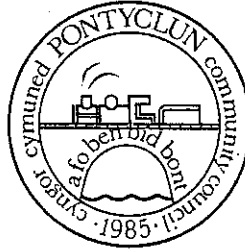


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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 8.00p.m. on Wednesday, 2 October, 1991.

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Inspector Bowen and P.C. Keddle of the South Wales Constabulary and Miss Angela Griffiths of the Llantrisant Observer

1. Apologies for absence There were no apologies for absence
2. Former Councillor E Hopkin

The Chairperson, Councillor Professor Bowen, informed the Council that former Councillor Elfyn Hopkin had recently passed away. The Council observed a minute silence in tribute to former Councillor Hopkin.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk express the Council's condolences to the widow, Mrs Kate Hopkin.

3. Chairperson's business

(a) Ffilmiau Elidir

The Chairperson announced that a second series of live television programmes, in the Welsh language, called "Codi Cwestiwn", was shortly to be recorded for later screening on S4C. Each recording would take the form of a question and answer session to a panel of three members. Recording was being carried out at various locations throughout Wales. The Chairperson extended an invitation to any interested member of the Council to attend the recording which was scheduled to take place in the Reardon Smith Theatre, Cardiff on 22 November, 1991.

The matter was noted.

(b) Chairperson's Social Evening

The Chairperson reminded Members that he intended holding a social evening in the Institute and Athletic Club, Pontyclun, in late November/early December, with the object of improving communication with neighbouring community councils.

The matter was noted.

4. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 September, 1991

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 September, 1991, be approved as an accurate record.

5. Matters arising

(a) Mineral Local Plan for Limestone - Hendv Quarry

The Council noted the correspondence which had been received from Celyn, a firm of chartered town planners, the County Planning Officer and the Welsh Office.

Councillor Moir gave a verbal report on the public meeting which took place on the evening of 18 September, 1991. The meeting had been called in order that Miskin residents could have an opportunity to formulate comments on the Draft Local Plan. Residents received professional advice from Mr Easterbrook of Curtins, consulting engineers. Following the meeting the views of Miskin residents had been forwarded to the County Planning Officer.

RESOLVED: That in response to the County Planning Officer's letter of 20 September, 1991, the Clerk advise the that "the clear evidence of structural damage" was contained in the reports of consultants. The County Planning Officer had already seen copies of the reports.

(b) Off street lighting - Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

The Chairperson and the Clerk advised the Council of a site meeting they had attended with a representative of Celtic Contracting Services, the successor body to the South Wales Electricity Board's off street lighting department. The representative had agreed that the lane was suitable for off street lighting, and that use could be made of the existing electricity poles in the lane.



The C.C.S. representative had pointed out that three lanterns were required and that his company could carry out the installation for £240.00 per lantern, this being the negotiated price which C.C.S. presently charged to district councils and the county council.

RESOLVED: That an order be placed with Celtic Contracting Services in the sum of £720.00 for the installation of three lanterns in the lane.

(c) Consultative Document on the Structure of Local Government in Wales

The Council discussed the representations made by the Taff Ely Borough Council and by the Mid Glamorgan County Council, each separately seeking the support of the Community Council to become an unitary authority. The Council also considered the views of other prominent organisations.

RESOLVED: That the views expressed by the Community Council at its meeting on 4 September, 1991, be amended and that the following comments be the subject of the Community Council's formal comments to the Secretary of State for Wales:-

1. An elected assembly for Wales should be set up.
2. There should be statutory community and town councils throughout Wales.
3. The functions of community and town councils should consist of:-
 - (a) The right to take on responsibility for running and/or establishing publicly owned facilities and services situated within their areas, for example, allotments, rights of way, community halls, play areas, recreation grounds, cemeteries, bus shelters and seats.
 - (b) A statutory advisory role in the formulation of local plans and in planning applications. The wishes of a community should take precedence except where it can be shown that there are other, overriding public interests of a wider nature.

- (c) A statutory consultative role, for example, on local policing, housing needs and environmental pollution.
 - (d) Representation on school governing bodies at all relevant levels
 - (e) The right to support local voluntary groups.
4. It is essential that community and town councils are properly funded, ideally through the right to precept on a local income tax. In the meantime, they should receive an appropriate portion of the business rate and revenue support grant according to the to the functions carried out.
 5. There should be an independent commission to inquire into, and report upon, local government in Wales.
 6. The benefits of community councils should be extended to all areas. Urban areas will benefit from local democracy which may help to lessen the sense of alienation evident in cities and large towns. These should be divided into communities, each with its own council. The right of electors to dissolve community councils should be removed from the statute book.

(d) Chairperson's Chain of Office

The Council noted correspondence to Councillor Mrs O P Phillips about the possibility of a local business assisting in the purchase of a Chairperson's Chain of Office.

(e) Miskin War Memorial

The Council considered the quotations which had been received for the restoration works at the Miskin War Memorial.

RESOLVED: That the Council defer awarding the contract for the work pending site visits to inspect the workmanship of Lericci Artistic Sculptors of Pontyclun and N Harding and Sons of Bridgend.

(f) Children's playground, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

The Council discussed a letter from the Chief Leisure Services Officer of the Taff Ely Borough Council in which he agreed with the suggestion of the Community Council for the erection of signs in the children's playground in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, discouraging dog owners from allowing their pets from fouling the playground. It was planned to erect signs shortly. Copies of the Chief Leisure Services Officer's letter were distributed to all Members by the Clerk.

(g) Traffic hazard, Talvgarn Drive

Councillor Norman referred to Minute 6(b) of the Council's meeting of 6 September, 1991, and pointed out that four sleeping policemen had been installed on the approach road from the Otters Brook Trout Pools in an attempt to reduce the speed of traffic.

The matter was noted.

(h) Tree Preservation Orders

The Clerk reported that following the Council's request for Tree Preservation Orders at the rear of 6 and 7 The Paddocks, Brynsadler, and on land between Merthyr Street and Maelog Close, Pontyclun, he had received a telephone call from a member of staff in the Borough Council's Planning Department. The Clerk was hopeful that at least one of the identified areas would be accepted by the Borough Council for a Tree Preservation Order.

The matter was noted.

6. Police Matters

(a) An address from Inspector Bowen of the South Wales Constabulary

Inspector Bowen of the South Wales Constabulary addressed the Council on some of the problems he encountered in policing the areas under his jurisdiction. The overriding problem he faced was a shortage of manpower and, while nominally, P C Steve Keddle was the community policeman for the area, P C Keddle of necessity, had to use the Talbot Green police station as a base. Consequently, it was inevitable that P C Keddle would not be seen in Pontyclun as much as he would wish and, while in Talbot Green, would become involved in other police matters.

Inspector Bowen told the Council that, ideally, the police would like to have an office in Pontyclun and an increase in manpower. In the short term he thought it unlikely that there would be a substantial increase in resources. Commenting on crimes in Pontyclun, Inspector Bowen said that the village compared well with other villages in the locality. Inspector Bowen answered a series of questions from Members on policing matters including drink related violence, response to road traffic accidents, appointment to the Special Constabulary, the nuisance caused by heavy vehicles, "Vehicle Watch" and 24 hour police cover in Pontyclun.

The Chairperson thanked Inspector Bowen and P C Kettle for finding the time to speak to the Council.

RESOLVED: That in the next edition of the Community Council's magazine "CLUN", reference be made to openings which were available in the Special Constabulary.

(b) Re-organisation of the South Wales Constabulary

The Council discussed the contents of the letter from Superintendent Derek J Webber, Pontypridd, about the re-organisation of the police force in South Wales. It was noted that the revised arrangements were effective from 1 September, 1991.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

(c) Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee

The Council considered the request for a nominee to attend the Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Council's nominee to the Committee be Councillor Mr T J Burton. In the event the Councillor Burton would be unable to attend a meeting, the Council nominated Councillor Norman as a substitute.

7. Proposed amalgamation of Maesvfeelin
Infants and Pontyclun Junior Schools

The Council considered the reply of the Director of Education to the Community Council's letter of 3 September, 1991.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

8. Association of Councillors

The Council considered the invitation from the Association of Councillors to send a delegate to the Association's next meeting in Pontypool on 12 October, 1991.

RESOLVED: That the Council decline the invitation.

9. Appeals for financial assistance

The Council discussed further applications for financial assistance.

RESOLVED: That the following grants be made:-

- | | |
|--|---------|
| (a) Urdd Gobaith Cymru | £100.00 |
| (b) Commonwealth Games Council for Wales | £50.00 |

10. Weekly Planning Notifications for Weeks 36, 37, 38 and 39

The Council considered the planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications No.s 36, 37, 38 and 39.

RESOLVED: That the following comments be made to the Borough Council:-

Application No. 56/91/0627

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

- (a) the proposed development would constitute an intrusion into the countryside.
- (b) the proposed development is within the Talygarn Conservation Area.
- (c) there would be a danger from migrating methane gas from the nearby landfill site.
- (d) the proposed development would lead to pollution of the Nant Dyfrgi.
- (e) the proposed development would suffer from subsidence.
- (f) the proposed development is outside the Local Plan.

Application No. 56/0637/91

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

- (a) the proposed development is outside the Structure Plan.

- (b) the proposed site is infilled land
- (c) there would be a risk to any development from migrating methane gas.
- (d) access to the development would be from the direction of School Road. There is already a weight restriction on vehicles using School Road.
- (e) the proposed development would infringe the green belt.

11. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 15 to the Agenda.

12. Reports from Members

(a) Ynysyplwm development

Councillor Dilworth reported on his attendance at a recent meeting of the Ely Valley Association. The Association had been battling for some time to prevent development on the Ynysyplwm site. Local members of the Borough Council were opposing the development and had posed fundamental questions about the Welsh Development Agency's authority to use public monies to fund the development.

The report was noted.

(b) Dualling of the A4119 in Talbot Green

The Chairperson, Councillor Bowen, reported on the County Council's plans for dualling the A4119 in Talbot Green. Despite considerable opposition from the residents of Castle Hill Estate, it seemed likely that the County Council would be proceeding with the dualling by utilising land on the Castle Hill Estate side of the A4119 rather than utilising land on the Tesco's side of the A4119. The County Council proposed sound-proofing schemes and hanging gardens for the residents of Castle Hill Estate in an attempt to minimise the impact of the road widening.

The report was noted.

(c) Highway problems at Tregarth Court, Creigiau.

The Chairperson, Councillor Bowen, reported on the problems being experienced by residents of Tregarth

Court, Creigiau, in resolving problems connected with pavements and a layby. Temporary remedial work had been started by the County Council recently.

The report was noted.

(d) Pontyclun Railway Station - Chamber of Trade

The Chairperson, Councillor Bowen, reported on a meeting of the Pontyclun Chamber of Trade when the subject of the new railway station was discussed. Generally, traders were in favour of the new development, although there were reservations on some matters of detail.

The report was noted.

(e) Pontyclun Horticultural Show

The Chairperson, Councillor Bowen, reported on his attendance at the 50th. Anniversary of the Pontyclun Horticultural Show. The Show had been another outstanding success and he wished to offer his congratulations to all involved in the Show for making it such a noteworthy event in the village life.

The report was noted.

(f) Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Councillor Moir drew the Council's attention to the need to nominate a substitute Member to the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee in the event of the nominated representative of the Council being unable to attend a meeting.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mrs O P Phillips be nominated as the substitute .

(g) Windsor Playing Fields, Pontyclun

Councillor Griffith informed the Council that the Taff Ely Borough Council had plans to improve public access to the Windsor Playing Fields in Pontyclun. He understood that it was proposed to construct a flight of steps and a ramp from the public footpath down to the children's playarea of the Fields.

The report was noted.



(h) Maesvfelin Playing Fields, Pontyclun

Councillor Norman reported that the Borough Council had put together a package for improving the recreational facilities at the Maesvfelin playing fields. However, before undertaking any work, the Borough sought to clarify ownership of the playingfields and the nature of the leases granted to the respective organisations using the facilities. Formal discussions had begun with the County Council.

The report was noted.

(i) Ornamental gardens

Councillor Norman reported that the Pencoed Agricultural College had been approached about the possibility of providing an ornamental garden site in Taffs Well. Investigations were taking place elsewhere in the Borough to identify other suitable sites for ornamental gardens. It was likely that the officers responsible for administering the scheme would be looking at a number of sites in Pontyclun.

The report was noted.

(j) "Sleeping policemen"

Councillor James reported on the concerns of a number of residents in the Community about the practice of certain young motorcyclists of riding their machines through back lanes at high speeds.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the County Council to enquire if it would be possible to install "sleeping policemen" in the back lanes of the Community to deter young motorcyclists from speeding.

13. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Planning Inquiry

The Clerk informed the Council that a planning inquiry would be held by a Welsh Office inspector at 10.00 a.m. on 24 October, 1991, at the Model House, Llantrisant, against the refusal of the Borough Council to grant permission for development at "Long Acre", Mwyndy.

The matter was noted.

(b) Tenders for bridge painting

The Clerk advised the Council that four contractors had been invited to tender for painting work at the Maesyfelin and Ivor Park bridges. One of the contractors had declined to submit a tender. Two tenders had been returned to the Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the contract for the painting work be awarded to the lowest tenderer, that is R A Bush of Merthyr in the sum of £2860.00.

(c) Traffic congestion - Merthyr Street, Pontyclun

The Clerk distributed copies of the letter which had been received from the Chief Technical Services Officer of the Borough Council indicating that "to the best of my knowledge, signs indicating 'No Through Road' would come under the jurisdiction of the Mid Glamorgan County Council'. The reply appeared to have ignored that the Community Council's request, following consultation with the County Council, was for a "No Through Road" sign to be incorporated with the street nameplate.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk again take the matter up with the Borough Council.

(d) Clerks' Salary Award, 1991

The Clerk reported that agreement had been reached on the annual increase to the salaries payable to local council clerks. As in previous years, the award was a mirror of the award for the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Administrative, Professional and Technical Staff. This year's increase was 6.4%. The salary award had been implemented.

The matter was noted.

(e) Notice of Motion

Councillor Dilworth gave notice that he wished the Council to discuss, at its next meeting, the possibility of holding a public meeting to discuss back lane problems at Llwynfen Road and Rhyd-y-Nant, Pontyclun.

(f) Ynysddu Farm Estate, Pontyclun

Councillor Mrs Burton sought clarification on the position of the proposed pedestrian bridge at Ynysddu Farm Estate, Pontyclun. While there had been no written communication with either the Borough Council, the County Council or the developers on the subject of a pedestrian footbridge, it was believed that the County Council, in conjunction with Barratts, the developers, had plans for the erection of a pedestrian bridge.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the County Council to establish the position.

(g) Graig Cottages, Miskin

Councillor Moir reported the presence of strong smells of sewerage in the vicinity of Graig Cottages, Miskin.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the matter with the Borough Council's Chief Environmental Health Officer.

(h) Footway maintenance - Hendy Estate, Pontyclun

Councillor Norman reported that the County Council planned to carry out much needed footway maintenance work on the Hendy Estate shortly.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

(i) Smoke alarms - Hendy Estate, Pontyclun

Councillor Bendle reported that Borough Council tenants on the Hendy Estate, Pontyclun, had been offered the installation of smoke alarms by the Borough Council for the sum of £15.00 per unit. The figure of £15.00 per unit appeared to be unreasonably high bearing mind the low cost of the item and the minimal work involved in the in each unit's installation.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Borough Council to enquire why the unit price appeared to be so high.

(j) Car Sales, Corner Park Garage, Mwvndv

Councillor Bendle drew the attention of the Council to the practice of the management at the Corner Park Garage

of parking vehicles for sale partially on the grass verge bordering the premises.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the County Council to find out whether the practice was allowable.

(k) Bus shelter, Groesfaen Village

Councillor Norman referred to the Council's decision in minute 8 of the Council's meeting on 4 September, 1991. He pointed out that the Council had already agreed in principle to re-building the bus shelter in the centre of the village in stone. No further decision on the matter was required. Additionally, it had also been agreed in principle to instal raised flower beds adjacent to the bus shelter.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk arrange for tenders to be received for the erection of a stone bus shelter in the centre of Groesfaen village.

(ii) That Councillor Norman, in conjunction with Councillor Bendle, provide the Clerk with a drawing of the proposed raised flower beds adjacent to the bus shelter.

14. The meeting ended at 10.35 p.m.