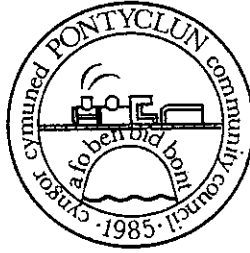


## CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council  
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"Mandalay"  
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 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 3 June, 1992

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Three members of the public

1. Apology for absence

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor R G Norman

2. Chairperson's business

The Chairperson, Councillor Tudor Burton, informed the Council of the recent appointment of Reverend Osborne as the new minister for Hope Presbyterian Church, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That a letter be sent to Reverend Osborne welcoming him to Pontyclun and wishing him a long and happy relationship with the community.

3. Minutes of the Council's Annual Meeting of 13 May, 1992

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's Annual Meeting of 13 May, 1992, be approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

(a) Groesfaen sub post office

The Clerk reported that he had convened a public meeting of Groesfaen residents in the Creigiau Church Hall on the evening of 27 May, 1992, to discuss the plans of Post Office Counters Ltd to take away the temporary post office at the end of May.

The Clerk explained at the public meeting that the Community Council had been approached by Post Office Counters Ltd. with a view to identifying a volunteer in Groesfaen who would be prepared to offer premises and act as a subpostmaster or subpostmistress. The Community Council saw its role as that of a catalyst. A number of individuals had come forward and each had been referred to Post Office Counters. It was believed that as Post Office Counters intended proceeding with the closure of the temporary facilities, the referrals made by the Community Council had not come to fruition.

On the afternoon of the public meeting the Clerk had contacted Post Office Counters to find out if a representative intended attending the public meeting and to ascertain the position of the applicants he had earlier referred. The Clerk was told that no one from Post Office Counters would be attending the public meeting. He was also told that Post Office Counters Ltd. would not be able to bear the conversion costs of any volunteer's premises. Conversion costs were likely to run into several thousands of pounds.

There was considerable disquiet at the meeting that such an important factor as conversion costs had not been highlighted by Post Office Counters Ltd. at an earlier date. There was also strong feeling that no representative of Post Office Counters was present at the meeting. Also, that a village which had enjoyed the services of a post office over many generations could be deprived of those services without any thought being given to the social consequences.

It was agreed at the public meeting that, in a campaign to retain a post office in Groesfaen, the Clerk would immediately contact Post Office Counters Ltd. to seek a stay of execution for the post office and enlist the support of:

- (i) The Prime Minister
- (ii) Dr Kim Howells, MP
- (iii) The Post Office Users' Consultative Council
- (iv) The Groesfaen Action Committee

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and that in the event of the campaign proving unsuccessful the matter be taken up with the Ombudsman and the Monopolies Commission.

(b) Petroleum signs - Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun

The Clerk reported that the signs on two external doors of premises at No 22 Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun, warning of the presence of petroleum spirit had now been removed.

The matter was noted.

(c) Miskin War Memorial

The Clerk reported that after liaison with the Police he had asked that an order for compensation be made on the youths responsible for damaging the Miskin War Memorial in a vehicle being pursued by the police. The matter would be decided by the courts.

RESOLVED: That the action of the Clerk be approved.

(d) New sewerage system at David's Court, Pontyclun

Councillor Dilworth referred to further enquiries he had made about the new sewage system being laid beneath the lawns at David's Court, Pontyclun. He had contacted the Taff Ely Borough Council and established that the works were of a contractual nature and that firm assurances had been given by the contractors about reinstatement. The Borough Council's Environmental Health Department would be closely involved in ensuring that the contractor complied with his responsibility for reinstatement.

The matter was noted.

(e) Application for planning consent -  
Llantrisant and Pontyclun Golf Club, Talbot Green

Councillor Dilworth referred to the discussion about the application for planning consent which took place at the last Council meeting. He asked that a statement of the Community Council's opposition to the application be sent to the Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk forward a statement of the Council's objections to the Borough's Chief Planning Officer.

(f) Mud on highway, Brynsadler

The Chairperson, Councillor Tudor Burton, referred to the

discussion at the last Council meeting and pointed out that a major source of the mud on the highway in Brynsadler was the unsheeted lorries passing through Brynsadler from the site of the former Iron Ore Works in Llanharry.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Highways Department of the County Council for their assistance in ensuring that lorries accessing public highways from the former Iron Ore Works be properly sheeted down.

5. Minutes of the Council's Finance Committee Meeting of 20 May, 1992

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee of 20 May, 1992 be approved as an accurate record.

6. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

7. Adoption of Finance Committee's recommendations

RESOLVED: That the recommendations of the Finance Committee be adopted subject to expenditure on the vehicle not exceeding £4,000.00.

8. Award of planning permission for further residential development at Maesyfelin

The Council received a deputation of Maesyfelin residents who expressed their grave concern over the award of further planning consent for residential development at Maesyfelin. Mr Stan Baugh, on behalf of Maesyfelin residents, pointed out that the land in question had been prone to flooding for as long as anyone could remember, and it was only with reluctance that the National Rivers Authority had relaxed its objections to the application for development in the light of a private hydrologist's report commissioned by the prospective developer. It was understood that the Borough Council, in the absence of any other objections to the application, had no alternative but to award consent.

The residents of Maesyfelin believed that if development was to take place it would only be a matter of time before the new development would be flooded. There was a strong possibility that existing adjacent properties would be affected too. Mr Baugh acknowledged that the Community Council had always opposed the application for development and he called upon the Council to

write to the Secretary of State for Wales to ask that the application be "called in". Mr Baugh referred to the inquiry following the Towyn flood disaster and said that the lessons of Towyn should not be forgotten.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk, as a matter of urgency, write to the Secretary of State for Wales asking that the application be "called in"

(ii) That Maesyfelin residents liaise with the Clerk over the use of the Community Council's noticeboard in Heol y Felin, Pontyclun, for the purpose of displaying notices connected with their campaign.

9. Obstructions on pavements, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Dilworth expressed his concern over the continued obstruction of pavements in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, by shopkeepers displaying notices and goods for sale. Action had been taken by the County Council to draw the dangers inherent in the practice on an earlier occasion but the improvement had been temporary only. There had been numerous instances of partially sighted residents stumbling into obstructions outside shopkeepers' premises. Councillor Dilworth had again raised the matter with the County Council. An undertaking had been given by the County Council that they would again contact all offending shopkeepers reminding them that the pavement outside their premises should be free of all obstructions. Councillor Bowen supported Councillor Dilworth's actions and reminded Members that the County Council was also legally responsible for the condition of the pavements.

The matter was noted.

10. Safety aspects in the construction of the new Pontyclun railway station

Councillor Dilworth reported that he had received several complaints about the absence of proper safety measures after the contractors engaged in building the new Pontyclun railway station had left site in the evenings. He quoted instances of young children being able to wander, unhindered, in the vicinity of the new station while express trains passed through the station, at great speed, a few yards away. Clearly, the contractor was at fault for not securing the site in the evenings but Councillor Dilworth had felt strongly about the matter and had brought the matter to the attention of British Rail.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Council support the prompt action taken by Councillor Dilworth and instruct the Clerk also to write to British Rail requesting that the station be made secure from wandering children during and after construction.

- (ii) That the Clerk also ask British Rail to arrange a display in the local junior school highlighting the dangers of playing near railway lines.

11. Nomination to the Executive Committee of Age Concern

The Council considered the invitation of Age Concern to make a nomination to the Executive Committee.

RESOLVED: That the nominee of the Council be Councillor R G Norman.

12. Re-structuring of local government in Wales

The Council discussed the letter of 22 May, 1992, from the Town Clerk to the Pontypridd Town Council about possible scenarios for the re-structuring of local government in the Taff Ely area. The Town Council sought the Community Council's support for the maintenance of existing community and town council boundaries within the Borough of Taff Ely.

RESOLVED: (i) That while the Community Council agreed that existing community and town council boundaries in the Borough of Taff Ely should be preserved, it believed that the best way to do so would be within the umbrella of Taff Ely as an unitary authority.

- (ii) That the Clerk advise the Secretary of State for Wales and the Pontypridd Town Council to this effect

13. Brofiskin Quarry, Groesfaen

Councillor Bendle reported a recent fire incident at the Brofiskin Quarry, Groesfaen. The officers attending the incident were concerned to learn that formerly the quarry may have been used for the dumping of noxious chemicals. It appeared that no one had any knowledge of what chemicals had been deposited at the quarry and whether there was any potential danger to firefighters or the residents of nearby houses. Furthermore, it appeared that a number of recently built houses in the vicinity were built at a lower level than the quarry giving rise to fears of seepage of potentially dangerous chemicals.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with H M Inspector of Pollution and the Environmental Health Department of the Borough Council.

14. Planning

- (a) Weekly Notifications for Weeks ending 11th and 18 May

Application No. 92/0313/10

The Chairperson, Councillor Tudor Burton, and Councillor Mrs Anita Burton declared their interest in the application and took no part in the Council's deliberations.

RESOLVED: That the application be noted.

Application No. 92/0337/10

RESOLVED: That no observations be offered to the Borough Council but a watching brief be held on developments at the premises.

Application No. 92/0393/13

RESOLVED: That the Council offer the same comments to the Borough Council as those offered when the two earlier applications were considered, with additional emphasis being placed on the subsidence problems experienced in the area.

(b) Pontyclun Railway Station - Ancillary facilities

The Council discussed the application of the Mid Glamorgan County Council for permission for the development of:-

- (i) A park and ride car park
- (ii) Provision of temporary pedestrian access
- (iii) A footbridge linking the station platforms

The Community Council welcomed the application as part of the overall development of Pontyclun Station.

RESOLVED: That the following views be conveyed to the County Council:-

- (i) That the pedestrian access to the railway station should be separate from the vehicular access to the car park.
- (ii) That "sleeping policemen" be installed in on the approach roads to the development.

15. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 6 to the Agenda.



16. Reports from Members

(a) Mayoress of the Taff Ely Borough Council

Councillor Viv James reported that the Taff Ely Borough Council had elected Councillor Mrs M J Henderson as Mayoress for the year 1992/93.

The report was noted.

(b) Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

Councillor John Dilworth reported on the last meeting of the East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils.

The guest speaker was the Director of Education for Mid Glamorgan County Council, Mr Eddie Roberts. Mr Roberts gave a very interesting and informative presentation on the administration of the education service in Mid Glamorgan. He pointed out that large sections of the service had already been subject to Local Management of Schools and Local Management of Colleges. He anticipated further devolution and expected that the position would become clearer with the publication of the White Paper on the re-structuring of local government in Wales during the Autumn. He believed that if unitary authorities were to provide the education service after re-structuring the service would bear little resemblance to the service currently being provided by the local education authorities.

Councillor Dilworth also reported that the Area Committee intended holding a seminar on local government re-structuring during August. Plans were in hand for the seminar to be addressed by representatives of the Assembly of Welsh Counties, the Association of District Councils in Wales and the Leader of the Mid Glamorgan County Council. The seminar would be held in the Rhymney Valley District Council Offices, Ystrad Mynach, on 15 or 22 August.

The report was noted.

(c) County Council site meetings in Pontyclun

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that site meetings of members of the County Council's Highways and Transportation Committee had been scheduled for Pontyclun to discuss matters connected with the new railway



station, highway matters in Cowbridge Road, and the request of the Community Council for the introduction of parking restrictions at the junction of Llantrisant Road and Clun Avenue. Councillor Bowen promised to update the Council on the outcome of the meetings in due course.

(d) Erection of wall in Miskin

The Chairperson, Councillor Tudor Burton, drew the Council's attention to a recently erected breeze block wall in St David's Road, Miskin. The wall was considered to be significantly out of character in a conservation area.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer.

17. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Overgrown gardens and lawns, Miskin

Councillor Gordon Moir referred to a house in Miskin which had been for sale for a long period of time. The gardens and lawns had received no attention and consequently had become overgrown and were a source of annoyance to neighbours who regularly tended their gardens and lawns.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Moir provide the address of the property to the Clerk and that the Clerk write to the estate agents acting in the sale with a request that the garden and lawns be kept in a reasonable condition.

(b) Street nameplate

Councillor Mrs Anita Burton reported that the street nameplate "Merthyr Street" had disappeared. She asked that a replacement sign be erected.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Borough Engineer and Surveyor to request the erection of a new street nameplate.

(c) Proposed pedestrian footbridge, Ynysddu Farm Estate

Councillor Mrs Anita Burton reminded the Council that a commitment had been given by the County Council to erect



a new footbridge at the entrance to the Ynysddu Farm Estate of Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. Councillor Burton pointed out that it was important for the bridge to be erected as soon as possible thereby allowing pedestrians to access the estate in complete safety.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries of the Council about when the bridge was likely to be erected.

(d) Notice of Motion

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

18. The meeting ended at 10.32 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John P. H.', written in a cursive style.