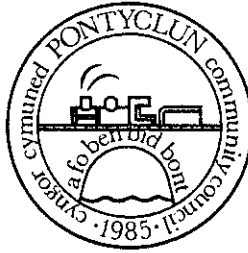


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
 J. H. G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.
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"Mandalay"
 Cowbridge Road,
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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 Wednesday, 3 March, 1993

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle, Professor I D Bowen, Mrs A Burton, 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

P C Steve Keddle of the South Wales Constabulary

1. **Apology for absence**

An apology for absence was received on behalf of the Chairperson, Councillor Tudor J Burton

2. **Chairperson**

In the absence of the Chairperson the Vice Chairperson, Councillor Eric V Griffith, took the Chair

3. **Chairperson's business**

There were no items of Chairperson's business.

4. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 February, 1993**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 February, 1993 be approved as an accurate record.

5. **Matters arising**

(a) **Proposed further residential development in Maesyfelin**

Professor Bowen reported that he had written a letter to Professor Ron Edwards, a Board member for the Welsh Region of the National Rivers Authority, to express his dismay at the planning consequences of a slight "shift" of advice given by the National Rivers Authority regarding the flood plain of the river Ely at Maesyfelin, Pontyclun. Councillor Bowen was extremely concerned that no account had been by the N.R.A. of verifiable worst case flood levels which had occurred in the area in 1959 and 1960-61. Councillor Bowen had urged Professor Edwards

to conduct an urgent internal review in the interests of long term human safety and insurance. A reply to Councillor Bowen's correspondence was awaited.

The report was noted.

(b) Footpath problems - Pontyclun/Tylagarw

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the site meeting which had taken place on the morning of Sunday, 6 February, 1993, between members of the Pontyclun and Llanharry Community Councils. Residents of Tylagarw were also present at the meeting. It had been agreed that, as a matter of urgency, the Clerk write to the County Engineer and Surveyor to clarify the position on the public right of way across the bailey bridge across the river Ely. Additionally, if it was established that the public right of way had been closed, what alternative routes existed for residents of Tylagarw who regularly walked the footpath to Pontyclun.

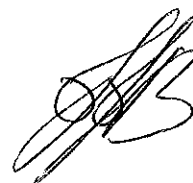
RESOLVED: That the actions of the Clerk be confirmed.

(c) Proposed replacement of Pontyclun Community Centre

Councillors Viv James and Gordon Norman reported that the Borough Council had taken a decision to replace the existing community centre in Pontyclun. It was predicted that work on the new centre would start during the 1993/94 financial year. Councillors James and Norman had met architects on site and had emphasised that the Community Council would wish to become involved at the planning stage in view of the commitment given by the Community Council to make a contribution to the cost of the replacement facility.

It was intended to consult further with the management committee of the centre since the new facility would need to be placed on a more secure financial footing. A meeting had been scheduled for 17 March, 1993.

Councillor John Dilworth welcomed the development but pointed out that ownership of the land on which the centre stood was vested in the trustees of the hall. Councillor Dilworth sought an assurance on the legality of transferring ownership of the land from the trustees to the Borough Council.



RESOLVED:

- (i) That Councillors James and Norman be commended for their efforts in securing a replacement community centre for Pontyclun.
 - (ii) That the Clerk confirm to the Borough Council's Chief Leisure Services Officer that the Community Council would wish to become involved in the planning stage of the replacement centre.
 - (iii) That the Clerk seek clarification from the Borough Council on the legal position of transferring ownership of land vested in the trustees, to the Borough Council.
 - (iv) That the Clerk acquaint the District Auditor with the Council's plans to contribute up to £20,000 of the capital cost of the replacement community centre.
- (d) Lack of a pedestrian facility to the Ynysddu Farm Estate, Pontyclun

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to the Clerks of the Llanharan and Llantrisant Community Councils about their Council's response to the County Council's suggestion that each should contribute a sum of £5,000 towards the cost of erecting a pedestrian footway alongside the access road into the Ynysddu Farm Estate. It appeared that the Llantrisant Community Council had taken a decision to decline making a contribution, while the Llanharan Community Council had resolved to make the contribution of £5,000.

The Clerk further reported that he had discussed the legality of the Pontyclun Community Council making a contribution to the proposed scheme with the District Auditor. The auditor was satisfied that there was sufficient statutory authority to enable the Community Council to make its contribution but asked for a written statement on the proposal. A statement had been provided and the written observations of the District Auditor were awaited.

RESOLVED: That a copy of the District Auditor's observations be provided to the County Engineer and Surveyor when they became available.

(e) Felling of mature tree, Miskin

The Clerk reported that he had followed up, with the Borough Council, the matter of the mature tree which had been felled in Miskin. He had learnt that the tree was on the opposite side of the road to the mature trees covered by a tree preservation order. In the absence of a tree preservation order the Borough Council was powerless to take any action against those responsible for the felling.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk request the Borough Council to place a tree preservation order on the remaining trees to afford protection against the felling of mature trees.

6. Speeding vehicles on the A4119

The Council discussed a letter from Mr L H Bailey of 4 Station Terrace, Pontyclun, complaining about the excessive speed of vehicles on the A4222 between Talbot Green and Pontyclun. Mr Bailey was particularly concerned about speeding vehicles in view of the close proximity of Y Pant Comprehensive School.

RESOLVED: That the matter be referred to the police.

7. Letter from the Llantrisant Community Council

The Council discussed a letter from the Llantrisant Community Council, dated 16 February, 1993, asking if the Pontyclun Community Council would be prepared to meet representatives of the Llantrisant Council to discuss:

- (i) Representation on the Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant and
- (ii) Matters affecting Cefnyparc Cemetery, Llantrisant

RESOLVED: (i) That in the former case, the Council decline to meet representatives of the Llantrisant Community Council on the grounds that the matter of representation had been thoroughly discussed at an previous meeting with that authority.

(ii) That in the latter case, the Council decline to meet representatives of the Llantrisant Community Council on the grounds that the administration of the Cefnyparc cemetery was a matter for the Llantrisant Community Council alone.

8. Notice of Motion

RESOLVED: That as this matter had been discussed fully under minute 4(b) no further discussion took place.

9. Possible closure of Barclays Bank, Pontyclun

Councillor Mrs Burton drew the Council's attention to the plans of Barclays Bank to close their Pontyclun branch. The Council was unanimous in its view that the closure would adversely affect Community residents and would impose hardship on the elderly and those residents dependant on public transport. Members were at a loss to understand the logic in the decision to close the branch since Pontyclun was an expanding area with the likelihood of a very large development due to take place on the Hendy in the near future. There was a strong feeling that a number of Pontyclun residents, faced with the prospect of travelling to Talbot Green to conduct their financial business, would transfer their accounts to Lloyds Bank in Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk send a strong letter of protest to the head office of Barclays Bank drawing attention to the hardship which would be suffered by the closure and urging a review of the decision in the light of the prospect of considerable residential development in Pontyclun in the near future and the likelihood of a large number of customers transferring their accounts to Lloyds Bank.

10. Council Tax - Banding of properties

Councillor Mrs Burton drew the Council's attention to apparent anomalies in the banding of properties in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, for Council Tax purposes. It appeared that properties of similar dimensions on different sides of Llantrisant Road had been allocated to different valuation bands. The effect of this action was that varying amounts in Council Tax had been demanded from residents occupying similar properties.

RESOLVED: That those residents feeling aggrieved at the banding of their premises be advised to appeal to the District Valuer and Valuation Officer of the Inland Revenue in Pontypridd.

11. Planning

- (a) Planning Notifications for Weeks Ending 5th., 12th. and 19th. February, 1993

RESOLVED: That the details be noted.

(b) Appeal to the Secretary of State

RESOLVED: That the details of the planning appeal to the Secretary of State be noted.

12. Payment of creditors

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

13. Reports from Members

(a) Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

Councillor John Dilworth reported on his attendance, the previous evening, at the East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils. The guest speaker at the meeting was Councillor G Owain Llywelyn, LLB, BSc (Estate Man.), ARCIS, who spoke on the vexed problem of unadopted sewers. In a very interesting presentation Mr Llywelyn outlined the reasons for sewers remaining unadopted and suggested ways in which the problems associated with unadopted sewers could be overcome. Councillor Dilworth expressed his intention of progressing the problem of unadopted sewers through the Association.

The report was noted.

(b) Presentation by Welsh Water

Councillor John Dilworth reported that he had attended a presentation in Cardiff by Welsh Water on the future of water services in Wales. It appeared that it was Welsh Water's intention produce a questionnaire in which the public would be asked whether it would be prepared to pay additional amounts in water rates to enable improvements to the water system to take place over and above those already planned. Councillor Dilworth was disappointed with the presentation since Welsh Water were only interested in discussing national policies and their representatives were not prepared to enter into discussion of matters of local concern.

The report was noted.

(c) Former Brofiscin Quarry, Groesfaen

Councillor Cyril Bendle spoke of his deep concern about

an incident involving travellers who had illegally parked their vehicles in the former Brofiscin Quarry in Groesfaen. It appeared that when it had been brought to the travellers' attention that they had parked illegally an assault had taken place. A complaint had been made to the police and a further complaint had been lodged with the Environmental Health Department of the Borough Council since it was known that there were no sanitary facilities at the site. It was understood that investigations into the occupation of the site were continuing.

The report was noted.

(d) Cefn-yr-Hendy Estate, Pontyclun

Councillor Gordon Norman reminded the Council that the Borough Council had instigated significant building works to its remaining stock of houses on the Cefn-yr Hendy Estate, Pontyclun. Councillor Norman advised that some disruption and inconvenience may be caused in the short-term but that in the long-term considerable benefits would accrue to residents on the Estate.

The report was noted.

(e) Building works at the rear of the Dipali restaurant, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Mrs Anita Burton reported that she had received a number of complaints arising out of building work which was taking place at the rear of the Dipali restaurant in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. It appeared that builders had been responsible for leaving quantities of breeze blocks in the lane at the rear of the restaurant which had resulted in residents being unable to gain access to their garages.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk draw the obstructions to the attention of the proprietor of the restaurant with a request that the builders exercise greater care in the storage of building materials.

(f) Litter bins

Councillor Mrs Anita Burton drew attention to instances of vandalism in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. In particular, where the contents of Community Council litter bins had been emptied on to pavements.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make arrangements for the litter bins outside St Paul's Church and the fire station to be concreted into position.

(g) Credit Union

Councillor Viv James reported that the Taff Ely Borough Council had recently been instrumental in establishing a credit union scheme in the Borough. The scheme would enable members to borrow money at considerably reduced rates from those applying generally in the money markets.

The report was noted.

14. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Burglary - David's Court, Pontyclun

Councillor Gordon Norman drew the Council's attention to a recent burglary at David's Court, Pontyclun. It appeared that an intruder had entered the senior citizens' complex during the day and had stolen a number of valuables. The warden had been unable to apprehend the culprit.

The report was noted.

(b) Highway matters

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that complaints continued to be received about vehicles speeding through Pontyclun and the actions of certain drivers in parking their vehicles on the narrowed section of highway over the railway bridge in Pontyclun.

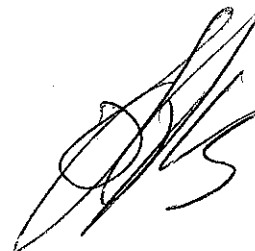
RESOLVED: (i) That the matters be referred to the police

(ii) That Councillor Delme Bowen raise both matters with the Highways and Transportation of the County Council.

(c) Special Constabulary

Councillor Gordon Norman was pleased to be able to report that he had noted a special constable on patrol in the Community accompanied by P.C. Steve Keddle.

The report was noted.



(d) Former school, Miskin

Councillor Gordon Moir raised the matter of the disused school in Miskin. He pointed out that the Mid Glamorgan County Council appeared to have abandoned the school and it was unfortunate that such an useful property should not be put to good use. Councillor Moir wondered if ownership of the premises could be transferred to the Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries with the County Council about the long term plans for the former Miskin school.

(e) New night club, Pontypridd

Councillor John Dilworth drew attention to the recent grant of planning permission for a new night club in Pontypridd. He felt that already stretched police resources would be stretched even further when the night club opened. Effectively, this new demand on police resources would get prior consideration at the expense of communities like Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries about the grant of a Justices Licence for the premises in order that the Council can decide whether to oppose that application.

(f) Proposed Cefn-yr-Hendy housing development

Councillor Gordon Norman referred to the proposed housing development at Cefn-yr-Hendy. He informed the Council that he had received a copy of the geotechnical report and wished to lodge it with the Community Council for reference.

RESOLVED: That the report be lodged with the Clerk.

(g) Public Protection Committee

Councillor Delme Bowen reported on his attendance at a recent meeting of the County Council's Public Protection Committee where the subject of toxic substances occurring naturally in food had been discussed. Councillor Bowen had been able to draw on his scientific background to make a positive contribution to the Committee's deliberations.

The report was noted.

(h) The Atkins Report

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that in connection with the Atkins Report he had recently advised the Highways and Transportation Committee against the closure of the highway from Mwyndy Cross to the site of the proposed new roundabout adjacent to School Road, Miskin. Councillor Bowen had also drawn the attention to the strong local opposition to the proposal.

The report was noted.

(i) Highways and Transportation Committee Reports

Councillor Delme Bowen commented that in reports to the Highways and Transportation Committee there were frequent references to former British Rail land as "disused land". In reality, the land had often been purchased by the owners of adjoining properties.

The report was noted.

(j) County Council's Budget for 1993/94

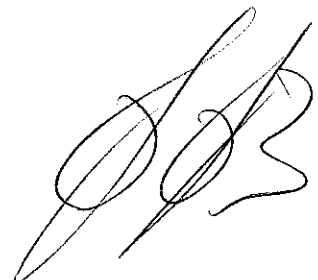
Councillor Delme Bowen reported that £9 million had needed to be cut from the County Council's budget for the year 1993/94 in the light of information available on the extent of available grants from the Welsh Office during 1993/94. Councillor Bowen stated that the cuts in budget were severe since the County Council had not implemented cuts in the previous year. Another matter which gave rise to consternation was that not all political parties at the County Council had been supplied with full information to make informed decisions on the budget reductions.

The report was noted.

(k) Minute 11 of Council's meeting of 2 December, 1992

The Clerk referred to minute No 11 of the Council's meeting of 2 December, 1992, in which the Council resolved to make a donation of £50 towards the cost of staging the National Eisteddfod of Wales at Llanellwedd in August, 1993. The Clerk stated that he had omitted to record the extent of the Council's deliberations in Minute No.11 and now wished to vary that minute.

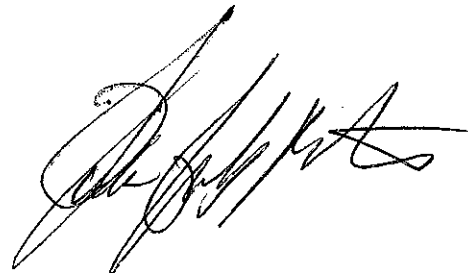
RESOLVED: That minute No.11 of the Council's meeting

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of 2 December, 1992, be varied to show that before making the award the Council took into account the following factors:

- (a) whether the payment was of direct benefit
- (b) whether the benefit was in proportion to the payment made.
- (c) whether the organisation's own resources were sufficient and other potential income considered including other local councils; and
- (d) the money was not being used to circumvent any limitations on specific powers
- (e) The impact of the award of grants made and in particular of setting a precedent which would result in applications from other groups.

15. The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

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