

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ABENBURY COMMUNITY COUNCIL¹ HELD ON THE 9th OF FEBRUARY 2026

Members Present: Councillors: P. Done, K. Evans, M Williams, J. Jones P. Graham-Palmer, M. Morris (Wrexham CBC)

Chair: Councillor J. Jones

Clerk: Serena Baxter.

Apologies: Councillors A. Reeves, G. Williams,

531.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were noted and accepted.																		
532.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Members were reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of any personal and/ or prejudicial interest for any item under discussion.																		
533.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There were no members of the public present.																		
534.	CRIME REPORT AND POLICING MATTERS: It was noted that there had been five crimes recorded on the Crime report.																		
535.	TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th of January 2026: The Minutes of the meeting held on the 12th of January 2026 were APPROVED as a true record.																		
536.	MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.																		
537.	UPDATE REGARDING VACANCIES ON THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST RECEIVED, REQUIRING APPROVAL OF CO-OPTION: The Clerk advised of details of Mrs Rachael Jewkes, to be considered for Co-option to the Community Council. After consideration and all present voting in favour, it was RESOLVED to co-opt Mrs Jewkes as Community Councillor. The Clerk will notify Mrs Jewkes and contact Electoral office. The Clerk advised that two vacancies now remain. It was RESOLVED to continue to advertise and that flyers be distributed at Pentre Maelor.																		
538.	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS, BUDGET, ACCOUNTS: i) The Payments set out for payment in February 2026 were APPROVED.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="264 1267 1409 1691"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payment To</th> <th>Reason</th> <th>Amount £</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3">Expenditure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk- 1st February 2026</td> <td>Clerk's salary NJC rates 20 contracted hours</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vodafone</td> <td>Telephone account February 2026</td> <td>22.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Amount due</td> <td>1.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenbarnes Limited</td> <td>Supply of magnets for noticeboard</td> <td>36.48</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>ii) The Clerk advised on the amounts held in the Bank accounts and drew a comparison with the same period the previous year.</p> <p>iii) The Clerk advised on progress with the Banking Mandate</p>	Payment To	Reason	Amount £	Expenditure			Clerk- 1st February 2026	Clerk's salary NJC rates 20 contracted hours		Vodafone	Telephone account February 2026	22.10	HMRC	Amount due	1.60	Greenbarnes Limited	Supply of magnets for noticeboard	36.48
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539.	MEMBER'S CLAIM FOR EXPENSES: The Clerk advised Members that they could claim the statutory £156 for the financial year towards expenses via Welsh Government's directive and issued a form to opt out of this payment. Following on from the previous meeting, the Clerk also clarified other payments that could be made available to Members if the Community Council resolved to make such payments available. It was RESOLVED to disregard any additional payments that could be awarded.																		

540.	REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS RECEIVED 2025-2026: A table of requests received was considered. It was RESOLVED to make the following grant awards for 2025-2026: Marie Curie Daffodil appeal - £100, Wales Air Ambulance - £100, MS Wrexham CIC - £50, Rainbow Foundation - £100, Urdd Wrexham -£50, Nightingale House Hospice - £100
541.	BIO-DIVERSITY REPORT FOR SUBMISSION: The report drafted by the Clerk was considered and it was RESOLVED to submit the report as required.
542.	PLAY SCHEME ADDITIONAL AS NOTIFIED: The Clerk advised of the request received from the Play scheme Co -Ordinator at WCBC concerning additional play scheme provision made available via a grant. This had been circulated via email. Most Members had responded in support of this which was fed back to the co-ordinator.
543.	FROG LANE LIGHTING: Councillor Evans reported back on her site meeting with P Rogers of WCBC to look at a dark spot in the area. Previous measures such as an additional light and the trees being cut back had not increased the level of light along the footpath. It was RESOLVED to ask Mr Rogers to supply costings which could then be considered, as well as other lighting options such as solar. The Clerk will write to Mr Rogers.
544.	PENTRE MAELOR LAND LEASED FOR COMMUNITY ORCHARD: Updates were given on the delivery of the fruit trees. A date of 19 th February has been agreed with Hannah of WCBC. Keep Wales Tidy have been informed. Flyers are to be delivered to all properties in Pentre Maelor. Hotel Wrexham have agreed to sponsor the leaflets. A further grass cutting quotation is to be obtained. These to be looked at at the next meeting.
545.	CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDANCE: The Clerk presented the report and correspondence list, which was noted. An additional item of correspondence had been received, which was from Mr P Rogers of WCBC enquiring if the Community Council wished to renew the SLA for maintenance of the street lighting at Pentre Maelor. The clerk explained the SLA and the revised cost. This was considered and approved for renewal. The Clerk also advised of notification received from WCBC about some potential grant funding over the next two years, which could be up to £22k. This is the Pride in Place Impact fund. As Abenbury CC doesn't have any building assets, only the category of Public Spaces would apply, but this could apply to a number of things potentially.
546.	REPORTS FROM MEMBERS: Councillor Done reported on large potholes by the bridge at Little Erlas and mentioned again cyclists riding down the footpath from Bryn Estyn Road to Erlas Lane. There have been concerning near misses. The Clerk will chase progress with Highways.
547.	PLANNING MATTERS: i. P/2025/0608: - Amended Plans - Change of use of building from class A2 (financial and professional services) to class A3 (café / restaurant) location: Bank, Bridge Road, Wrexham Industrial Estate, Wrexham, LL13 9PS: - Further amended plans had been received from the Planning department. Highways have again raised concerns in a letter to the Planning department. It was agreed that the concerns of the Community Council remain as previously reported to the Planning department, about the siting of such a facility so near to this difficult junction, and that the Community Council fully support the comments of the Highways department in the points that they have raised regarding these concerns.
548.	NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday the 9th of March 2026 at 7pm.

COUNCILLOR J Jones

CHAIR.

J.C Jones

DATE *16/3/26*

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