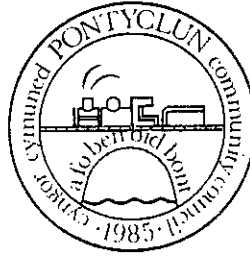


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
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"Mandalay"
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Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 2 October, 1996

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P C Steve Keddle (for part of the meeting) and three members of the public.

1. **Apologies**

There were no apologies for absence.

2. **Councillor J V Huish**

A welcome was extended to Councillor Jonathan V Huish, the newly elected member for the Miskin Ward of the Community Council.

Councillor Huish completed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was handed a copy of the Community Council's Standing Orders and the Code of Local Government Practice

3. **Chairperson's business**

(a) **St David's Church, Miskin**

The Chairperson, Councillor Norman, reported that he had attended a recent service in St David's Church, Miskin, and represented the Community Council. The service was considered to have been very successful.

(b) **RCT in Bloom Competition**

The Chairperson advised the Council that it had been his

R G Norman

pleasure to represent the Community Council at the recent award ceremony of the RCT in Bloom Competition. The Community Council had been awarded second prize for its Pontyclun War Memorial entry and, in addition to the receipt of a certificate, the Community Council had been awarded a prize of £50.00.

(c) **Summer edition of "Clun Sheet"**

The Chairperson referred to the recent edition of the "Clun Sheet" a newsletter issued by one of the local political parties.

Councillor Norman commented that two of the items had given rise to comment by members of the public.

The first related to the possibility of installing a water supply to allotment holders on the southern side of Clun Avenue, Pontyclun. Councillor Norman stated that the proposal had been investigated previously and, while there was some merit in the scheme, there were practical difficulties which prevented the installation taking place. Plotholders were aware of the difficulties and had improvised with their own water collection arrangements.

The second related to a claim that Councillors Davies and Huish were exploring the possibility of opening one of the lakes at the former Otters Brook Trout Farm as a boating lake. There was a further possibility that a cafe might be incorporated into the development. Councillor Norman stated that he had received a number of telephone calls from members of the public who were under the impression that the proposed development was being promoted by the Community Council.

Councillor Norman invited the Clerk to read out a letter which had been received by the Community Council from three residents in Ivor Park, Brynsadler, who wished it known that the access road to the Otters Brook Trout Farm was in private ownership and wanted the proposals for access clarified.

Councillor Norman emphasised that the Community Council had no scheme for the former Otters Brook Trout Farm and that the proposals which had caused concern were those of a political party.

A discussion ensued when members of the public were allowed to express their views. The discussion ended with an assurance from Councillor Huish that the proposals contained in the Clun Sheet were tentative and that before any firm decisions were taken all residents affected by the proposals would be fully consulted.

4. **Police matters**

(a) **Congregating teenagers**

P C Steve Keddle reported that following the complaint from a resident in River's Edge, Pontyclun, he had visited the complainant to discuss the problems caused by congregating teenagers in the Community Centre car park. Pc Keddle advised the Council that in the absence of any law breaking by the teenagers the powers of the police were limited. The police would, on their visits to Pontyclun, do their best to check the activities of the teenagers. P C Keddle thought it unlikely that there would be any quick resolution of the problems.

(b) **Complaints of litter outside the Bute Arms., Pontyclun**

P C Keddle reported that as a result of complaints, police observations had shown that the staff of the Bute Arms, Pontyclun, did sweep up litter and broken glass outside the premises on a regular basis. The police would continue to monitor the situation.

A general discussion ensued. Several Members felt that the problem with litter and broken glass in the vicinity of the Bute Arms was a problem caused by all three licensed premises in the immediate vicinity but the fact that the landlord of the Bute Arms kept a storage container outside his premises, full of empty bottles, did not help the case. Clarification was sought from P C Keddle on whether patrons of licenced premises could be compelled to consume their alcohol from plastic glasses where that alcohol was being consumed outdoors. P C Keddle responded that landlords could not be compelled to serve their customers in plastic glasses where alcohol was to be consumed outdoors.

Several Members felt that the problems associated with

licensed premises in the area went further and that landlords should become responsible for the conduct of their clientele where alcohol was consumed outdoors.

There was agreement that the situation required monitoring and that if there was no general improvement then consideration would need to be given to making representations to the licensing justices when premises' licences needed to be renewed.

Additionally, as the South Wales Constabulary would become responsible for the enforcement of a trial scheme designed to deal with problems of outdoor consumption of alcohol, a request be made to the police for the introduction of the trial scheme in Pontyclun at an early date.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk convey the Community Council's request for the introduction of the trial scheme in Pontyclun at an early date.

(c) **Letter from Divisional Commander Vaughan**

P C Keddle referred to the letter dated 6 September, 1996, which had been circulated by Divisional Commander Vaughan to all community councils. P C Keddle advised that he would be grateful if, in the first instance, matters involving the police could be referred to the Talbot Green Police Station.

RESOLVED: That P C Keddle's request be noted.

5. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 September, 1996**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 September, 1996 be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **RCT in Bloom Competition**

The Chairperson, Councillor Norman, advised that the Council had won second prize in the Best Kept War Memorial in RCT in Bloom Competition in 1996 for the Pontyclun War Memorial.

It had originally been understood the Council had won third

prize in the Competition but it appeared that as one of the winning entries above the Pontyclun entry had been disqualified it resulted in the Pontyclun entry being promoted from third to second place. The third place had subsequently been awarded to an entry from the Llanharry Community Council. Pontyclun Community Council's prizemoney had been increased from £25 to £50.

The matter was noted.

(b) **Community Questionnaire**

Councillor Mrs Margaret Griffiths reported on the highly successful exercise carried out during the summer months to find out from residents of the Community what they saw as the areas of greatest concern and where the Community Council might be able to assist in bringing about change.

While the exercise had been an overwhelming success, it was noted that those with perhaps, the greatest long term interest, the schoolchildren of the Community, had been left out of the survey. There was unanimous agreement that, with the consent of the respective headteachers, the exercise should be extended to pupils of the senior class in Pontyclun Primary School and pupils of the Community attending Y Pant Comprehensive School.

Councillor Mrs Griffiths reported that a sub committee of members had met on 19 September, 1996 to discuss a strategy for dealing with the completed questionnaires. The sub committee had recommended that in addition to involving schoolchildren:

- (I) a press release on the exercise be made referring to the questionnaire, the results, and highlighting areas of concern
- (ii) a Community Plan be formed using the questionnaire results as a basis
- (iii) a copy of the questionnaire results be placed in the Pontyclun Library
- (iv) individual letters be sent to those respondents who had sent in letters with their questionnaires

- (v) a letter be placed in each Community Council noticeboard thanking residents for taking the time to complete the questionnaire

(vi)

That the Council consider the results of the Questionnaire again after the views of the children have been obtained.
RESOLVED: That the above recommendations be approved.

(c) **Creation of cycle ways in the Community**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had contacted Sustrans and asked for advice on the creation of cycle ways in the Community. He understood that the information would be provided.

Some weeks later he received a leaflet from Sustrans inviting the Community Council to make financial contributions to the organisation. On receipt of the leaflet the Clerk had again contacted Sustrans and pointed out that what the Council required was information on the creation of cycle ways. Sustrans had agreed that they would forward the Council an "information pack".

RESOLVED: That the matter be deferred pending receipt of the information pack from Sustrans.

(d) **Proposed Forest Wood Quarry Liaison Committee**

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Llanharry Community Council and Mrs O Bufton of Talygarn about the formation of a Forest Wood Quarry Liaison Committee. Both had indicated a willingness to support the proposed committee.

Councillor Burton referred to the decision at the last meeting of the Council to provisionally nominate the Chairperson, Councillor Norman, to sit on the proposed Committee. Councillor Burton advised that as Councillor Huish also sat on the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council he, Councillor Huish, would be best positioned to represent Community interests since he would be fully aware of developments taking place at the principal authority.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Huish be the Community Council's nominee to sit on the proposed Liaison Committee.

(e) **New Audit and Account Regulations**

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the presentation given by staff of the District Auditor's Office on the New Audit and Account Regulations at a morning seminar on Saturday, 7 September, 1996.

The District Audit staff had warned that a considerable amount of work was involved in changing the format of community councils' accounts and that clerks needed to be careful in following the detailed notes of guidance. The District Audit staff emphasised that the changes should not be underestimated and that in cases of difficulty the District Audit Office could be contacted - albeit that a charge would subsequently be made for advice given.

The report was noted.

(f) **Planning application No 96/2224/10**

The Clerk referred to the query raised by the Council at its meeting on 4 September, 1996, and reported that the application was not being made in retrospect.

The matter was noted.

(g) **Pontyclun Football Club - Grant application**

The Clerk reminded the Council that an application for grant aid had been made by the Pontyclun Football Club some weeks previously but, due to the failure to submit an income and expenditure account, no award had been made. An income and expenditure account had subsequently been received.

(Councillors Mrs A Cale and Mr T J Flood declared an interest in the application and took no part in the Council's deliberations.)

RESOLVED: That a grant of £150.00 be made to the Pontyclun Football Club for the 1996/97 financial year.

(h) **Miskin Residents' Association**

The Council discussed a letter from the reformed Miskin

Residents' Association seeking grant aid.

RESOLVED: That a grant of £50.00 be made to the Association with a request that an income and expenditure account be submitted to the Council at the end of the Association's first financial year.

(I) **Talygarn Rehabilitation Centre**

Councillor Mrs Margaret Griffiths drew attention to an article in a recent edition of the South Wales Echo where a campaign to preserve the Talygarn Rehabilitation Centre, after it had been declared surplus to requirements by the local health authority, had already been launched.

There was strong feeling in the Community that the Centre was unique and should be retained for public use and not commercially exploited. It was important that the Community Council mobilise public opinion and make representations to those who could influence the decision of the health authority.

RESOLVED: That a sub committee be formed, comprising the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Councillor Huish and the Clerk, to discuss ways of mobilising public opinion to preserve the Talygarn Rehabilitation Centre.

7. **Off Street parking, Pontyclun**

The Chairperson, Councillor Norman reported that prior to the reorganisation of local government the former Taff Ely Borough Council had purchased paving blocks to enable additional off street parking bays to be created at various locations in the Cefn yr Hendy Ward. At the time of reorganisation the paving blocks were being stored in the Borough Council's Millfield Depot. As no work had taken place in the Cefn yr Hendy Ward to create additional parking bays since 1 April, 1996, it was appropriate to ask when the commitment of the former Taff Ely Borough Council would be fulfilled.

- RESOLVED:**
- (I) That the matter be pursued with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council by Councillor Huish
 - (ii) That the Clerk also raise the matter with the Director of Highways, Transportation and

8. **Pontyclun Chamber of Trade - Christmas, 1996**

The Council discussed a letter from the Pontyclun Chamber of Trade inviting the Council to supply a Christmas Tree for Pontyclun and sponsor a competition in conjunction with the Best Dressed Window competition.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Council agree to the purchase of a Christmas Tree for Pontyclun but that the cost of transportation and erection of the tree would not be met by the Council.
 - (ii) That the Council agree to sponsor the competition in conjunction with the Best Dressed Window competition to the sum of £60.00

9. **Modified Structure Plan and a Modified Minerals Local Plan**

The Council discussed a letter from the Director of Planning of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council advising that the Secretary of State for Wales had granted Permissions and Directions for the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to prepare modified plans in relation to the Replacement Mid Glamorgan County Structure Plan and the Mineral Local Plan for Limestone Quarrying in Mid Glamorgan, as affecting the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

The changes to both Plans would subsequently be placed on deposit and if no new relevant objections were received it would be the intention of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to adopt the Plans. The Director of Planning would advise when the modified Plans were placed on deposit.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the information be noted.
 - (ii) That copies of the Director of Planning's letter be forwarded for information to Mr Dan Clayton Jones of Mwyndy House, Mwyndy, and Mr Roy D MacLennan of Penstowe, Mwyndy.

10. **Obstructions on the highway in Pontyclun**

The Council discussed the response of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County

Borough Council to the Community Council's earlier complaint about the obstruction of pavements in Pontyclun by shopkeepers placing goods for sale outside their shops.

The Borough Council advised that under Sections 148 and 149 of the Highways Act, 1980, it is an offence for a person to deposit anything whatsoever on a highway to the interruption of any user of the highway. The Borough Council had instructed the offending shopkeepers to remove the displays and hoardings.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

11. **Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant**

The Council was pleased to learn that the Llantrisant Community Council had agreed to the Pontyclun Community Council's suggestion that the shared place on the Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant, should be for a two year consecutive term by each Council.

The Clerk advised that the Pontyclun Community Council would be represented on the Governing Body for 1996/97 and 1997/98 with the Llantrisant Community Council being represented for 1998/99 and 1999/2000.

The Clerk had already advised the Clerk to the Governing Body that the Pontyclun Community Council's representative would be Councillor R O Edwards.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

12. **Letter from the Audit Commission on improving working relationships between the tiers of local government**

The Council discussed the letter from Mr Andrew Foster of the Audit Commission who referred to the recent changes in local government boundaries. Mr Foster believed that it was now the right time for all councils to improve working arrangements between the tiers. There was a need for unitary councils in England and Wales to develop partnerships with neighbours and with parish, town and community councils in their areas.

The Community Council wholeheartedly endorsed the views of the Audit Commission but found it difficult to take the advice seriously when there was poor communication between the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and the Pontyclun Community Council despite the former having agreed to consult community councils on the wide range of issues

recommended by the Secretary of State in the paper. A good example of the poor communication was the long list of outstanding correspondence with the Borough Council since 1 April, 1996.

The Clerk advised the Council that while it was true that communications with the Borough Council could be improved, the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council faced very real underfunding problems. He quoted as examples of the underfunding the number of posts which had deliberately been left unfilled, the economies being made in street lighting and the recent decision of the Borough Council to close two homes for the elderly. The Clerk had no reason to believe that the Pontyclun Community Council was being treated any differently from any other community council within the Borough.

RESOLVED: (i) That the contents of the Audit Commission letter be noted.

(ii) That copies of the correspondence where replies were awaited from the Borough Council be passed to Councillor Huish to follow up in his role as a Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council Councillor.

13. **Divisional Commander Roger Vaughan of the South Wales Police**

The Council received a letter from Divisional Commander Roger Vaughan of the South Wales Constabulary in which he advised of his recent appointment and stated that he was in the process of preparing the Divisional Annual Plan for the forthcoming year. The document would provide a blue print for police activities and Divisional Commander Vaughan was interested to hear from the Community Council the policing issues it considered important.

RESOLVED: That an invitation to attend a future meeting of the Community Council be extended to Divisional Commander Vaughan.

14. **Age Concern - Mid Glamorgan**

The Council received a letter from Age Concern - Mid Glamorgan giving notice of its annual general meeting to be held on Friday, 18 October, 1996, at the Muni Arts Centre, Pontypridd.

RESOLVED: That Councillors Davies and Burton be nominated to represent the Council and that their attendance at the meeting be regarded as an approved duty.

15. **Planning**

(a) **Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending
30 August, 13 and 20 September, 1996**

Application No. 96/2169/16

RESOLVED: That the Borough Council be contacted to express the Community Council's concern over the continued use of the name "Miskin Heights" Additionally, that the Borough Council be requested to consult the Community Council in choosing street names for the new development.

Application No. 96/2108/10

RESOLVED: That while the Council has no objection to the proposal it believes that adequate provision for car parking should be incorporated into the development.

(b) **Planning appeals**

(i) **Shipping container in Talygarn**

The Council noted that the Inspector conducting the Inquiry against the refusal of the Planning Authority to award planning consent for the siting of a shipping container in a field in Talygarn had dismissed the appeal.

(ii) **Residential development
in School Road, Miskin**

The Council noted that the Inspector conducting the Inquiry against the refusal of the Planning Authority to award planning consent for residential development in School Road, Miskin, had upheld the appeal.

The Council regretted the decision since, in the view of the Council, the parcel of land could have been better used to enhance facilities for Miskin residents.

16. **Payment of creditors**

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

17. **Reports from Members**

(a) **Fence below the Pontyclun Fire Station**

Councillor Bendle again drew the Council's attention to a fence immediately below the Pontyclun Fire Station which was in urgent need of repair.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk again bring the matter to the attention of the South Wales Fire Service.

(b) **Heol Miskin, Miskin**

Councillor Bendle referred to the subsidence problems experienced in Heol Miskin earlier in the year. Despite a number of attempts to resolve the problem the highway was again showing signs of subsidence and the highway authority should be advised of the position.

RESOLVED: That the matter be reported to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(c) **Lane adjacent to the Bute Arms, Pontyclun**

Councillor Bendle reported that during the previous month he had received a number of complaints about a large quantity of rubbish and waste food which was being stored in the lane adjacent to the Bute Arms, ^{THE BOUTNET ARMS} Pontyclun. The waste food was causing offensive odours and gave rise to concerns about public health. The involvement of the Environmental Health Department had ensured that the rubbish and waste food was disposed of promptly.

The report was noted.

(d) **Pontyclun War Memorial**

Councillor Edwards reported a complaint from a resident who felt that renovation work at the Pontyclun War Memorial should have been to the same specification as the renovation work

carried out to the Miskin War Memorial.

The Clerk responded that before the Community Council carried out work to either war memorial an expert report had been sought from a monumental stone mason.

The report on the Miskin War Memorial had shown that because of the relative softness of the Portland stone, the Memorial required considerable repairs. Such was the degree of erosion to the names on the Memorial that it was recommended that inscribed marble plaques be erected over the existing inscriptions as a solution to the erosion. The figurines at the top of the Memorial needed extensive repair work.

The report on the Pontyclun War Memorial had shown that because of the hardness of the granite the Memorial was in excellent condition, albeit that the stone had become discoloured by the weather. As a result, apart from cleaning the stone and re-blackening the inscriptions, very little work was needed to the Memorial.

The matter was noted.

(e) **Brofiscin Quarry, Groesfaen**

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Councillor Rea wished to protest strongly at the apparent impunity with which the proprietor of a used car lot conducted his business from the disused Brofiscin Quarry in Groesfaen. Planning consent for use of the Quarry as a retail area for the sale of cars had been refused yet the proprietor still carried on business. It was alleged that the Planning Authority was aware that the Quarry was being used illicitly.

RESOLVED: That the matter be taken up with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to establish what action, if any, was being taken against the proprietor of the business

(f) **Parking restrictions in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Flood drew the Council's attention to the dangerous situations frequently facing motorists when emerging from Merthyr Street, Lewis Street and School Road and joining Llantrisant Road. Often vision for emerging motorists was severely restricted by the presence of parked vehicles on the western side of Llantrisant Road, and it became necessary join

Llantrisant Road “blindly”.

Councillor Flood was of the view that if parking was totally banned on the western side of Llantrisant Road, but allowed on the eastern side of the road, the road would be made much safer for motorists emerging from Merthyr Street, Lewis Street and School Street.

RESOLVED: That the suggestion for improving road safety in Llantrisant Road be made to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(g) **Proposed diversion of Footpaths No.s 323 and 333**

Councillor Mrs Cale referred to the site meeting which had taken place to discuss the possible diversion of Public Rights of Way Footpaths No.s 323 and 333 and asked when the diversions were likely to take place.

The Clerk responded that he had made application for the diversions but advised that in law a public right of way was a “highway” and that once the Highway Authority was satisfied that a case had been made for the diversion, and that the permissions of the respective landowners had been given, it would be necessary to advertise the proposed diversions and give an opportunity for any aggrieved person to comment on the proposals. It was likely that the proposed diversions would take some time to be fully operative.

The matter was noted.

(h) **Temporary traffic lights - School Road, Miskin**

Councillor Burton raised the matter of the two sets of temporary traffic lights in School Road, Miskin. It appeared that the two sets of lights were not synchronised. In practice, both outer lights could be showing green and motorists would drive towards each other under the impression that each had the right of way. Much confusion and frustration had been caused and it was to be hoped that no injury resulted from the failure to synchronise the two sets of traffic lights.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk refer the matter to the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering at the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(I) **Age Concern Pontypridd and District**

The Chairperson, Councillor Norman, reported on his attendance at a recent meeting of Pontypridd and District Age Concern. He had been very impressed with the Care and Repair facility which had been set up. He had also been appreciative of a presentation given by Lorna Davies on her work in assisting the elderly in the completion of forms. The work carried out by Age Concern Pontypridd and District was to be admired.

The report was noted.

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

(a) **Dangerous kerb**

Councillor Burton drew the Council's attention to a dangerous cement kerb in the lane between Merthyr Street and Lewis Street where the kerb has been raised approximately 6 inches from its normal position.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk report the matter to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(b) **Board of Governors - Pontyclun Primary School**

The Clerk informed the Council that he had received a telephone call from the a member of staff in the Education Department to tell him that the term of office for all governors at the Pontyclun Primary School ended on 31 August, 1996. As a minor authority the Community Council was entitled to make a nomination to the Board of Governors. A nomination needed to be made as a matter of urgency.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Flood be nominated to the Governing Body to represent the Community Council.

(c) **Village nameplates "Miskin"**

The Clerk advised the Council that since its last meeting he had been contacted by Councillor Burton about the erection of village nameplates for Miskin. The Clerk had written to the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering at the County Borough requesting the erection of village signs.

RESOLVED: That the actions of the Clerk be confirmed.

(d) **Building work at the Pontyclun
Rugby Football and Sports Club**

The Clerk read out a letter which had been received from the company overseeing the building work taking place at the Pontyclun Rugby Football and Sports Club. The letter was in response to concerns the Community Council had earlier expressed over the disruption to community facilities in the vicinity Sports Club and the lack of any consultation by the builders.

The company apologised for the disruption and asked for the community's understanding for a short while longer until building work was completed. It was pointed out that the footpath at the front of the Sports Club had been diverted after consultation with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

(e) **Rhondda Cynon Taff
County Borough Council - INTERACT**

The Clerk distributed copies of a recent edition of INTERACT, the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council's internal newsletter, which gave details of every Member of the Authority, its Chief Officers and main administrative buildings.

The content of the newsletter was noted.

(e) **Repair work to pavement - Lon yr Awel, Pontyclun**

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council agreeing that repairs to the pavement in Lon yr Awel, Pontyclun, were below standard and that the contractor responsible had been requested to return to site to bring the work up to standard.

The matter was noted.

(f) **The Samaritans**

The Clerk informed the Council that an invitation had been received from the Bridgend branch of the Samaritans to attend an Open Evening at the Bridgend County Borough Council

Offices on the evening of Friday, 8 November, 1996.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson, Councillor Norman, be nominated to attend the Open Evening.

(g) **Annual Conference of the Society of Local Council Clerks, 1997**

The Clerk advised that he had received an invitation to attend the 1997 Annual Conference of the Society of Local Clerks in Harrogate from 4th to 6th April, 1997. The Society was of the view that considerable benefit accrued from attendance at the annual conference since it gave clerks the opportunity to exchange ideas and to discuss on an informal basis problems which are common to all.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to attend the 1997 Annual Conference and that his attendance be regarded as an official duty.

19. The meeting ended at 10.15 p.m.

