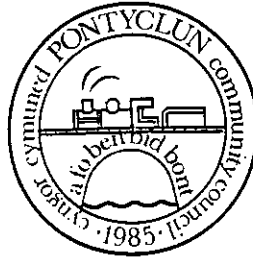


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
 J. H. G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.
 Telephone: Llantrisant (0443) 227094



"Mandalay"
 Cowbridge Road,
 Talygarn, Pontyclun,
 Mid Glamorgan CF7 9BZ

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 7 May, 1997

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle, Mr T J Burton, Mrs V A Cale, Mr J G Davies, Mr R O Edwards, Mr T R J Flood, Mrs M M Griffiths, Mr J V Huish, and Mr R G Norman and Mr M Rea

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Four members of the public.

1. **Apologies**

An apology for absence was received on behalf of P C Steve Keddle

2. **Report of the retiring Chairperson**

The retiring Chairperson, Councillor Gordon Norman, reported that his year of Chairmanship had been a stimulating challenge which he had welcomed. He had endeavoured at all times to exercise his Chairmanship in an impartial, professional and dignified manner.

Councillor Norman extended his thanks to Members of the Council and the Clerk for their support during his period of office.

3. **Election of Chairperson for 1997/98**

RESOLVED: That Councillor M Rea be elected Chairperson for 1997/98

4. **Election of Vice Chairperson for 1997/98**

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mr J V Huish be elected Vice Chairperson for 1997/98.

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5. **Chairperson's Allowance for 1997/98**

(The Chairperson declared his interest in the matter, vacated the Chair, and left the Chamber. The Vice Chairperson occupied the Chair. The necessary entry was made in the Register of Disclosures in accordance with Section 94 of the Local Government Act, 1972)

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson's Allowance for 1996/97 be increased from £612.00 by an amount equal to the rate of inflation during the last year.

6. **Appointment of Members and representatives**

RESOLVED: That the following appointments be made:

(a) **Finance Committee**

The Chairperson together with the Vice Chairperson, Councillors Mrs V A Cale, J G Davies, R O Edwards and T Flood

(b) **County Borough Council's/ Community Councils' Joint Liaison Committee - if appropriate**

In the event of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council deciding to establish a Joint Liaison Committee the Council be represented on that Committee by Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths, Mrs V A Cale and the Clerk.

(c) **Straying Animals Working Party - if appropriate**

In the event of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council deciding to establish a Straying Animals Working Party the Council be represented on that Committee by the Councillor R G Norman.

(d) **Wales Association of Community and Town Councils - East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee**

That the Council be represented on the Committee by Councillor J G Davies and the Clerk

(e) **Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee**

That the Council be represented on the Committee by Councillors T J Burton and J V Huish. In the event of either

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Member being unable to attend a meeting, the Chairperson be nominated as a substitute representative.

(f) **Age Concern - Pontypridd and District**

That the Council be represented on the Committee by Councillors T J Burton, V A Cale and R O Edwards

(g) **Purolite Joint Liaison Committee - if appropriate**

That in the event of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council establishing a Purolite Joint Liaison Committee, the Council be represented by Councillor T J Burton. In the event that Councillor Burton is unable to attend a meeting the substitute Member be the Chairperson.

(h) **Purolite Standing Conference**

That the Council be represented by Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths

(i) **Rhondda/Cynon/ Taff Police/ Community Consultative Group**

That the Council be represented on the Police/Community Consultative Group by Councillor T J Burton.

(j) **Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant**

The Clerk advised the Council that the shared place with the Llantrisant Community Council on the Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant, was not due for re-nomination at this time since the Governing Body operated on an academic year commencing in September of each year. It was the practice of the Clerk to Governing Body to contact the Community Council at the time a further nomination became due. It was for this reason that the issue had not been treated as an agenda item for the Community Council's annual meeting

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries about the appropriateness of making a nomination to the Governing Body at the Community Council's June meeting.

7. **Calendar of meetings for 1997/98**

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the calendar of meetings for 1997/98 be approved.
 - (ii) That each meeting of the Council start at 7.00 p.m. and end at 9.00 p.m. with any unfinished business being carried over to the next monthly meeting of the Community Council. At his discretion, the Chairperson be authorised to allow discussion to proceed after 9.00 p.m.
 - (iii) That any speaker on an item under discussion be limited to four minutes to make his, or her, contribution to the debate.

8. **Chairperson's business**

There were no items of Chairman's business.

9. **Police matters**

In the absence of P.C. Keddle no police matters were raised under this item.

10. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 2 April, 1997**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 April, 1997 be approved as an accurate record subject to the second paragraph of minute 6 (d) being amended to read

“Councillor Mrs Griffiths pointed out that Pontyclun residents had not been informed about a meeting to discuss Purolite tipping at the Nantgwyddon Tip in the Rhondda. As a result of protests by Rhondda residents against tipping at Nantgwyddon, the Tip had been closed and refuse which would normally have been disposed of at Nantgwyddon, needed to be transported to the an alternative refuse tip many miles distant in Aberdare. As a consequence of the additional work involved in transporting refuse to Aberdare only half the scheduled refuse collections were made by Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council. It was for this reason that Pontyclun residents only received half the normal refuse collection service. A request had been made that the group known as RAP (Residents Against

Pollution), who had organised a meeting to discuss the position should, on future occasions, ensure that adequate information is provided to Pontyclun residents when similar problems occur. It would be possible for the Community Council to display the information in its noticeboards.”

11. **Matters arising**

(a) **Unsociable behaviour of youths and land to the south of the river Ely, Pontyclun**

The Council discussed a letter from Mrs B Smith of 7 Ffordd Talygarn, Pontyclun. Mrs Smith wished to draw to the Council’s attention the unsociable behaviour of youths in Pontyclun and to the fencing off of land in Maesyfelin. Mrs Smith also asked whether the Community Council had any information regarding the allocation of houses currently being built at the rear of the Pontyclun Community Centre.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk advise Mrs Smith of the steps taken by the Community Council to resolve the problem of unruly youths in Pontyclun.

(ii) That the Clerk arrange for the Council’s Handyman to provide a investigate the report of the fenced off footpath in Maesyfelin.

(iii) That the Clerk advise Mrs Smith that the Council had no information on the allocation of tenants to the new housing development to the rear of the Pontyclun Community Centre

(b) **Rhondda Cynon Taff Police Liaison Committee**

The Clerk reported on his attendance at the last meeting of the Rhondda Cynon Taff Police Liaison Committee which was held in the Catholic Church in Miskin on the evening of 17 April, 1997.

Prior to the meeting some concern had been expressed about whether Miskin, a semi-rural area, would be the right venue for the meeting since previous meetings of the Committee had been

held in densely populated areas such as Treorchy, Trallwn and Mountain Ash. In the event, the worries proved to be unfounded and a very well attended meeting heard the police representatives give a presentation on the suitability and effectiveness of the police helicopter team in South Wales.

At the end of the meeting there was an open forum where an opportunity was available for members of the public to raise with the police matters of concern about the policing of the area. There was considerable participation by members of the public and the Chairperson for the evening had to impose a limit on the number of questions raised from the floor.

There was general agreement that making the Catholic Church Hall available for the meeting had been a tremendous success.

Footnote: Before the meeting began, Councillor Burton, the Community Council's official representative on the Liaison Committee, advised the Chairperson of the Panel that his brother had collapsed and was seriously ill in hospital. Councillor Burton needed to attend the hospital urgently and offered his apologies for his inability to remain at the meeting. It later transpired that Councillor Burton's brother passed away that evening. The Council expressed its condolences to Councillor Burton on his sad loss.

(c) **Community Questionnaires**

The Clerk advised the Council that due to the volume of Community Council work associated with year end balancing, Inland Revenue, Department of Social Security and VAT returns, and the preparation of Income and Expenditure Accounts under the new 1996 Audit and Accounts Regulations he had not been able to convene a further meeting of the Council to discuss completed Community Questionnaires. The Clerk was hopeful that a meeting would be convened before the Council's June monthly meeting.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(d) **Talygarn Forum**

Councillor Griffiths reported that following information provided by Forum members at a meeting with representatives

of the Bro Taf Health Authority a letter in response was awaited from the Chief Executive of Bro Taf. The response would be discussed at a further meeting of the Forum.

At the same time the Forum had agreed to produce a brochure on the Rehabilitation Centre drawing attention to its excellent facilities. The brochure would be circulated as widely as possible in order to inform the public and to rally support for the Centre's retention.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(e) **Public right of Way adjacent to Prospect Park, Pontyclun**

The Clerk referred to the concerns expressed by Members of the Council at the apparent failure of the developer at Prospect Park, Pontyclun, to make provision for the retention of the Public Right of Way crossing the site. While it was accepted that, strictly speaking, the land lay outside the boundary of the Pontyclun Community Council and within the boundary of the Llantrisant Community Council, the Clerk had been asked to make enquiries to establish whether action had been taken by the developer to divert the Public Right of Way according to the law.

The Clerk advised that he had spoken to the Clerk to the Llantrisant Community Council about the development. She had confirmed that the developer had made application to divert the Public Right of Way and that work on the diversion would begin shortly.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(f) **Footpath lighting - Windsor Field, Pontyclun**

The Clerk referred to the damaged lighting columns along the footpath across the Windsor Field, Pontyclun.

The damage had been caused in the latter days of the former Taff Ely Borough Council when the car park adjacent to the Pontyclun Rugby Football and Sports Club was being constructed. During the course of the work the Borough Council, through its contractors, had left considerable quantities of rubble in the vicinity of the car park and it was felt that the Borough Council had been partly responsible for the for some of the vandalism which was subsequently caused to the lighting columns.

Prior to the reorganisation of local government the Council had been successful in convincing officers of the Borough Council that they should bear the cost of repairing the lighting columns. Unfortunately remedial work had not been carried out before the demise of the Borough Council and staff who were familiar with the problem had left the Borough Council and been transferred to other local authorities. Despite representations to the Borough Council's successor authority, the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, it had proved impossible to get an undertaking that the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council would carry out the repair work necessary.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for the repair of the lighting columns at the Community Council's expense and to arrange for the lantern on each column to be protected with wire mesh.

12. **Objections to the Taff Ely Local Plan**

The Council received and discussed the Report of the Director of Planning of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to the meeting of the Planning Committee on 11 April, 1997, on objections to the Taff Ely Local Plan as they affected the Community of Pontyclun. The report contained, in separate Appendices, Objections Site Maps and an Objections Report. The Council also deliberated upon a report, submitted to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council as an objection, from a local landowner who proposed residential development on his land in association with a bypass to Pontyclun and Brynsadler.

It was understood that objections to the Taff Ely Local Plan would be heard at an Inquiry likely to be held towards the end of 1997 and conducted by an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for Wales.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That as the Community Council had not had an opportunity to comment upon the objections submitted to the Taff Ely Local Plan, the Clerk establish what avenues would be open to for the Community Council to make its views known on the objections.
 - (ii) That a copy of the Director of Planning's report and Appendices, together with the local landowner's proposals, be placed on deposit at the Pontyclun Library.

Footnote: During the course of the Council's discussions there were

some exchanges of views on procedural matters. The Chairperson emphasised his determination for the Council's business to be conducted strictly in accordance with the Council's rules.

13. **Possibility of producing a leaflet showing Public Rights of Way in the Community**

Councillor Mrs Griffiths explained that she had been approached by a member of the public who had enquired about a leaflet showing public rights of way and footpaths in the Community. No such leaflet existed at present. There were a considerable number of footpaths in and around the Community yet little action was taken to bring the information to the attention of the public. While Ordnance Survey maps gave an indication of public rights of way, they were not updated regularly and often well used footpaths were not indicated. Councillor Griffiths proposed that a project could be set for a summer student to identify local footpaths and produce a leaflet which could be circulated widely for the benefit of residents.

It was recognised that before such a project could be undertaken it would be necessary to make contact with a resident who had a detailed knowledge of all the local footpaths. The name of Mr Terry Squires, an active member of the Ramblers Association and a resident of the Maesyfelin Estate was suggested as a person who would have the necessary knowledge.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact Mr Squires to establish whether he would be prepared to assist the Community Council in the project.

14. **Unruly behaviour of youths in the vicinity of Miskin Crescent/Miskin Heights**

Councillor Mrs Griffiths reported that she had been told of the unruly behaviour of youths, late at night, in the vicinity of the entrance to the new residential development off Miskin Crescent at Miskin Heights.

The reports had spoken of stone throwing, and other intimidating behaviour from youths congregating near the flagpoles at the entrance to the new housing development. It appeared that the flagpoles provided a focal point for the congregation of youths and it was believed that if they were moved to an alternative location within the site it would assist in controlling the problem.

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Councillor Griffiths advised that the unruly behaviour had been reported to the police.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the developers of Miskin Heights with a view to moving the flagpoles to an alternative site within the development.

15. **Street naming on the Maesyfelin Estate**

The Clerk referred to correspondence between the Community Council and the former Taff Ely Borough Council before the reorganisation of local government on the insufficiency of street nameplates on the Maesyfelin Estate in Pontyclun. The Community Council's representations at that time had resulted in the erection of some additional street nameplates although the Community Council's requests had not been met in full at the time of local government reorganisation on 1 April, 1996.

The Clerk reported that he had recently been contacted by an officer of the Highways, Transportation and Engineering Department of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council who said that a sum of money had been provided in that Department's budget in 1997/98 for the purpose of providing additional street nameplates on the Maesyfelin Estate.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council be advised that a sign "Maesyfelin" be erected in Heol y Felin with the words "leading to" with the names of the respective streets given underneath.
 - (ii) That the Clerk liaise with Maesyfelin Ward Members on the sites for the erection of street nameplates within the estate and convey that information to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

16. **Relocation of wayside seat**

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the site meeting which took place on the evening of 21 April, 1997, which viewed three possible sites on the Ynysddu Farm Estate for the re-location of the wayside seat presently situated opposite the post office in Pontyclun.

A further discussion took place on the suitability of the preferred Ynysddu Farm Estate site bearing in mind that the Estate is outside the boundary of the Community of Pontyclun, and effectively, the Community Council might well lose control of the seat.



RESOLVED: That no action be taken to re-locate the wayside seat to the preferred site on the Ynysddu Farm Estate pending further investigation into possible location sites alongside the Ottersbrook Trout Farm, Pontyclun.

17. **Responses of the Rhondda Cynon Taff
County Borough Council on highways matters**

(a) **Request for the erection of a traffic mirror at the
junction of High Street and Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler,**

The Council was disappointed to note the response of the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering in which he said that traffic mirrors are, by definition, traffic signs and each requires specific authorisation from the Secretary of State. Guidelines issued by the Welsh Office for the assistance of highway authorities to evaluate requests for mirrors indicate that authorisation will not be granted for sites in built up areas. It was the Director's view that the suggested site was unlikely to be feasible.

The Council was disturbed by the response of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council since it appeared that no action was proposed to alleviate the dangerous situation at the junction. The Mid Glamorgan County Council, as highway authority prior to local government reorganisation, had agreed some four years earlier to reduce the height of the boundary wall of a house at the junction to provide a better vision splay for traffic emerging from High Street. It was unclear what had become of these proposals.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to establish the position in relation to the plans of the former Mid Glamorgan County Council.

(b) **Junction of the A4119 and the
approach road to the M4 Motorway**

The Council discussed the response of the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering where it was learnt that, subject to funds becoming available, it was the intention to erect bollards on the grass verge to prevent motorists from taking short cuts to access the approach road to the M4 motorway.

The Council felt that the plan did nothing to contribute to the flow of traffic and it was felt that a more realistic proposal would provide for the widening of the slip road leading to the approach road.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk convey the Community Council's views to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and ask whether it was likely that the proposals would be implemented.

18. **Pontyclun Fish Bar**

The Council was pleased to receive a letter from the Director of Environmental Services of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in which he stated that the application for a Late Night Refreshment Licence until 4.00 p.m. had been amended. The applicant now proposed that the terms of his Late Night Refreshment Licence would allow him to open only until 12.30 a.m.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the letter be noted.
- (ii) That as a long term aim the Council should seek consistency and attempt to get all premises in possession of a Late Night Refreshment Licence in the Community to close at 11.30 p.m.

19. **Llantrisant and Pontyclun Golf Club**

The Council discussed a letter from the Secretary to the Llantrisant and Pontyclun Golf Club seeking the support of the Community Council in the Club's application to SPORTLOT for a grant towards an expansion of facilities at the Golf Club.

Uppermost in the Club's plans was the encouragement of "junior golf" and expanding the course from 12 to 18 holes. Significant support had already been forthcoming from the headteachers of local comprehensive schools for the development of "junior golf". Additionally the Club would seek to provide facilities for the disabled, additional locker room space, showers and toilets.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk provide a letter of support for the Golf Club.

20. **Target Technology - Pest Control Strategies for the future**

The Council received an invitation to send a representative to a meeting on the 12 June, 1997, at the QED Centre, Treforest, on ideas being developed for environmentally safer use of pesticides.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Burton be nominated to attend the meeting and that his attendance be designated as an approved duty.

21. **Planning**

(a) **Erection of barn, High Street, Brynsadler**

The Council received the letter of 9 April, 1997, from the Director of Planning in which he stated that planning permission is required for the erection of a barn within 20 metres of a highway. The owners of the barn had been contacted and requested to submit a planning application in order to regularise the matter.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

(b) **Appeals to the Secretary of State**

The Council received details of two appeals to the Secretary of State for Wales against the refusal of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to award planning consent for residential development on two adjacent plots of land in Talygarn.

It was noted that the comments made earlier by the Community Council on the applications would be taken into account at the Inquiry by the Inspector determining the appeals.

RESOLVED: That the appeal details be noted.

(c) **Planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 28 March, 4, 11, 18 and 25 April, 1997**

Application No. 97/2211/10

RESOLVED: That discussion of the application be deferred until details of the application had been received.

Application No. 97/2217/16

RESOLVED: That discussion of the application be deferred until details of the application had been received.

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Application No. 97/2254/10

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson, as ward Member, make enquiries about the application and notify the Clerk in the event of any comments which he feels should be forwarded to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

22. **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 16 to the Agenda.

23. **Reports from Members**

(a) **Llantrisant and Town Ward Age Concern**

Councillor Norman advised the Council that at the Annual General Meeting of the Llantrisant and Town Ward of Age Concern he had been elected as Chairman and local representative.

The report was noted.

(b) **Speeding vehicles in Miskin Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Norman reported that further complaints had been made about speeding vehicles in Miskin Road, Pontyclun. The complaints had been forwarded to the police who were taking action in the matter.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(c) **Parking of lorries on the Hendy Estate**

Councillor Norman reported that further complaints had been received about the parking of lorries on the Hendy Estate, Pontyclun. The complaints had been forwarded to the police who were investigating the reports.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

CWJ

24. **Any other business of an urgent nature**

(a) **Traffic problems in the vicinity of Station Terrace**

The Clerk read out a letter which had been received too late for inclusion in the Agenda from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council following the Community Council's request for a site meeting to discuss traffic problems in the vicinity of Station Terrace, Pontyclun.

The Director advised that the Community Council's request would be referred to the Chairman of his Committee and a reply would be sent to the Community Council in due course.

RESOLVED: (i) That the letter be noted.

(ii) That a copy of the letter be sent to Mrs Legge of 10 Station Terrace for her information.

(b) **Deposition of mud on highway**

The Clerk read out a letter which had been received too late for inclusion in the Agenda from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council about the deposition of mud on the footway on the A4119 in Groesfaen.

The Director advised that the carriageway in the area had recently undergone resurfacing works, with the footway being cleared of mud simultaneously.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

(c) **Junction of Llantrisant Road and Heol Miskin, Pontyclun**

The Clerk read out a letter from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council which had been received too late for inclusion in the Council's Agenda.

Following a site inspection the Director was of the view that there were no particular problems with vehicle turning movements or visibility apparent at the junction even though vehicles were parked at the limits

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of the witing restriction on Heol Miskin.

The Director did not feel it necessary to extend the waiting restrictions along Heol Miskin.

RESOLVED: That the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering be invited to view the problems at the junction on a Sunday morning.

Footnote: Members' attention was drawn to the provisions of the National Code of Local Government Conduct and the need for the disclosure of interests (pecuniary and otherwise) in certain cases.

(d) **Taff Ely Ramblers**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had received an invitation from the Taff Ely Ramblers for all community councillors to join a "Free Your Path Weekend" at the Creigiau Sports Field at 10.15 a.m. on Sunday, 18 May, 1997.

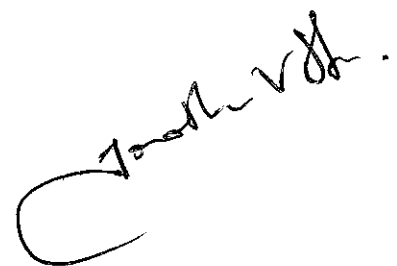
RESOLVED: That the invitation be noted.

(e) **Annual General Meeting of Victim Support**

The Clerk reported receipt of an invitation to nominate a representative to attend the Annual general Meeting of Victim Support in the Municipal Hall, Pontypridd, at 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 23 May, 1997.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Davies be nominated to attend the meeting and that his attendance be designated as an approved duty.

25. The meeting ended at 10.05 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph V. J.', is written diagonally across the bottom right of the page.