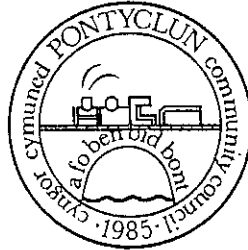


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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, 3 July, 1991.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle, Professor I D Bowen, (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

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mr T J Burton and Mrs A Burton

2. Chairperson's business

(i) Declarations of Acceptance of Office

The Chairperson announced that since the completion by Members of the traditional declaration of acceptance of office a new form of declaration had been received from the Welsh Office. The new declaration made specific reference to members abiding by The National Code of Local Government Conduct and superseded the traditional declaration. Signed, new, declarations were to be returned to the Clerk as soon as possible.

The matter was noted.

(ii) Planning Application No. 56/0302/91

The Chairperson referred to the decision of the Council's previous meeting on 5 June, 1991, to oppose planning application no. 56/0302/91. Since that meeting the Welsh Office had issued a circular which gave guidelines on the relaxation of planning controls in situations similar to those applying under application no. 56/0302/91. Copies of the Welsh Office circular had been issued to all Members and the Chairperson asked the Council whether it wished to revise its comments to the Borough Council in the light of the new circular.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the Welsh Office circular be noted but no amendment be made to the view already expressed by the Council.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 June, 1991

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 June, 1991, be approved as an accurate record subject to the inclusion of the words "Councillor Dilworth stated he had specific reservations for the Danybryn residents if the proposed route follows the line of the Mineral/Cowbridge line", after the word "lorries", in Minute 4 (d).

4. Matters arising

(a) Proposal to erect bus shelter in Miskin

The Clerk reported on the site meeting which had taken place on Saturday 6 June, 1991, when it had been decided to sound out the views of residents of Miskin Crescent on the proposal to erect a bus shelter to the front of Miskin Crescent. The Clerk reported that he had written to twelve householders in Miskin Crescent fronting the suggested site for the bus shelter. The overwhelming view of the residents was that they did not want a bus shelter at the suggested site.

The Council also discussed a detailed letter from one of the residents who had written in response to the Clerk's letter. The resident strongly objected to the proposals and pointed out that the land in question was in private ownership.

RESOLVED: That in view of the considerable opposition from residents of Miskin Crescent to the proposal, the Community Council take no further action in the matter.

(b) Beacon Europe, 1992

The Council discussed the letter of 14 June, 1991, in which it was clarified that the Llantrisant Community Council did not intend participating in the Europe, 1992 celebrations.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk explore the possibility of securing two further sites for Beacon Europe, 1992, namely, on land owned by the Land Authority for Wales at the Hendy Estate, and on land owned by the Forestry Commission at the rear of Lanely Hall, Talbot Green. In the

event that permission to hold the event would be obtained for the latter site, an invitation to participate be sent to the Llanharan Community Council.

(c) Mineral Local Plan for Limestone - Hendy Quarry

The Council discussed the County Planning Officer's letter of 11 June, 1991. The Council regarded the County Planning Officer's reply as very unsatisfactory especially on the fundamental point of vibration damage to houses in Miskin. The Council was at a loss to understand how the County Council could fail to accept that blast vibration was not affecting properties in Miskin. Three separate reports from consultant structural engineers had concluded that blast vibration was affecting the structure of premises. A fourth consultants' report, commissioned by the County Council, had concluded that the results from monitoring did not show that the effects from blasting were within tolerable levels.

The Council was of the view that a number of its detailed and considered comments to the County Council had been ignored. Other comments made by the Community Council had been treated superficially.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk reply to the County Planning Officer to ask why, in the light of clear evidence from several consultants, the County Council refused to accept that structural damage from blasting was being caused to houses in Miskin.

(ii) That the Clerk ask for a reply to points No.9 and 10 of the Community Council's letter of 17 May, 1991.

(iii) That copies of all correspondence between the Community Council and the County Council since the County Council's letter of 18 April, 1991, be forwarded to the Secretary of State for Wales at the Welsh Office.

(d) Re-routing of low voltage cable, Groesfaen

The Clerk reported that he had contacted South Wales Electricity and informed them that while the Council

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did not own any land in Groesfaen, the Council held a long standing interest in the light column adjacent to Redgate Terrace. The Community Council would be strongly opposed to any form of cable re-routing which would affect the level of illumination provided by the column. A copy of the South Wales Electricity letter, together with a copy of the Community Council's reply, had been forwarded to the Clerk to the Llantrisant Community Council in the hope that she might be able to offer some assistance in tracing the owner of the land.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's action be noted.

(e) Old Church School, School Street, Pontyclun

Councillor Dilworth informed the Council that preliminary enquiries with the County Council had shown that that authority, in considering highway aspects of any planning application which may be submitted for re-development at the Old Church School, School Street, Pontyclun, would favour access and parking from Station Approach, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the position be noted.

5. Notices of Motion

(a) Painting of footbridges over the river Ely

A lengthy discussion took place about the need to paint the Maesyfelin and Ivor Woods footbridges across the river Ely. The Council considered the possibility of employing a student on vacation to carry out the work. The Council also considered the possibility of more extensive work to the footbridges involving the removal of all rust and the treatment of the undersides of the bridges.

RESOLVED: That a decision be deferred to the Council's meeting on Wednesday, 10 July, 1991

(b) Ploughing of footpath - Miskin

On behalf of Councillor T J Burton, the Clerk reported an incident in Miskin where a farmer had ploughed up a footpath. The footpath was a public right of way. It had also been noted that the nearby "public footpath" sign, indicating the route of the footpath, had been taken down and deposited in some adjacent undergrowth.

RESOLVED: That the Council seek the advice and assistance of the County Council's Footpaths Officer.

(c) Motor cycling facilities

Councillor Mrs Phillips drew the Council's attention to the complete absence of any facilities for young motorcyclists in the Community. Councillor Phillips believed that the absence of facilities had forced young motorcyclists into using areas for practicing where they were unwelcomed and where useage had given rise to complaints. It was agreed that there were no motorcycling facilities in the Community but it was pointed out that a motorcycle scramble club existed in Llantrisant and the club held regular meetings in the Black Prince public house.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk draw the public's attention to the existence of a motorcycle scramble club in Llantrisant, through the Community Council noticeboards.

(ii) That Councillors Phillips and Norman also play an active part in advising members of the public of the existence of a motorcycle scramble club in Llantrisant

(iii) That the Clerk write to the Borough Council's Chief Leisure Services Officer to ask if it would be possible for the Borough Council to provide facilities for young motorcyclists in the Community of Pontyclun.

(d) Proposed Tree Preservation Order, Brynsadler

Councillor Dilworth introduced the item and pointed out that representations had been made to him by Brynsadler residents about the possibility of some mature trees, on a plot of land to the rear of the Council's bus shelter, being felled. Residents felt that the trees should be protected.

RESOLVED: That as an application to develop the land in question had already been submitted to the Borough Council and that application was due to be discussed by the Council under Agenda item 10 (a), further discussion on this matter be deferred.

6. Consultative Paper of the Secretary of State for Wales on the Structure of Local Government in Wales

The Clerk reported that he had received copies of the Welsh Office Consultative Document on the Structure of Local Government in Wales. The Secretary of State for Wales was seeking comments on his document from a wide spectrum of opinion in Wales. Comments were especially welcomed from community councils as one of the existing tiers of local government in Wales. The Secretary of State had set a deadline for the receipt of all comments by 31 October, 1991.

RESOLVED: (i) That detailed comments on the Consultative Document be formulated at the Council's meeting on 4 September, 1991.

(ii) That the Clerk endeavour to obtain an officer from the Association of Community and Town Councils to speak to the Council on the Association's views on the document at the Council's September meeting.

7. Unauthorised laying of services in the Ivor Woods

The Council discussed the legal advice it had received on the Council's position on the unauthorised laying of two services in the Ivor Woods. The Council discussed a number of possible courses of action .

RESOLVED: That before any action be taken against the person who had laid the services, the Council await the receipt of a report on the matter from the District Valuer and Valuation Officer.

8. Miskin Churchyard

The Council considered the letter of 11 June, 1991, from Lady Caroline Rhys Williams in which she stated that she had instructed her solicitors to write to the Community Council with the terms of the lease which she proposed to offer to the Council.

RESOLVED: That the matter be deferred pending receipt of the proposed terms of the lease.

9. Age Concern

The Council noted that the Annual General Meeting of Age Concern Mid Glamorgan was due to be held on Thursday, 25 July, 1991, at 2.00p.m. at the Parish Hall, Main Road, Llantwit Fardre. It was also noted that under the constitution of Age Concern, community councils in Mid Glamorgan were eligible to nominate one representative to the Executive Committee.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mrs Pam Phillips be nominated to the Executive Committee of Age Concern on behalf of the Community Council.

10. Planning

(a) Weekly Notifications for Weeks 21,22,23, 24 and 25

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

Application No. 56/0348/91

- (a) No information has been provided by the applicant which would lead the Community Council to believe that the application is linked to a scheme to build on the Talbot Green golf course.
- (b) On the understanding that the application is not linked with development on the Talbot Green golf course, the Community Council would have no objection to the development subject to:-
 - (i) Any new buildings being built on the site of existing farm buildings
 - (ii) No felling of mature trees
 - (iii) The views of the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council and Welsh St Donats Community Council being sought.
- (c) In the event that the proposed development is linked with the proposal for residential development on the Talbot Green golf course, the Community Council is opposed to the development at Rhydhalog Farm.

Application No.56/0350/91

The Community Council is opposed to the application on the grounds that it is an inappropriate development in a residential area.

Application No.56/0389/91

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

- (i) The development would constitute an intrusion into the countryside.
- (ii) Access on to the highway would be dangerous.
- (iii) The site is regularly flooded by a natural watercourse.

(b) Old Church School, School Street, Pontyclun

The Community Council discussed a letter dated 12 June, 1991, from the Chief Planning and Industrial Development Officer of the Borough Council, addressed to Councillor Dilworth, about planning aspects of the Old Church School and other premises in, and around, School Street, Pontyclun. The view expressed by the Chief Planning Officer was that he favoured the removal of all non-conforming uses from established residential areas and that this was sought wherever possible.

In the case of the Old Church School, planning consent was granted by the Welsh Office in 1984 for industrial purposes. Notwithstanding this, the use of the premises would be closely examined if, and when, they were re-occupied. If the new use required planning consent the new users would be notified.

The matter was noted.

11. Payment of creditors

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

12. Reports from Members

(a) Amalgamation of Maesvfelin
Infants' and Pontyclun Junior Schools

The Chairperson, Councillor Bowen, reported on the proposals of the Mid Glamorgan County Council to amalgamate the Maesyfelin Infants' and Pontyclun Junior Schools. A public participation meeting had been held in the Maesyfelin Infants' School where the proposals of the County Council were outlined and an opportunity was given for parents and members of the public to ask questions about the proposed merger. The County Council representatives at the meeting stated at the outset that the proposals were not connected with saving money and that the County Council valued highly the views of local people. At the end of the meeting a vote on the proposed

amalgamation took place. There were 96 votes against the proposal, with six abstentions. No votes were cast in favour of the amalgamation. The public left the meeting believing that the threat of amalgamation had been lifted. Approximately a month later a report appeared in the Western Mail indicating that, despite the overwhelming vote against amalgamation, the County Councils proposals were going ahead. Councillor Bowen stated that residents in Pontyclun felt that they had been ignored and grossly misled into believing that public opinion was meaningful to the County Council. Councillor Bowen had opposed the amalgamation proposal at the Education Committee and had managed to gain some support from other members of the County Council. However, the proposal had been passed by the Education Committee.

RESOLVED: (i) That a strong letter be sent to the Director of Education of Mid Glamorgan County Council deploring the way in which public opinion had been ignored and criticising the tactic used at the public meeting where residents were misled into believing that their views were important to the County Council.

(ii) That a copy of the letter be sent to Councillor Eddie Thomas of Talbot Green

(b) Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Councillor Moir informed the Council that, due to poor attendance, the meeting of the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee which was due to have taken place on 20 June, 1991, had been adjourned until 25 July, 1991.

The report was noted.

(c) Children's playground, Groesfaen

Councillor Norman reported that following representations he had made to the Borough Council he had been fortunate to secure a commitment to renew items of furniture in the children's playground in Groesfaen. Councillor Norman had also been able to gain assurances on the erection of new football netting.

(d) Age Concern

Councillor Norman reported on the recent successful

meeting of Llantrisant and Town Ward Age Concern. It was proposed that, together with the Tonyrefail branch, a joint appeal for funds be made to Telethon.

The report was noted.

(e) Damaged fences, Cefn yr Hendy

Councillor Norman referred to the nuisance caused by straying cattle on the Hendy Estate. A number of boundary fences had been damaged and had resulted in cattle straying into residential areas. Councillor Norman was hopeful that financial assistance to repair the damaged fences could be obtained through the Borough Council's Straying Animals Working Party.

The report was noted.

(f) David's Court, Pontyclun

Councillor Norman reported on the representations he had made for the David's Court complex to be connected to the main sewers. He was pleased to be able to report that it was likely that the work would be started towards the end of the year.

The report was noted.

(g) Grass cutting, Maesyfelin Field, Pontyclun

Councillor Norman reported that he had been successful in tracing the whereabouts of the mower which had been purchased, with the assistance of Community Council funds, prior to the disbandment of the Pontyclun Cricket Club. The mower was presently being repaired. In the meantime, he had asked the Borough Council to consider giving the Field a "one off" cut. Councillor Norman also said that he was pleased to be able to report that there was a possibility that the cricket club would be re-formed.

(h) Obstruction of pavements, Pontyclun

Councillor Griffith reported that following further complaints from residents about advertising hoardings obstructing pavements in Pontyclun, Mr Colin Jenkins, Area Surveyor of the Highways and Transportation Department of the County Council had been contacted.

Mr Jenkins intended visiting offending shopkeepers to advise that they could be reported to the police with a view to prosecution.

The report was noted.

13. Any other business

(a) Notices of Motion

(i) Off Street Lighting

The Chairperson, Councillor Bowen, gave notice that at the Council's September meeting he intended raising the matter of off street lighting in the lane to the east of Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, and also at Maes-yr-Afon, Pontyclun.

(ii) Traffic hazard, Talygarn Drive, Talygarn

Councillor Dilworth gave notice that at the Council's September meeting he intended raising the hazard confronting members of the public at Talygarn Drive as a result of speeding vehicles emerging from the road leading to Otters' Brook Trout Farm.

(iii) Offensive odours - drains in Bute Lane,

Councillor Dilworth gave notice that at the September meeting of the Council he intended raising the matter of the offensive odours emanating from drains in Bute Lane, Pontyclun.

(b) Traffic parked in the vicinity of the pedestrian crossing, Pontyclun

Councillor Dilworth reported that there had been a number of instances where vehicle drivers had infringed traffic regulations by parking their vehicles on the zig zag lines on the approaches to the pedestrian crossing in Pontyclun. The instances had been reported to the police.

The matter was noted.

(c) Tree felling, Miskin Drive, Miskin

Councillor Moir reported the alarm of Miskin residents at the felling of three mature trees in Miskin Drive. There

appeared to be no reason for the felling. Residents were extremely concerned that other mature trees might also be felled.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries about the felling.

(d) Condition of Miskin Drive, Miskin

Councillor Norman drew the Council's attention to the very poor state of the surface of Miskin Drive, Miskin. While he accepted that a certain amount of inconvenience and disruption would be caused to the users of the Drive during work on the new sewer, he felt that the sub contractors were working without due regard to the needs and wishes of other Drive users.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk arrange a site meeting with the Borough Council to discuss the condition of the Drive with a view to getting temporary reinstatement work carried out.

(ii) That an invitation to attend the meeting be extended to representatives of Miskin Manor Cricket Club.

(e) Condition of pavement outside "Clun Fruits", greengrocers, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Mrs Phillips drew the Council's attention to the very dangerous condition of the pavement outside "Clun Fruits", greengrocers, in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the District Surveyor of the Mid Glamorgan County Council.

(f) Applications for planning consent, Talygarn

Councillor Norman reported that he was pleased to be able to inform the Council that two applications for planning consent, on adjacent plots, in Talygarn, had been refused by the Borough Council. (The Community Council had earlier commented to the Borough Council that it was opposed to the applications.)

The matter was noted.

(g) Dog fouling

Councillor Bendle commented that there did not appear to be any progress from the Borough Council on the Community Council's request to erect signs in the children's playground in Pontyclun discouraging dog owners from allowing their pets to foul the area.

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

(h) Speeding vehicles - Hendy Estate

Councillor Bendle drew the Council's attention to the incidence of vehicles travelling at excessive speed through the Hendy Estate.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Mid Glamorgan County Council to see if it would be possible to arrange the installation of "sleeping policemen".

(i) Off street parking

Councillor Norman informed the Council that the Borough Council would shortly be formulating off street parking plans. Councillor Norman asked each Member of the Council to look closely at possible sites for off street parking in their wards and report back to him.

(j) Groesfaen Community Centre

Councillor Norman informed the Council that following his representations to the Taff Ely Borough Council, the Borough Council had agreed to include the Groesfaen Community Centre on a list of schemes to be submitted to the Welsh Office for financial assistance under the Urban Aid Programme.

The matter was noted.

(k) Transfer of Liquor Licence - Miskin Manor Hotel

The Clerk reported receipt of a notification advising of the transfer of the Liquor Licence for the Miskin Manor Hotel. The notification had been received too late for inclusion on the Agenda.

RESOLVED: That the application be noted.

14. The meeting ended at 10.20 p.m.