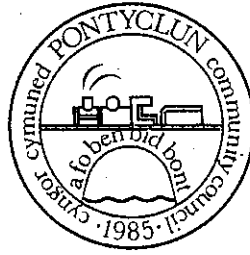


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Two members of the public

1. Apology for absence

There were no apologies for absence

2. Chairperson's business

The Chairperson, Councillor Tudor J Burton, informed the Council that application had been made by the Ogwr Health Unit to become Bridgend & District Health Trust. A public consultation exercise was under way and comments on the proposals needed to be made to the Welsh Office by 18 September, 1992. As patients from the Community would be affected by the change the Council believed that it should comment on the proposals.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk convene a meeting of a sub committee comprising the Chairperson together with Councillors Dilworth, James and Moir to formulate the Council's comments on the application.

(ii) That the sub committee be given plenary powers to convey the Council's views on the application.

(iii) That any other member of the Council wishing to sit upon the sub committee be allowed to do so.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 June, 1992

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 June, 1992 be approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

(a) Groesfaen sub post office

The Clerk reported on the frenetic activity which had taken place since the last meeting of the Council in an effort to save the sub post office in Groesfaen from closure. Letters, fax messages, and telephone conversations had been exchanged with with the Prime Minister, the Member of Parliament for Pontypridd, the Post Office Users Consultative Council, Post Office Counters Ltd, Mid Glamorgan County Council, Taff Ely Borough Council, the local Member of the European Parliament, the Groesfaen Action Committee and residents of Groesfaen. On Friday, 19 June, 1992, the day before the date of closure, the Clerk had been encouraged to hear that a resident of Groesfaen had been accepted by Post Office Counters Ltd. to run the sub post office from her converted garage. Until the conversion was completed Post Office Counters Ltd. had agreed to keep open the temporary post office. The local manager of Post Office Counters Ltd had sought the assistance of the Community Council in expediting the grant of planning permission for the conversion of the garage. The Clerk had contacted the Chief Planning Officer asking that the application be treated with urgency.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the lady in Groesfaen who had agreed to take on the post office to thank her for her public spirit in ensuring the continuance of a post office in the village.

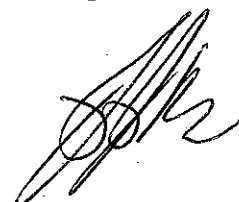
(b) Purchase of vehicle

The Clerk reported the purchase of a four year old, low mileage, Bedford Astra van for £2,600. Prior to purchase the vehicle had been subject to a stringent examination by an RAC vehicle inspector. In his report the inspector had described the vehicle as being structurally sound and, provided it was maintained properly, was capable of providing a reasonable period of service.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for the vehicle to be provided with a flashing amber light and for the Council's logo to be painted on the vehicle's side doors

(c) Overgrown gardens and lawns, Miskin

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Black Horse Estate Agency in Cowbridge about the overgrown state of



the gardens and lawns of a vacant house in Miskin. He was pleased to be able to report that action had been taken to make the lawns and gardens more presentable.

The report was noted.

(d) Proposed pedestrian footbridge, Ynysddu Estate, Pontyclun

The Clerk reported on the enquiries he had made with County Council officers about the proposal to erect a pedestrian footbridge to access the Ynysddu Farm Estate, Pontyclun, from the A4222.

RESOLVED: That the item be deferred to the Council's September meeting.

(e) Safety aspects in the construction of the new Pontyclun railway station

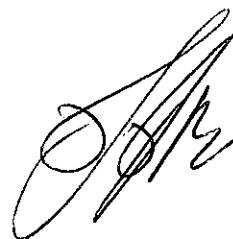
Councillor Dilworth expressed his concern that he had not received a reply from British Rail on the matters of safety he had raised some weeks previously in connection with the construction of the new Pontyclun railway station. Councillor Dilworth intended pursuing the matter until he had received a reply.

The report was noted.

(f) Wales Association of Community and Town Councils - Seminar on the proposed restructuring of local government in Wales

Councillor Dilworth reported that plans were well advanced for the seminar organised by East Wales Area Committee of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils on the restructuring of local government in Wales. The seminar was planned for the morning of Saturday, 22 August, 1992, and would be held in the Rhymney Valley District Council Offices at Ystrad Mynach. Councillor Dilworth was pleased to be able to report that representatives of local authority associations in Wales would be in attendance in addition to the Leaders of the Mid Glamorgan County Council and the Rhymney Valley District Council. It was understood that representatives from the Welsh Office would also be in attendance.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Dilworth be congratulated on his work for the Association and that his attendance at the seminar be regarded as an official duty.



5. Notice of Motion

"That.... the Council discuss the possibility of acquiring premises in Clun Avenue, Pontyclun, for use as a Council office and Chamber, police office and base for a Handyman" (Councillor Mrs Anita Burton)

A lengthy discussion took place about the possibility of the Council acquiring premises in Clun Avenue, Pontyclun, which had recently come on the market. While there was a strong case for acquiring the premises the Council felt that in view of the large capital cost, the need to carry out a minimum of conversion work, the likelihood of high recurring revenue costs, the unlikely prospect of securing loan sanction from the Welsh Office, the time was not opportune to proceed with the proposal.

RESOLVED: That the matter be deferred.

6. Council's Audit for 1991/92

The Clerk reported that on 19 June, 1992 the District Auditor completed his audit of the Community Council's accounts for 1991/92. In his verbal report the District Auditor referred to the informal advice he had given in 1989 about the practice of certain community councils in making a contribution to the telephone expenses of members. His advice at that time had been that a "reasonable" contribution towards a member's telephone expenses was unlikely to be queried at an annual audit.

The Pontyclun Community Council had followed the District Auditor's guidelines, and the practice of the Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre Community Councils, in making payments to members during 1990/91 and 1991/92.

The District Auditor had informed the Clerk that since giving his original advice there had been a recent test case. The decision in the case was to clearly establish that community councils did not have power to contribute to their members telephone expenses. As a consequence, the District Auditor was obliged to bring the decision of the test case to the attention of all community councils making contributions to members telephone expenses. Several community councils in Taff Ely were affected. The District Auditor had advised that he would be making a report on the position of each community council affected to the Audit Commission and would report back to community councils in due course.

The District Auditor expressed his satisfaction with all other aspects of the Community Council's accounts for 1991/92.

RESOLVED: That the revised advice of the District Auditor be

implemented immediately and that the Clerk make a further report to the Council when the District Auditor's final report was received.

7. Access to the Ivor Woods

The Council considered details of estimated costs from Employment Action, an organisation run by the Borough Council under the auspices of the Department of Employment, for creating an access for the disabled into the Ivor Woods. The estimate was £4,183.00. Further written estimates from Employment Action had been received that afternoon for improvements to the riverside walk between the Ottersbrook Trout Farm and the river Ely (£3,821.00), and for environmental work in Groesfaen (£4,483.20).

RESOLVED: (i) That in view of the higher than expected estimates no contract be entered into with Employment Action for the duration of the financial year.

(ii) That the Clerk arrange for the receipt of estimates from other contractors.

8. Speeding vehicles - A4119 - Groesfaen

Councillor Bendle drew the Council's attention to the recent fatal accident on the A4119 in Groesfaen. While the circumstances surrounding the accident were unclear, there was strong local feeling that the speed restriction at the western end of the village was not in the most effective position. There was a convincing case for the speed restriction to commence at a point 200 yards westward of the existing restriction.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk contact the County Council to request the beginning of the 30 m.p.h. restriction, at the western end on the village, be moved 200 yards in the direction of the Castell-y-Mynach Inn.

(ii) That the matter of speeding vehicles in Pontyclun be placed on the Council's agenda for its September meeting.

9. Consumption of alcohol outside the Windsor Hotel and Bute Arms, Pontyclun

The Council discussed the behavioural problems of a minority caused by the consumption of alcohol in Pontyclun. While, superficially, the problem was more apparent outside the premises of the Windsor Hotel and the Bute Arms it was felt that all licensed premises in Pontyclun bore a share of the responsibility for some of the unruly behaviour which had occurred in the evenings over many weeks.

The landlord of the Windsor Hotel, Mr Martin Aldis, addressed the Council and was anxious to point out that he was a publican of several years experience who adopted a low key approach to maintaining order at his premises. He had erected a barrier to segregate his customers from the adjacent pavement and refused to serve anyone who appeared to have consumed too much alcohol. He was confident that none of his customers had been involved in recent reported incidents. Mr Aldis was thanked for addressing the Council.

P C Keddle told the Council that the police had visited all licensed premises in the vicinity and had stressed the legal position on the sale and consumption of alcohol, with particular regard to the sale of alcohol to under age teenagers.

The Council's representative on the Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee, Mr Alan Gregory, stated that he had raised the matter of alcohol sales and unruly behaviour at a recent meeting of the Consultative Committee. Superintendent Webber had undertaken to look into the matter.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk write to landlords, stewards and proprietors of licensed premises in the Community asking for their cooperation in ensuring that alcohol is not sold to teenagers under the age of eighteen.

(ii) That the Council await the outcome of the investigations by Superintendent Webber.

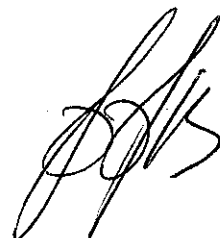
10. The Welsh Language in Taff Ely

The Council received the bilingual report of the Working Party established by the Urdd National Eisteddfod - Taff Ely. The findings of the Working Party had been discussed at a public meeting in Llantwit Fardre on 25 June when it was noted that in the 18 years from 1973 to 1991 the percentage of people in Taff Ely able to speak Welsh in Taff Ely had increased from 7% to 23%

RESOLVED: That detailed consideration of the report be deferred to the Council's September meeting and that the Clerk arrange for the distribution of two English copies and one Welsh copy of the report.

11. Planning notifications for weeks ending 29 May, 5, 12 and 19 June, 1992

The Council received details of planning applications contained in weekly notifications for weeks ending 29 May, 5, 12 and 19 June, 1992.



RESOLVED: That the following comments be made:-

Application No. 92/0451/10

The Council is opposed to the application on the grounds that:

- (a) the existing consent is not being observed.
- (b) additional storage facilities at the premises would lead to more delivery vehicles using the already congested rear lane and would interfere with the public's right of passage.

(In addition to the above comments Councillor Norman agreed to pursue with the Borough Council's Enforcement Officer the matter of the apparently ineffective acoustic hoods fitted to the refrigeration units at the rear of the premises.)

Application No. 92/0473/13

The Council is opposed to the application on the grounds that:

- (a) the application is outside the Local Plan
- (b) the application would lead to "ribbon development"
- (c) the proposed development would be affected by vibration from the nearby Hendy Quarry.
- (d) the application is premature in view of prospective development proposals by the County Council.
- (e) the site is covered by a Tree Preservation Order

12. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix No. 18 to the Agenda.

13. Reports from Members

- (a) Telephone system, Parc Newydd, Talbot Green

Councillor Mrs Pam Phillips was pleased to be able to

report that after two and a half years of pressure an extension of the telephone system at the Parc Newydd Home for the Elderly had finally been installed.

The report was noted.

(b) Sewage treatment works - Lon-yr-Awel, Pontyclun

Councillor Gordon Norman was pleased to be able to report that work on replacing the sewage treatment works at the rear of Lon-yr-Awel, Pontyclun, was well advanced. Some delay to the scheme had arisen as a result of uncertainties over the precise boundaries of a boundary fence at the site.

The report was noted.

(c) Children's play area, Cil Hendy, Pontyclun

Councillor Gordon Norman was pleased to be able to report that, as a result of representations he had made to the Borough Council, new swings had been installed in the children's play area in Cil Hendy, Pontyclun.

The report was noted.

(d) Reorganisation of Local Government in Wales - Mid Glamorgan County Council's revised views

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that following the rejection by the Secretary of State for Wales of the Welsh county councils' claims to be the unitary authorities in a restructured Welsh local government, the Mid Glamorgan County Council had sent a further set of observations to the Secretary of State. In the County Council's latest comments it foresaw the existing County being divided into three unitary authorities based on an enlarged Ogwr, Rhondda/Cynon Valley and Merthyr/Rhymney Valley. It was proposed that the Community of Pontyclun would be absorbed into the unitary authority for an enlarged Ogwr.

The report was noted.

(e) Finance Committee - Underspend for 1991/92

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that earlier that day the Finance Committee of the Mid Glamorgan County Council had received information on a large underspend on money, totalling £2.7 million, by one of the Education



Committee's sub committees. Councillor Bowen said that he failed to understand how a service which was desperately short of money could incur an underspend of such a magnitude.

The report was noted.

(f) Borough Council housing - smoke detectors

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that the Borough Council had recently decided to install smoke detectors in all Borough Council owned homes. It was estimated that 3,000 smoke detectors would be fitted. The contract for the work had been won by the Taff Ely Borough Council's direct labour organisation.

The report was noted.

(g) Borough Council housing - garden trimming

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that the Borough Council had recently approved a scheme, where limited funds were available in the Housing Budget, for the trimming of gardens in Borough Council owned houses where those houses were occupied by the elderly or disabled. Councillor Norman invited members of the Community Council to advise Borough Council members of the names and addresses of tenants in the Community who were believed to be eligible under the scheme.

The report was noted.

(h) Environmental Protection Act, 1990 -
Purolite International

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that Purolite International, Pontyclun, had been reported to the Borough Council for infringing the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act, 1990. An investigation was taking place. Councillor Norman promised to report back to the Community Council when the outcome of the investigations were known.

The report was noted.

(i) Dipali Restaurant, Pontyclun

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that complaints had been received by the Borough Council about offensive

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odours emanating from the Dipali Restaurant in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. The matter was being investigated and Councillor Norman promised to report back to the Community Council when the results of the were known.

The report was noted.

(j) Rationalisation of committee structure - Taff Ely Borough Council

Councillor Viv James reported that in a move to save costs the Taff Ely Borough Council had rationalised its committee structure. Fewer committees would now discharge the same volume of work as prior to the rationalisation.

The report was noted.

(k) Lane at the rear of Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun

Councillor John Dilworth reported that residents of Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun, had joined together in a self help scheme to improve the surface of the lane at the rear of Llwynfen Road. It was likely that the residents would eventually apply to the Borough Council for the lane to be made up under the back lane improvement programme.

The report was noted.

(l) Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee

Mr Alan Gregory, the Council's representative on the Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee, reported that at the last meeting of the Committee he had raised the matter of speeding vehicles in Pontyclun. The police agreed that the complaint would be investigated. Mr Gregory said that he would report back to the Council when the results of the investigation were known.

The report was noted.

(m) Special Constabulary

Police constable Steve Kettle stated that he was pleased to be able to let the Council know of the appointment of three recruits to the Special Constabulary. The recruits would be taking up their duties shortly.

14. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Taff Ely in Europe celebrations

The Clerk distributed copies of a circular letter from the Borough Council which had been sent to all community councils in the Borough inviting participation in celebrations to mark the entry of the United Kingdom into Europe.

RESOLVED: That while the Council found itself unable to participate in the celebrations, the invitation be forwarded to the Pontyclun R F C and the Miskin Manor Cricket Club in the hope that one of the organisations may be able to take part in the celebrations.

(b) Motorcycle nuisance - Hendy Woods

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from Mr Graham Croad, 52 Rhyd-y-Nant, Pontyclun, who complained of the nuisance caused by motorcycles in the Hendy Woods. Mr Croad pointed out that the footpaths in the Woods were used as circuits and unsuspecting walkers were often confronted with machines travelling at relatively high speeds. Furthermore, the motorcycling activities often started as early as 6.30 a.m. and regularly continued into the late evening. The noise from the motorcycles' engines was the source of nuisance to residents of Rhyd-y-Nant.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk refer the matter to the Environmental Health Department of the Borough Council.

(ii) That Mr Alan Gregory raise the matter at the next meeting of the Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee.

(c) Council's annual grants meeting

The Clerk reminded the Council that the annual grants meeting of the Community Council would be held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 8 July, 1992.

The matter was noted.

(d) Construction of new doctors' surgery, School Street, Pontyclun

Councillor Bendle reported the concern of the householder in School Street, Pontyclun, whose house was adjacent to the site of the new doctors' surgery. The householder had expressed concern about the nearness of the surgery boundary and that the windows of her premises would be overlooked by the surgery's windows.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Norman take the matter up with the Planning Officer of the Borough Council.

(e) Proposed pedestrian footbridge to the Ynysddu Farm Estate, Pontyclun

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that he intended to raise again with the County Council the matter of a pedestrian footbridge access to the Ynysddu Farm Estate, Pontyclun. Councillor Bowen was firmly of the view that he had secured a commitment in principle for the erection a footbridge many months earlier. Councillor Bowen promised to report back to the Council when he had further news.

The report was noted.

(f) Hendy Estate - height of hedges

Councillor Mrs Anita Burton enquired if there were any guidelines governing the height of hedges on the Hendy Estate. The height of some of the hedges on the Estate had given rise to complaints by some of the residents.

Councillor Norman responded that the Borough Council had started a programme of hedge trimming for Borough Council owned properties. He would ensure that hedges on the Hendy Estate were kept included in the programme.

15. The meeting ended at 10.40 p.m.

