

Abbeycwmhir Community Council Annual Meeting
18th May 2023

The Annual Meeting of Cyngor Cymuned Abbeycwmhir Community Council held at the Phillips Hall.

Present : Gareth Rees (Chairman). Brian Rees, Julie Evans, John Jones, Diane Powell, David Jones.
County **Cllr C Mills**

1. Apologies for absence: none
2. **Welcome by the Outgoing Chairman:** GR thanked everyone for attending and opened the meeting at 7.05 pm.

3. Appointment of Officers:

- (a) Chairman (b) Vice-Chairman: All appointments are until May 2024.
- (a) Chairman: J Jones (next in order of standing) was proposed (DP/GR) and accepted the office .
- (b) Vice-Chairman: B Rees (next in order of standing) (DP/GR)
- Appointment of representatives to outside organisations: Cllr Brian Rees agreed to continue as the representative on both the Rhayader Market Hall and Smithfield (GR/DJ) Trust and the Garn Fach Windfarm Community Liaison Group (GR/DJ). This was accepted with thanks by all members.

Declaration of Office by Chairman and Vice Chairman: The Chairman and Vice-Chairman signed declarations of Office. Witnessed by the County Councillor and Clerk. Members Acceptance of the code of conduct: Members acknowledged their continued acceptance of the code of conduct.

4. **Matters of Interest** on Agenda as per Code of Conduct – None declared.
5. **Minutes of the previous AGM** held on 19th May 2022 (reviewed and signed 16/06/2022 ref 0622/03a) were further reviewed with no amendments. They were also reviewed for any matters arising. (DJ/JE)

(Cllr JE arrived and apologised for lateness as a result of travelling from a previous engagement)

6. **Matters arising from Minutes of AGM held in 2022:** none raised.
7. **Outgoing Chairman's Report:** Cllr GR briefly noted the work that had been undertaken during the year, including dealing with planning and highway issues and preparing for the Jubilee. He noted it had been another an extraordinary 12 months for both the nation and the community. Celebrations for Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee had taken place throughout the community bringing together young and old, friends and families. He thanked everyone present for their participation in organising the events but also in their absence other Community members for their hard work to make the celebration weekend a success. . . Later in the year the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II was marked by many and again brought community members together but in a different way. Another national occasion had taken place within the past few days being the Coronation of HM King Charles III, everyone was again thanked for helping to bring the community together to celebrate this. He acknowledged with sadness that the Community Council and local residents continued to feel the loss of Cllr Keith Powell at such events and everyone agreed that their thoughts and best wished continued to be

sent to his family. He concluded by thanking his fellow Councillors and the Clerk for their support to him during his time as Chairman and gave best wishes to Cllr John Jones for the coming year.

Councillor Jones accepted his good wishes and took the Chair. He thanked members for their confidence to appoint him to the role and looked forward to the forthcoming year in office.

8. **The review and adoption of Community Council documents:** Previously circulated (to review annually at AGM):
 - Standing Orders: the NALC Model Standing Orders (issued 2018) were adopted again in full with no revisions. It was noted that One Voice Wales were drafting revised model standing orders and it was agreed that these be viewed and adopted as appropriate when they became available later in the year (DJ/DP)
 - Financial Regulations: The NALC Model Financial Regulations (2019) as adopted in 2022 were again adopted in full with no further amendments. (JE/GR)
 - Risk Assessment: this had been reviewed and updated to include effects of vandalism. The risk assessment was agreed. (JE/DP)
 - Asset Register: It was noted that this was an item of ongoing review throughout the year. Agreed (JE/DP)
 - Opt-out of Councillor Allowance Claim 2023-24: The payment of allowances was discussed. Members agreeing to opt-out of claiming the standard allowance during 2023-24 signed opt out forms and return to the Clerk. It was noted that **Making Payments to Members** had been circulated for information. The Clerk reminded members that a council can adopt any, or all, of the non-mandated determinations (set out in table 9 of the IRP report. **No** allowances were agreed other than those that were statutory, care cost regulations were noted.
 - Members Attendance record – noted
9. **Financial Report:** copies of the 2022-23 end of year financial report were circulated. Income, expenses, donations were discussed and end of year bank balances stated. It was noted that these figures would be submitted as part of the External Audit. DP Proposed that the accounts were accepted (JE second). Proposal resolved.
10. **Acceptance & Signing of Audit Return by the Chairman.** The Internal Audit had been completed – the Internal Auditors Report was discussed and the notes and recommendations accepted to be addressed as required. The Audit Return financial report figures were explained, and the Governance Statement was discussed and completed. The AGAR was agreed (DP/JE) then signed by the Chairman.
11. **Signatories List and Clerk's authorisation on Bank Account:** new mandates to be completed and confirmed at a future meeting and change of bank to be progressed now the 2022-23 financial year had been completed and the 2021-22 External Audit received .
12. **Insurance:** The Current Insurance continues to provide an indemnity guarantee and appropriate insurance cover. It was advised that insurance was due on 1st June 2023. premium be paid according. Agreed to be made by internet banking. (JE/DP).
13. **Salary of the Clerk/RFO:** Clerks salary to be reviewed at precept setting (JE/BR)

14. **Dates and times of meetings for the ensuing year:** the following dates were agreed to be set.

Date	Meeting	Time	Key Agenda Items
15 June 2023	Ordinary	8pm	Urgent Business/Sign Annual Return
17 August 2023	Ordinary		
16 Nov 2023	Ordinary	8pm	Review 2023 Budget and consider 2024-25 Budget and Precept
15 Feb 2024	Ordinary	8pm	Appoint Internal Auditor
16 May 2024	AGM & Ordinary	7.30 pm	Approve 2023-24 Accounts
<i>Ad hoc meetings may be set between these dates as Council business dictates. Councillors will be notified as necessary.</i>			

15. JJ closed the meeting at 7.58 pm