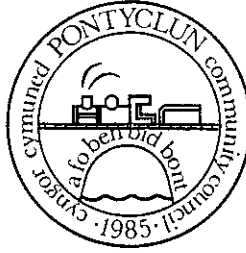


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
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"Mandalay"
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 Mid Glamorgan CF7 9BZ

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 1 April, 1992

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle, Professor I D Bowen, (Chairperson), Mrs A Burton, Mr T J Burton, Mr E V Griffith, Mr V P James, Mr G M Moir, Mr R G Norman and Mrs O P Phillips

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public

1. Apology for absence

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Community Councillor Mr J R Dilworth

2. Chairperson's business

There were no items of Chairperson's business.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 March, 1992

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 March, 1992, be approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

(a) Groesfaen sub post office

The Clerk reported that contact had been made with the proprietor of the village stores in Groesfaen and he had been informed that Post Office Counters Ltd would be prepared to consider any proposals for the leasing of part of his premises to a third party in the interests of maintaining postal facilities in the village. The proprietor had agreed to consider the suggestion. The Clerk also reported that following a conversation with Mr Kirk of Post Office Counters there was a possibility that one of the tenants in Llwynypennau Cottages would be prepared to take on the provision of a post office. It appeared that before any progress could be made dispensation would be required from the Borough Council to enable a business to be run from local authority premises.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk enquire of Post Office Counters whether an approach had been received from the proprietor of the Groesfaen village stores. In the event that no approach had been made the Council consider, at its next meeting, the possibility of convening a public meeting to explain the likely loss of postal facilities to residents.

(b) Further residential development in Maesyfelin

The Council noted the letter of 5 March, 1992 from the National Rivers Authority suggesting that the N R A's statutory powers would not be affected in the event of the developer failing to honour his commitments.

Councillor Griffith reported that a further letter had been received from Mr D Gass, on the controversial plans for additional residential development in Maesyfelin. It was reported that the letter contained the remarks " if there is a further flood it won't be worse than previous ones".

RESOLVED: That the Community Council's Borough Council members take the matter up with the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer.

(c) Kidney Research Unit Foundation -
Sponsored Walk, 22 March, 1992

A joint verbal report was made on the sponsored walk which took place on the morning of Sunday, 22 March, 1992. An enthusiastic group of dedicated walkers had turned out and walked a a revised course which was slightly under 6 miles in length. The Council was pleased to note that all Members participated in the event and that the combined efforts of walkers and Members would result in a sum of around £1400 being raised for a worthy local charity. The Chairperson extended his thanks to all those who took part and in particular to the Pontyclun R F C for making their premises available. He also paid tribute to the sterling work carried out by the ladies who provided refreshments for the walkers.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk write a letter of thanks to all the organisations who had contributed in making the event another outstanding success.



- (ii) That an additional deposit account be opened with the Community Council's bankers to facilitate the collection and payment of funds to the Kidney Research Unit Foundation.

(d) Employment Action

Councillor Norman gave a report on the visit by Members and the Clerk to a meeting with Borough Council officers on the possibility of getting some community based schemes carried out under Employment Action. The meeting had been constructive with the Borough Council officers indicating that under E.A. it was probable that resources would be available to:

- (i) Construct raised flower beds in Groesfaen
- (ii) Construct an access for the disabled into the Ivor Woods
- (iii) Carry out drainage and improvement work to Footpath No.341 alongside the river Ely.

The officers had agreed to hold a site meeting in respect of item (i), provide an estimate of cost to the Community Council for item (ii), and provide the Clerk with forms for National Rivers Authority approval for work associated with Footpath No.341 at item (iii).

The report was noted.

(e) Planning application No. 92/0063/10

The Council considered further details of planning application No. 92/0063/10.

RESOLVED: That the Council oppose the application on the grounds that the application was out of character with a rural environment. In the event that the planning authority approve the application consideration should be given to imposing a condition on the developer that the building be painted white.

(f) Pool of water, Windsor Woods

Councillor Norman reported that the large pool of water in the Windsor Woods had not been caused by the

contractors laying the new sewer. Investigations had revealed that the cause of the problem was an old mattress which had been forced into a water outlet pipe. The obstruction had been removed and the pool of water had drained away.

The matter was noted.

(g) Agency Agreement -
Maintenance of Rights of Way

The Clerk was pleased to be able to report that he had persuaded the County Council to reimburse the Community Council £787.63 for work carried out under the Agency Agreement to Rights of Way in the Community for 1990/91. The figure represented a substantial increase over the figure of £480.00 which the County Council had originally proposed as reimbursement.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

(h) Local Government Reorganisation

The Council discussed the letter dated 12 March, 1992, from the Welsh Office about the plans to reorganise local government in Wales.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

5. Notice of Motion - To consider what steps can be taken to improve the visual amenity in the area of the Otters Brook Trout Farm

A number of Members spoke of their concern about the severe deterioration in the condition of Footpath No.341 running parallel with the Otters Brook Trout Farm and the river Ely. Large sections of the Footpath had become waterlogged and what was once a pleasant walk had become a difficult one especially during wet periods. There was a consensus that the area would also benefit from the planting of trees to screen some of the bare areas around the Otters Brook Trout Farm. The Council took note of the report made by Councillor Norman earlier in the meeting about the joint initiative under Employment Action between the Community Council and the Borough Council to improve the area.

RESOLVED: (i) That the County Council be requested to plant trees along the northern M4 embankment to screen the development from the motorway.

- (ii) That the Clerk make investigations into the award of planning permission for the Otters Brook Trout Farm to establish what, if any, duties were imposed upon the developer to plant trees as a condition for the development.

6. Environmental problems associated with Purolite International, Pontyclun

The Council discussed the letter of 8 March, 1992, from Mr K Eason, 41 Coed-yr-Esgob, Llantrisant, about the environmental problems associated with Purolite International, Pontyclun, and the apparent lack of success of local councils over the years in resolving those problems. Mr Eason reminded the Council that with effect from 1 April, 1992, under the Environmental Protection Act, 1990, the responsibility for controlling nuisances lay with the Inspectorate of Pollution. Mr Eason invited the Council to participate in a Standing Conference of interested parties whose function would be to:-

- (i) Exchange information on nuisance and emission incidents.
- (ii) To ensure a coordinated approach to the problems.
- (iii) Set up a working party which would meet regularly, monitor the situation and ensure coordinated joint action wherever necessary.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council welcome the establishment of the Standing Conference. Furthermore, because of the involvement of a large number of Community Council members over a number of years in attempting to resolve the problems caused by the factory, all members of the Council be nominated to sit on the Standing Committee.

7. Progress report on Council projects

The Clerk gave progress reports on current Community Council projects.

(a) Groesfaen bus shelter

The replacement bus shelter in Groesfaen had almost been finished. It was estimated that there was a few days' work left to complete the roof, replace the seat and noticeboard, and tidy up the surrounding area.

The report was noted.



(b) Miskin War Memorial

Some preliminary work had been carried out in renovating the Memorial. One of the major difficulties was in attempting to identify, accurately, the names already affected by erosion. Councillor Norman recommended the name of a resident who had a good knowledge of the inscribed names. Work in earnest was due to start on 6 April.

The report was noted.

(c) Painting of bridges across the river Ely

The Clerk reported that the painting contract for the Maesyfelin and Ivor Woods bridges was complete. However, during preparation work to the Ivor Woods bridge the contractors had been concerned that large accumulations of rusted iron had fallen away. There was concern that the bridge may have been weakened. After consultation with the Chairperson, the Clerk had arranged for a local welder to examine and report on the strength of the bridge. Minor strengthening work had been carried out which had cost £95.00. The welder had pointed out that the bridge fell short of current Health and Safety requirements in that there were large gaps between the deck of the bridge and the lower rails. He suggested that the Community Council install kicking plates to seal the gaps.

RESOLVED: (i) That the emergency action of the Chairperson and Clerk in engaging a welder to strengthen the bridge be confirmed.

(ii) That expenditure estimated at £135.00 be incurred in providing kicking plates to the Ivor Woods bridge thereby bringing the bridge up to current Health and Safety standards.

8. Playground/Playarea facilities

A report was made on the meeting with Mrs Alex Andrews of the Leisure Services Department of the Borough Council on 18 March, 1992. Mrs Andrews explained that the Borough Council was in the course of a comprehensive appraisal of the furniture and facilities of all playgrounds and playareas within the Borough. A sum of £500,000 was available to carry out improvements. In general most of the available money was being spent on the larger playgrounds

but the smaller playareas were also being allocated a proportion of the money. Members raised with Mrs Andrews a number of matters of concern about local playareas. Mrs Andrews said that the Borough Council were investigating the possibility of community councils assisting the Borough Council in the maintenance of playareas. She said that it had been suggested that perhaps community councils would be prepared to carry out work under an agency agreement. Mrs Andrews sought the Community Council's response to the suggestion. Mrs Andrews was advised that the matter would be raised at the next meeting of the Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council agree in principle to its handyman carrying out work under an agency agreement for the Borough Council. Further details of the proposal be sought from the Borough Council.

9. Environment Week

The Council considered an invitation from the Borough Council to participate in the 1992 Environment Week.

RESOLVED: That the invitation be declined on this occasion.

10. Audit of Community Council's Accounts for 1991/92

The Clerk advised the Council that he had been notified by the District Auditor that the Council's audit for 1991/92 would take place during the fortnight 8th to 19th June. The Clerk would ensure that the accounts for 1991/92 were closed, balanced and presented in the form required by the auditor by the due date. The Clerk would also publicise the audit within the Community and call a meeting of the Finance Committee prior to the audit.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

11. Traffic congestion in Merthyr Street, Pontyclun

The Council discussed the letter of 10 March, 1992, from the Borough Council's Chief Technical Services Officer. The Community Council understood the respective responsibilities of the County Council and the Borough Council in the matter. However, there appeared to be some difficulty in getting the Borough Council to understand that what was being sought was a street nameplate (Borough Council responsibility) incorporating "No through road" (County Council responsibility).

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write again to the Chief Technical Services Officer re-iterating the Community Council's request.

12. Tree Preservation Order - Maelog Close, Pontyclun

The Council received details of the recently confirmed Tree Preservation Order for land in Maelog Close, Pontyclun. The Order had previously been sought by the Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

13. Highway problems in Talygarn

The Clerk reminded the Council that at an earlier meeting correspondence had been received from a resident in Talygarn about highway problems near her home. The majority of the matters raised had been referred to the County Council as highway authority. The complaint about vehicles travelling at excessive speed had been referred to the police. The observations of the police were contained in Appendix 9 to the Agenda and were discussed by the Council.

RESOLVED: That the observations be noted and that a copy of the observations be forwarded to the Talygarn resident.

14. Festival Weekend - Llantrisant Folk Club

Councillor T J Burton reported that he had been acting in a liaison capacity with the Borough Council in an attempt to identify additional parking places in Pontyclun during the weekend of the Festival. While there was agreement that the event would give publicity to Pontyclun, there were a number of reservations expressed about potential problems to residents arising from the decision of the local public houses to remain open for the duration of the Festival.

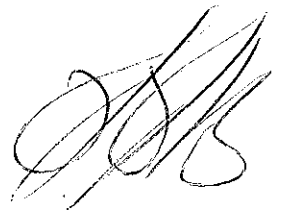
RESOLVED: (i) That the Community Council toilets be kept open for the duration of the Festival subject to the Festival organisers being responsible for any damage which occurred during the event.

(ii) That the police be asked to provide additional policing of Pontyclun for the duration of the Festival.

15. Request for financial assistance

The Council considered an application for financial assistance from the Llantrisant Sub Aqua Club.

RESOLVED: That the Club be advised to re-apply for financial assistance at the time of the annual allocation of financial grants in June, 1992.



16. Transfer of Licence

The Council noted the application for the transfer of the Justices Licence for the Dynevor Arms, Groesfaen.

17. Planning Applications for Weeks Ending 2, 9, 16 and 23 March, 1992

The Council considered the planning applications contained in the weekly notifications for Weeks Ending 2, 9, 16 and 23 March, 1992.

RESOLVED: That no comments be offered to the Borough Council.

18. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 13 to the Agenda.

19. Reports from Members

(a) Ynysddu Farm Estate, Pontyclun

Councillor James referred to the request the Community Council had made to the Borough Council for support in getting the boundary between the Communities of Pontyclun and Llanharan re-aligned to reflect Ynysddu Farm Estate as a part of the Community of Pontyclun. It appeared that the Borough Council had deferred a decision on the matter pending further correspondence with the Llanharan Community Council.

The report was noted.

(b) Private sewage facility, Hendy Woods

Councillor Norman reported that the private sewage facility in the Hendy Woods was now defunct and connections had been made to the main sewer. The senior citizens complex at David's Court, Pontyclun, was due to be connected to the main sewer shortly.

The report was noted.

(c) Straying animals - Hendy Estate

Councillor Norman was pleased to be able to report that the Borough Council had recently invited tenders for the provision of a new stock proof fence on the Hendy Estate. The fence had been designed to include a gate or stile in order that members of the public could still access the Hendy Woods.

The report was noted.



(d) Unadopted sewers in the Borough of Taff Ely

Councillor James reported that the Borough Council was in the course of investigating the possibility of arranging insurance cover for those householders in Taff Ely whose sewers remained unadopted. Councillor James said that he would report back to the Council when he had further information.

The report was noted.

(e) Additional parking facilities - Hendy Estate

Councillor Norman was pleased to be able to report that the Borough Council had recognised the chronic parking problems existing on the Hendy Estate and had agreed to survey the area in depth to identify the scope for creating further parking facilities. Already a site in Brynamlwg had been identified and he was hopeful that parking bays would be created elsewhere on the estate.

The report was noted.

(f) Additional parking facilities elsewhere in the Community

Councillor Norman also reported that surveys were being conducted elsewhere in the Community in order to identify other areas suitable for conversion into parking areas. Some progress had been made with potential sites in Groesfaen, Pontyclun and Brynsadler being highlighted.

The report was noted.

20. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) New traffic arrangements, Mwyndy

Councillor Moir expressed his concern about the installation of traffic lights on the A4119 near the Corner Park Garage at Mwyndy. He pointed out that the lights had been equipped with a filter light, to be activated at a later date, which would allow traffic to enter on to land which currently did not have planning permission for development. It appeared that the County Council had pre-empted any planning decision and seemed determined to turn adjacent land into an industrial estate.

The Chairperson commented that the land in the vicinity of the new traffic lights had been the subject of a number of planning applications in recent years and although there did not appear to be any firm plans to develop in the area at present there was a view that the area would be suitable for



for development in the future. The Chairperson said that he would keep the Council informed of any development plans.

(b) No.11 Lon-yr-Awel, Pontyclun

Councillor Mrs Burton raised the matter of the tenant at No.11 Lon-yr-Awel, Pontyclun, who prior to travelling to London, had contacted the Borough Council to report that she had no electricity supply. On her return, she found that Borough Council workmen who had arrived to attend to the problem, and had been unable to get an answer, had chosen to break in to the property through the roof. The tenant was extremely annoyed at the Borough Council's actions.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the matter with the Borough Council.

(c) Condition of highway and pavement

Councillor Griffith expressed his concern about the potholes in the road outside St Paul's Church in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. He also drew attention to the dangerous condition of the loose paving stones outside the Pakistani restaurant in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson take the matter up with the County Council.

(d) Speeding vehicles - Groesfaen

Councillor Bendle drew the Council's attention to the increasing number of vehicles speeding through Groesfaen despite the existence of speed restrictions.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the police.

(e) Poll Tax

Councillor Bendle queried the polltax demands which were being sent out by the Borough Council. He said that the demands did not show, as a separate item, the charge resulting from unpaid poll tax from the previous year.

Councillor Norman replied that the Borough Council had not imposed an additional charge in respect of uncollected poll tax from the previous year.

(f) New Bethell Church development

Councillor T J Burton spoke of his concern about the large

deposits of mud on the highway adjacent to the new Bethell Church development. He believed that there was a serious risk of an accident at the nearby busy road junction.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Superintendent at the County Council's Talbot Green Depot.

(g) Petroleum signs - No. 22 Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun

The Clerk referred to previous correspondence and discussions which had taken place with the Mid Glamorgan Fire Service about signs indicating the storage of petroleum spirit in a garage at No 22 Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun. The Clerk had been assured verbally that officers from the Fire Service had spoken to the occupier of the premises and had received an undertaking that as no petroleum spirit was being stored, the signs would be removed. The Clerk distributed copies of the letter he had received from the Mid Glamorgan Fire Service confirming the action they had taken.

The matter was noted.

(h) Mineral Local Plan for Limestone - Part 4 - Hendy Quarry

The Clerk referred to the decision of the Council to Secretary of State for Wales about the anomalous position of the Mid Glamorgan County Council in preparing a Mineral Local Plan. The Community Council was firmly of the view that once the plan was approved and published, the award of planning consent became a mere formality provided that the an application was within the broad terms of Mineral Local Plan. In effect, a large part of the preparatory work leading up to an application had been carried for a quarry operator by the County Council.

Copies of the Secretary of State's letter, in which he declined to become involved in the Mineral Local Plan for the Hendy Quarry, were distributed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk now refer the matter to the Ombudsman.

(i) Appeal for financial assistance - SPLASH

The Clerk read out a letter from Superintendent Webber of Pontypridd about the police's "SPLASH" project (Schools and Police Liaison Activities for Summer Holidays) for two weeks during the summer. Superintendent Webber invited the Council to make a financial contribution towards the 1992 project.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John D. Jones', is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

RESOLVED: (i) That the application be deferred pending clarification on what provision would be available to the young people of the Community.

(ii) That a copy of Superintendent Webber's letter be forwarded to Mr Alan Gregory, the local representative on the Taff Ely and District Police Consultative Committee.

(iii) That a copy of the letter be sent to the local Chamber of Trade.

21. The meeting ended at 10.15p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to a member of the committee mentioned in the text above.