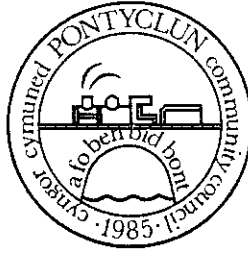


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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 Wednesday, 3 February, 1993

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle, Mr T J Burton (Chairperson), 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

Mr Alan Gregory and two members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors Professor I D Bowen and Mrs A Burton

2. Chairperson's business

The Chairperson, Councillor Tudor Burton, advised the Council that he had received a letter from Councillor Tony Hughes, Chairman of the District Council/Community Councils Joint Liaison Committee. Councillor Hughes was seeking the cooperation of all community councils in suggesting items for inclusion on the agenda of future Joint Liaison Committee meetings.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council asking that:

- (a) The Borough Council consider the desirability of giving advice to community councils on insurance cover for 1993/94 following the trading difficulties experienced by Municipal Mutual Insurance during 1992.
- (b) The Borough Council give consideration to improving communication with community councils on planning matters.
- (c) Both these items be placed on the agenda for the next Joint Liaison Committee meeting.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 6 January, 1993

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 2 January, 1993, be approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

Eric V. Smith

(a) Proposed further residential development at Maesyfelin

Councillor Viv James reported on a recent meeting of Maesyfelin residents which had met to discuss the latest developments in the application for planning consent for further residential development on Maesyfelin. On behalf of residents Mr Stanley Baugh proposed writing again to the Chief Planning Officer of the Borough Council, and each member of the Borough Council's Planning Committee, setting out residents' objections to the application. Clarification had also been obtained that planning permission attached to land and not any individual. Consequently, the issue of outline consent and the Section 106 Agreement in different names was not significant in planning law.

The report was noted.

(b) Footpath problems - Tylagarw/Pontyclun

The Council was addressed by a delegation of Tylagarw residents who were protesting at the closure of the public right of way over the bailey bridge across the river Ely. It appeared that action to close the regularly used footpath had been taken by the Mid Glamorgan County Council during December without any consultation with residents or the Community Councils of Llanharry or Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: (i) That a site meeting to gain first hand knowledge of the problems be convened at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday, 7 February, 1993.

(ii) That an invitation to attend the meeting be extended to all Llanharry and Pontyclun Community Council members.

(c) Former Brofiscin Quarry, Groesfaen

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Borough Council over the Community Council's concerns about the dumping of possible noxious chemicals at the former Brofiscin Quarry in Groesfaen. It appeared that the Borough Council was in the course of preparing a dossier of sites of contaminated land in Taff Ely. The dossier would be based on existing records and would not involve sampling. It was anticipated that the report would not be completed for a further year.



Members expressed their worries about a dossier which would not be based on sampling and would rely on available records. The Council felt that the Taff Ely dossier would do little, if anything, to allay the very real fears of residents about the possible dangers to health arising out the dumping of believed noxious chemicals some years previously.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk refer the matter to H. M. Inspectorate of Pollution.

5. Minutes of the Finance Committee's meeting of 20 January, 1993

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance Committee's meeting of 20 January, 1993, be approved as an accurate record.

6. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

7. Adoption of Finance Committee's recommendations

RESOLVED: That the Finance Committee's recommendations be adopted.

8. Proposed replacement of Pontyclun Community Centre

The Council discussed the Borough Council's letter of 19 January, 1993, the report of the Chief Executive and Clerk, dated 17 December, 1992, to the Borough Council's Leisure and Recreation Committee together with an extract of the Community Council's minutes of 20 January, 1986.

The Community Council noted that there was a possibility that the Pontyclun Community Centre would be replaced by a new community centre/village hall. Furthermore, that the Borough Council was enquiring whether the Pontyclun Community Council would be in a position to contribute towards the project.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council agree in principle to make a contribution of up to £20,000 towards the capital cost of a replacement community centre or village hall on the understanding that some accommodation in the new facility could be made available to the Community Council.

9. Lack of a pedestrian facility to the Ynvsddu Farm Estate from the A4222

The Council was reminded of the representations which had been made to the Mid Glamorgan County Council about the lack of a pedestrian

facility from the A4222 into the Ynysddu Farm Estate. The Council was pleased to note that the County Council had, after many months' delay, responded positively. It was noted that the County Council proposed overcoming the problem by providing a separate, prefabricated footbridge structure which would be placed alongside the south-western parapet of the bridge such that a continuous footway would be available to pedestrians. As the existing bridge lay on the boundary of the Llanharan, Llantrisant and Pontyclun Community Councils the County Council proposed that each community council be invited to contribute £5,000 towards the cost of erecting the pedestrian footbridge.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree in principle to a contribution of £5,000 from the Council's Sinking Fund towards the cost of the erection of a footbridge, subject to clearance by the District Auditor.

10. Council owned land in Miskin

The Council discussed a letter from D Norman Hughes & Co, solicitors, who were acting on behalf of the lessee of Community Council owned land in Miskin. Permission was sought from the Council for the lessee to be allowed to build on the Council owned land.

RESOLVED: That the lessee be refused permission to build on the Community Council owned land.

11. Council Tax Base 1993/94

The Council received details from the Borough Treasurer of the calculation of the 1993/94 council tax base for the Community of Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

12. Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales

The Council discussed a letter from the Membership Secretary of the Mid and South Glamorgan Branch of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales.

It was stated that the Campaign was very much concerned with a variety of issues affecting the local countryside and the people who lived and worked in it. In both Mid and South Glamorgan the Branch was sensitive to the need for conservation and protection of the ever-shrinking resource, while also being acutely aware of the constant demand for land for job creation opportunities in the housing and industrial sectors of society.

EA.

The Community Council was invited to apply for corporate membership of the Campaign at a subscription rate of £30.00 per year.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council apply for corporate membership of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales.

13. Environment Week, 1993, - 22nd - 31st May

The Council discussed a letter from the Borough Council's Chief Environmental Health Officer inviting the Community Council to participate in Environment Week, 1993.

RESOLVED: That the Council decline the invitation to participate in the event.

14. Road Safety in Groesfaen

The Council discussed the letter of the County Engineer and Surveyor, dated 30 December, 1992, in which he stated that a formal pedestrian crossing could not be provided as investigations had shown that such a facility was not justified by pedestrian usage or accident record and did not meet the accepted criteria. In reply to the Council's request to extend the 30 m.p.h. speed restriction the Engineer and Surveyor reported that he had been instructed to complete investigations with the police with regard to all approaches to the village and to consider and design other measures such as "gateways", refuges etc., to slow the general speed of vehicles through the village.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk to convey the County Engineer and Surveyor the Community Council's dismay at what appears to be a pre-requisite that a series of accidents must have occurred before consideration can be given to the installation of a pedestrian crossing.

15. Road Safety Plan, 1992

The Clerk reported receipt of the County Council's Road Safety Plan for 1992.

RESOLVED: That the document be noted.

16. Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

The Council welcomed the first edition of News Letter No.1 issued by the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils. The intention of the Association was to publish a regular digest of changes to legislation affecting a broad spectrum of local

government. As a result it was hoped that both members and officers would be better equipped for their roles in their communities.

RESOLVED: That the document be noted.

17. Applications for a Protection Order and a Transfer of a Justices Licence - The Bute Arms, Pontyclun

The Council discussed the applications for a Protection Order and a transfer of the Justices Licence at the Bute Arms, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That while the Community Council did not wish to object to the applications, the Clerk be requested to convey to the magistrates the Council's concern at the way in which land adjacent to the premises was used for the consumption of alcohol. In cases where patrons had consumed too much alcohol, offence to pedestrians sometimes occurred.

18. Application for financial assistance

The Council considered a letter from the Llantrisant Folk Club seeking financial assistance.

RESOLVED: That the Club be invited to re-apply for grant at the time of the 1993 annual allocation of grants.

19. Planning

(a) Pontyclun Railway Station

The Council discussed a letter from the County Planning Officer inviting the Council to make observations on the proposal to develop land behind the westbound platform of the station for a car park and the erection of a footbridge, together with ancillary road works. Comments were also invited on the further proposals to develop land behind the eastbound platform for the the erection of a footbridge.

RESOLVED: That while, in principle, the Council is in favour of the proposals for development, there are certain matters which give rise for concern:

- (a) The absence of a junction to the station controlled by traffic lights
- (b) The narrowing of the highway which has already taken place at the point where the A422 crosses over the railway.

(c) The absence of a safe crossing point for pedestrians crossing the A4222 at either Station Road or Station Approach.

(b) Weekly Planning Notifications for Weeks Ending 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th January, 1993

The Council discussed applications for planning consent contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th January, 1993.

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

Application No. 93/0010/16

The Council has been strongly opposed to the application to build on the flood plain of the river Ely for some considerable time. The Council remains firmly opposed to any development of this land.

Recent development have done little to convince the Community Council that the application is a sound one. In particular the Council would cite the following events:

- (a) The site was completely flooded by the river Ely on two separate occasions during November/December, 1992.
- (b) It is understood that the company which would be responsible for ensuring the periodic dredging of the river Ely has recently gone into voluntary liquidation. Presumably this would mean additional expenditure by the National Rivers Authority in being forced to exercise its reserve powers.
- (c) It is understood that detailed consent for the site would provide for the fronts of some houses to face the rear of other properties. This is very unsatisfactory.

Application No. 93/0001/23

The Council is opposed to the application since it was considered that the application was outside the Local Plan.

Application No. 93/0008/05

The similar be comments be made to the Borough Council as those made to the County Council under sub paragraph (a) above.

20. Payment of Creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 22 to the Agenda.

21. Reports from Members

(a) Pontyclun Senior Citizens Association

Councillor Mrs Pam Phillips advised the Council that she had recently been appointed as Chairperson of the Pontyclun Senior Citizens' Association. Councillor Phillips pointed out that one of the biggest problems faced by senior citizens was hearing difficulty. Councillor Phillips asked whether the Community Council would consider the installation of a public address system at the community centre. Members advised that the Council had installed a public address system in the centre some years ago although it did not appear to be in working order.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries of the Secretary to the Management Committee of the Centre on whether the public address system installed by the Community Council was in working order.

(b) Enforcement Order Committee

Councillor Viv James reported that the Taff Ely Borough Council had recently established an Enforcement Order Committee. The objective of the Committee was monitor the progress of enforcement orders issued by the Council. The Committee received monthly reports.

The report was noted.

(c) Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Councillor Gordon Moir gave a verbal report on his attendance at the last meeting of the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee. Councillor Moir was pleased to be able to report that the Taff Ely Borough Council was represented at the meeting. Additionally, Wimpey Hobbs had arranged for their Environmental Officer to be present. Councillor Moir regarded the latter as a very encouraging sign as the Wimpey Hobbs quarrying activities bordered on a residential area and open countryside.

The report was noted.

(d) Association of Councillors

Councillor John Dilworth reported on his attendance at the last meeting of the Association of Councillors held at the Torfaen Borough Council offices on 16 January, 1993. Most of the meeting was devoted to an address by Mr M B Mehta, barrister at law, and an adviser to the Council of Welsh Districts on the restructure of local government in Wales.

Mr Mehta's address covered the positions of the Council of Welsh Districts and the Assembly of Welsh Counties on restructuring. The address attempted to foresee the type of unitary authority which would emerge after reorganisation - rumoured to be an enabling authority with the council responsible for monitoring service provision and the awarding of contracts.

It was likely that the Secretary of State would face some difficulty in steering legislation through Parliament if the original deadlines of 1 April, 1994, for the establishment of shadow authorities, and 1 April, 1995, for the full working of unitary authorities, was to be kept. It was known that there was a lack of Parliamentary time and the Labour Party was unlikely to support restructuring without a commitment to a Welsh Assembly.

A Bill in Parliament was likely to be preceded by a White Paper. The White Paper had been expected in the Autumn of 1992, and subsequently in the New Year. The White Paper was still awaited.

The report was noted.

(e) Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant

Councillor Dilworth reported on his attendance at the

last meeting of the Board of Governors of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant. A decision had been taken by the Board to appoint an additional teacher at the school.

The report was noted.

(f) Smoke detectors

Councillor Gordon Norman was able to report that the Borough Council was fitting smoke detectors into all Borough Council owned homes at the rate of fifty per day.

The report was noted.

(g) Borough Council owned land at the junction of Heol Miskin and Clun Avenue, Pontyclun

Councillor Gordon Norman was able to report that the Borough Council had agreed to replace the dilapidated fencing on the plot of Borough Council owned land at the junction of Clun Avenue and Heol Miskin, Pontyclun. Orders for the new fencing had already been placed.

The report was noted.

(h) Tree Preservation Order, Miskin

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that he understood that a tree in Miskin, which was covered by a Tree Preservation Order, had been felled earlier that day. There was no indication that the person responsible for felling the tree had obtained consent to fell.

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

(i) Cefn-yr-Hendy residential development

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that the Borough Council had awarded planning permission for an access road into the site of the proposed Cefn-yr-Hendy residential development. The route of the access road would generally follow the line of the public right of way from Miskin Crescent to the Hendy Farm. It was anticipated that at least one other access road to the new site would be constructed.

The report was noted.

(j) Proposed vehicular access to the A4119 at Mwyndy

Councillor Gordon Norman referred to the W S Atkins report which had proposed one access point on to the A4119 at Mwyndy in place of the present two access points. The proposal involved the creation of a new roundabout in the field between Miskin Road and School Road, Miskin. Councillor Norman reminded the Council that considerable residential development was due to take place at Cefn-yr Hendy in the next few years. The volume of vehicles accessing the A4119 would rise. It was vital that the two present access points be kept open. Representations by Borough Councillors to the County Council had already been made.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council support the representations already made by Borough Councillors.

(k) British Transport Police Consultative Committee

Mr Alan Gregory, the Community Council's representative on the Committee, reported that he had raised the possibility of the installation of automatic barriers at Pontyclun Station to prevent passengers gaining access to the platforms at times of considerable air turbulence caused by passing trains. It was considered that the proposal was not feasible.

Mr Gregory reported that a child safety team were making presentations to local schoolchildren warning them of the dangers of playing close to railway lines.

RESOLVED: That Mr Gregory press British Rail for written reasons why they believed that the proposal for automatic barriers was not feasible.

22. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee

Mr Alan Gregory, the Council's representative on the Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee, asked if the Council had any items which it wanted raised at the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED: That Mr Gregory be requested to raise the following matters:

- (i) The possibility of obtaining increased police resources in the Community

(ii) Whether the police would be interested in securing accommodation in the proposed replacement Pontyclun Community Centre.

(iii) The potential dangers caused by parked vehicles being parked illegally outside Leekes Store in Cowbridge Road and the Dipali restaurant, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

(b) State of pavements, Heol-y-Felin, Pontyclun

Councillor Eric Griffith spoke of his concern about the state of the pavements on either side of Heol-y-Felin, Maesyfelin. It was believed that work had been carried out by the public utilities and the pavements had not been properly reinstated.

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

(c) Proposed Hendy residential development

Councillor Gordon Moir reminded the Council that it had consistently drawn attention to the dangers of allowing residential development to take place at Cefn-yr-Hendy. In particular the Council had emphasised that the development area was known to contain old mine workings. Councillor Moir asked if it would be in order for the Community Council to print posters advising would be purchasers of houses at the development of the presence of old mine workings under Cefn-yr-Hendy.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk discuss the matter with the District Auditor and report back to the Council

(d) Notice of Motion

Councillor Viv James gave notice "That the Council discuss the question of the committee of the Community Centre at its next meeting"

23. The meeting ended at 9.35 p.m.

Eric Griffith
Gr. 3/3/93