ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 29th APRIL 2026 AT 7:00PM ON MS TEAMS & IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM, TOWN HALL, ABERGAVENNY.

Present: Cllr C Holland (Chair)
Cllr M Barnes
Cllr P Bowyer
Cllr S Burch
Cllr D English
Cllr J George
Cllr G Jones
Cllr A Wilde
Cllr G Wilde

In attendance:
Sandra Rosser – Principal Officer/RFO
Jay Shipley – Deputy Principal Officer/DRFO
Cllr L. Wright
Friends of Union Road Playpark

E45/26	**Receive and approve apologies for absence.** Apologies received from Cllr D Simcock. All Councillors resolved to accept the reason for absence.
E46/26	**Receive Declarations of Interest for items on the agenda.** Cllr G Jones 55/26 Planning Application DM/2024/00932
E47/26	**To approve the minutes from 25th March 2026.** Minutes received and noted. Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr G Wilde, proposed the minutes from the meeting on 25th March 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal.
E48/26	**Finance:** (a) Receive a report on the Environment Budget headings. SLA for sanitary bins inadvertently paid from the toilet SLA. This has been rectified. Cllr Bowen seconded by Cllr English, proposed the Finance Report be approved. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal.

	(b) To receive a grant application from the Library Garden Group. Committee was minded, to assist the group with some project funding. Committee was not minded, to accept volunteer hours in lieu of the group raising 25% of the costs. Cllr Bowyer proposed 50% of the requested grant for the Library Square Garden Group, be offered. This was seconded by Cllr George. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal. Principal Officer to contact the group.
E49/26	**To consider the renewed Service Level Agreements for the town centre toilet provision with Monmouthshire County Council.** Public Toilet SLA in two parts. (i) 3 blocks of town facilities (Castle Street, Brewery Yard and the Bus Station) 2.5% year on year increase for the next three years, which will allow Council to budget. The agreement includes servicing/lock and unlock, inspections and repairs. This SLA also includes servicing water fountains in the schedule of works – in preparation for the Changing Places build on Castle Street. (ii)Bailey Park weekend and Summer opening 7am-5pm again 2.5% increase year on year and schedule of works as above. Committee thanked the Principal Officer for negotiating the SLA. Cllr G Wilde, seconded by Cllr English, proposed the SLA be accepted. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal.
E50/26	**To receive reports on Play parks and parks:** • Union Road Playpark Group – Cllr G Jones Received a well-documented presentation from the newly formed, and constituted, Friends of Union Road Playpark. In depth history of the site, photographs of site as it is currently and plans to restore the site to a welcoming, safe, vibrant and user- friendly, community facility. Group would ask for continued Cllr support and the opportunity to meet with Council again. • Belgrave Park- Cllr Simcock. Cllr Burch reported holes in the path, the grass areas are good; the hedges require attention.

	• Beaupreau Place Playpark - Cllr A Wilde: small, well-kept facility 'though limited equipment. Request for a bin to be moved. Town team to be approached. • Swan Meadows - Cllr G Wilde: November flooding damaged the play-park and the facility is still locked. Until the potential flooding issue is resolved is it wise to invest in refurbishing? Should the equipment be moved to another location if refurbishment is not possible. Cllr G.Wilde will monitor the situation.
E51/26	**To receive an update on the Public Art Projects** 1. Public Art on the Royal Mail Sorting Office wall has been very well received. 2. Cantref School 'Land of My Fathers' Public Art Project. Artist secured to work with the children, wall has been identified, permissions agreed, funding secured. Mayor visited school assembly where students presented their ideas, to present a cheque. 3. Bailey Park have funding for another 'art in the park' work. 4. Bailey Park tank Plinth – MCC are repairing the stonework and looking to add a shadow-work, flat, tank silhouette and plant poppies. MCC are funding half the costs if ATC will fund the rest.
E52/26	**To receive and note the Principal Officer's update.** Report received and noted. Update from Neville Hall Spaces for Nature. "The People's Emergency Briefing" film screening https://www.tickettailor.com/events/llanwenarthbaptistchurch/2168098 Thu 21 May 2026 at Llanwenarth Baptist Church Hall - bringing together nine leading UK scientists and climate emergency experts with the latest evidence and why it matters. Keep Abergavenny Tidy latest report more volunteers and new areas being visited by KAT. Encourage people to take rubbish home with them. Suggestion for public art to encourage litter awareness.

	Flooding concerns detritus in the Gavenny. They have tried to get agencies to remove it with no success and have asked ATC to intervene. Tree Grates for Lion Street look very impressive. Design unique and combines images from the Mayor's chains. Public notice board request at Bus Station. Review of need and location suggested as next steps. Parking issues Belmont Road/Plas Derwen. Complaints from residents regarding obstructive parking by non-residents/visitors. Neither group have residents' parking it is a complicated issue regards enforcement. Cllrs informed. Staff to visit the area.
E53/26	**To receive and note the Service Delivery update.** Report received and noted. Town Team: Now fully staffed with appointment of new, full-time member of the team. Litter bins are overfull at weekends, particularly across public holidays. Principal Officer to enquire if Monmouthshire's EPA team do a weekend town centre empty of bins. EPA could be approached to explore emptying 'high use/high traffic' bins eg Llanfoist Bridge entry onto Castle Meadows, Byefield Lane lower carpark inappropriately filled with domestic waste. Powys Overnight Camper van policy to be obtained to see if this can help combat overnight parking in Byefield Lane Car Park. Dog fouling awareness day 21st May at Bailey Park and Linda Vista Gardens/Castle Meadows.
E54/26	**To receive a report on Abergavenny in Bloom.** Report received and noted. A draft constitution for AiB has been included in the papers. If committee are in favour of a more independant 'Bloom' organisation being created to lead the entry, it can be raised at the next AiB meeting on 20th May 2026.

	Hanging Baskets: businesses ordering is now direct from contractor. Local businesses are ordering. Town Team are actively tidying the potential route. It's Your Neighbourhood entries are being asked for a brief overview of their work and several photographs to contribute to the portfolio 2026. Judging will take place between 6-8th July. Greener Abergavenny scheduled for October 18th 2026. RHS judge will be officially opening the event. ATC are also hosting a 'Wales In Bloom' event in the afternoon to thank the volunteers and award 2026 certificates.
E55/26	**To consider and make recommendations regarding the following planning applications**: DM/2024/00932 – 'Council offering no opinion to support or object to this application at this time' (proposed by Cllr Bowyer seconded by Cllr English. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal. DM/2026/00442 – Approve. Caveat: application makes no reference to outside seating which would be a cause for concern as this would obstruct the highway. DM/2026/00198 - Approve
E56/26	**To receive reports from Town Councillors attendance at external bodies relevant to this Committee:** Chair left the meeting. Vice Chair took the remaining 3 agenda items. • Abergavenny and District Tourist Association: Cllrs G Wilde and D Simcock – attended launch event for brochure. • CCTV user group: Cllrs George and Jones – no report. • Friends of Linda Vista Gardens: Cllrs Wright & Simcock – nothing to report • Friends of Bailey Park: Cllrs Bowyer & English – no report. • Friends of Castle Meadows: Cllrs Simcock & Wright – no report • Monmouthshire CC Planning Committee: Cllrs Holland & George – no report. • Greener Abergavenny – Cllrs Barnes & A Wilde – no

	report.
E57/26	**Report from County Councillors on matters affecting Abergavenny relevant to this Committee.** Works on Frogmore Street scheduled to start in next 5 weeks.
E58/26	**Items for the next meeting on 27th May 2026:** 1. Situation with wastebins. 2. Camping – byelaw situation and enforcement. 3. Public notice board request at Bus Station 4. Invite Dwr Cymru to present to an ATC future meeting. 5. Enforcement Officers – invite to present to an ATC meeting. 6. Should finances allow, discussion around investing in deployable CCTV cameras around the town. (Cllr George).

Meeting ended 21:00 pm **APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD**

CHAIR .....**DATE** 21/May/26.