant application is well constructed and meets the ATC requirements; there are funds available in the 2024/25 budget. Cllr Nicholson proposed the application be accepted. Cllr Simcock seconded. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal.</p> <p>(c) Grant application from the Monmouthshire Veterans Hub. Application extensive and thorough. The Veterans Hub are requesting support from several Town and Community Councils for the project. Cllr G Wilde proposed the application be accepted. Cllr Burch seconded. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal.</p> <p>(d) To consider MonLife's Volunteering Event contribution request. Principal Officer to reply to the requesting officer outlining the support already given to Abergavenny volunteer groups. Additionally, if an Abergavenny specific grant application was made Abergavenny Town Council would consider it.</p>
PC36/24	<p>To receive any updates from Councillors for the Strategy and Action Plan: P8 update of meetings P9 Community Growing – Neville Hall meeting and walk to explore potential of site as a community asset. P12 Promoting Fairtrade Day P13 Pro-mobility survey of shop accessibility; Sight Cymru survey of accessibility of walking through Abergavenny. P14 ATC Media promoting events P17 Supporting positive Mental Health – SHIFT and TITHE BARN grants. P22 Engaging young people – events and IYE - festival P23 Llanfoist Community Hall – making relationships P27 Eistedfodd P29 Fairtrade engagement</p>
PC37/24	<p>Report from Councillors attendance at external bodies relevant to this Committee: • Abergavenny Community Trust – Cllrs Barnes and G.Wilde: nothing to report</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abergavenny Eisteddfod – Cllrs Simcock and Jones: event on 11th March 2024 was successful – nothing further to report. • Abergavenny Relief In Need Charity – Cllrs Simcock and A Wilde: nothing to report • Abergavenny Community Enterprise (ACE) – Cllrs Jones and Eldridge: Outcome frameworks accepted and welcomed. The report is impressive. • Mind in Gwent – Cllrs G Wilde and A Wilde MIND in Gwent facing a financial deficit which will impact on services. Redundancies have lead to only 2 workers being retained in Gwent. There is no MIND website which appears to be a significant deficit.
PC38/24	<p>Report from County Councillors on matters affecting Abergavenny relevant to this Committee:</p> <p>Cllr Burch reported that property has been purchased and refurbished by Monmouthshire County Council as temporary accommodation. Additionally, approval has been given to fund county wide Children's Homes. County budgets are still under pressure. Cllr G Wilde requested information as to the future of the Borough Theatre under MonLife. What is our potential future commitment to support?</p>
PC39/24	<p>Items for consideration at the next meeting 3rd July 2024.</p> <p>(i) Request conversation with police about their role in support of event safety to ease relationships between businesses and police.</p> <p>(ii) Museum – raise awareness of dependence on Welsh Gov't funding. Monmouthshire Museum Service well thought of as innovative. Extend invitation to Tracy Thomas to speak to Council.</p> <p>(iii) 125th Anniversary – Picnic in the Park update</p>

Meeting ended at 8:57pm

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR  DATE 17/07/2024

