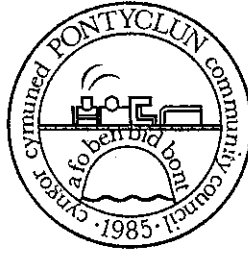


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 3 October, 1990.

1. Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Community Councillor E Hopkin. An apology for absence was also received on behalf of P C Steve Keddle.

2. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 September, 1990

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 September, 1990, be approved as an accurate record.

3. Matters arising

(a) Donation of plots of land to the Council

The Council discussed the letter of 31 August, 1990, from Osborne Clarke, solicitors, acting on behalf of Lady Rhys-Williams.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree to the payment of the costs detailed in the letter.

(b) Footway lighting, Windsor Field, Pontyclun

The Clerk reported that he had arranged with South Wales Electricity for the connection of the footway lighting to the nearby mains. Work had started on the morning of 1 October, 1990. Later that morning a representative of the Environmental Health Department of the Borough Council had called at the site. She had advised South Wales Electricity of the presence of methane gas at the site. Work was immediately suspended pending clarification of the situation.

A long discussion ensued. The Council felt aggrieved that despite having consulted the Borough Council, the County Council and South Wales Electricity, well in advance of any work starting, no mention had been made of any methane gas in the area. Further, the Council

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expressed its deep disappointment at the failure of the Borough Council's Chief Environmental Health Officer to let the Community Council know that his staff's advice had lead to South Wales Electricity suspending all work at the site.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk write to the Chief Environmental Health Officer to ask for a copy of the readings which had resulted in his staff advising SWE to suspend work. Additionally, that the Clerk convey the Council's disquiet at the lack of communication between his Department and the Community Council in the matter.

(ii) That the Clerk write to the Chief Technical Services Officer to find out if he was aware of the presence of methane gas in the Windsor Field at the time permission was given for the Community Council to instal footway lighting in the Windsor Field.

(iii) That the Clerk contact South Wales Electricity to establish the alternatives open to the Community Council.

(iv) That the Clerk write to Welsh Water, referring to the plans to lay a sewer under the Windsor Field, drawing attention to the discovery of methane gas.

(c) Award of contract for construction of bus shelter

The Clerk reported that in accordance with the decision of the Council's meeting of 3 October, 1990, he, together with the Chairlady, had opened the sealed tenders for the construction of the new bus shelter in Heol Miskin, Pontyclun. The tenders were in the sums of:-

£3,923.76 - G L Sharkey, Builders
£6,741.00 - K W Jones and Co, Builders

RESOLVED: That the actions of the Chairlady and Clerk in awarding the contract to G L Sharkey, Builders, be approved.

4. Proposal to lay a trunk sewer under the Windsor Field, Pontyclun.

The Council discussed the Borough Council's letter of 3 September, 1990, which gave an outline of Welsh Water's plans to lay a new trunk sewer under the Windsor Field, Pontyclun. It was noted that the plan which accompanied the Borough Council's letter indicated that the sewer would run directly beneath the Community Council's public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. The Clerk informed the Council that on receiving the Borough Council's letter he had sought clarification from Welsh Water, in particular the implications for the public conveniences. No reply had been received at the date of the Council's meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk again contact Welsh Water, pointing out that the conveniences and surrounding land are in the ownership of the Community Council. Further, that the Community Council would wish to be consulted before any work on Community Council property takes place. Additionally, in view of the discovery of methane gas on the Windsor Field, Welsh Water be notified of this development.

5. Tree Preservation Orders in the Community

Members noted with interest the Chief Planning Officer's letter of 10 September, 1990, and accompanying large scale maps, showing the location of all the Tree Preservation Orders in the Community.

RESOLVED: That members take a copy of the map for their ward and report back to a future meeting of the Council with their proposals for tree preservation orders in their respective wards.

6. Hazardous driving conditions at the junction of Merthyr Street and Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

The Council discussed the County Engineer and Surveyor's letter of 11 September, 1990, in which he sought clarification on whether the visibility problems were caused by an inadequate length of waiting restrictions or by vehicles parking within the restricted area.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk inform the County Engineer and Surveyor that the visibility problems at the junction are caused by vehicles parking within the restricted area. Further, that details of the accidents which have occurred at the junction may be obtained from the police in Talbot Green.

7. Miskin War Memorial

The Clerk reported that he had been approached about the condition of the inscriptions on the war memorial in Miskin. Several of the names on the memorial had become indistinct through weathering and action needed to be taken in the near future if the names were not to be permanently lost. The Clerk advised the Council that it had resolved to maintain the war memorials in Miskin and Pontyclun some years previously.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact a monumental mason for an estimate to re-inscribe the names on the Miskin war memorial.

8. Parking problems in Clun Avenue, Pontyclun

A lengthy discussion took place on the problems caused by vehicles parked in Clun Avenue, Pontyclun. The problems were exacerbated by the shortage of parking facilities at the doctors' surgery, the increasing number of heavy lorries using the road, and the absence of any parking facilities for car owner residents of Clun Avenue. The Council had previously brought the situation to the attention of both the Borough Council and the County Council but no improvement had resulted.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk again raise the matter with the County Council and request a site visit for Members
(ii) That Councillor Bowen also raise the matter at County level in his capacity as local County Councillor member.

9. Blockage of Footpath No. 296 in Groesfaen

The Council was pleased to note that the County Council were taking a more optimistic view of taking legal action against the landowner who persisted in blocking Footpath No 296 in Groesfaen.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the County Council pointing out that as the matter was very long outstanding, it was hoped that the prosecution would take place with the minimum of delay.

10. Association of Councillors

The Council received details of the Association's October meeting to be held in Llangefni, Anglesey on 27 October, 1990.

RESOLVED: That the Chairlady, together with Councillor T J Burton be authorised to attend the meeting on behalf of the Council.

11. Planning Applications for Weeks 35/36,37, and 39

The Council discussed the applications for planning consent contained in Weekly Notifications No.s 35/36,37 and 39.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk obtain further details of applications 56/0749/90 and 56/0762/90 for discussion at the next meeting of the Community Council.

12. Payment of creditors

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

13. Reports from Members

(a) Planning Inquiry - Tipping in Talygarn

Councillor Mrs O P Phillips gave a report on her attendance at the Planning Inquiry held on behalf of the Secretary of State into the refusal by the Borough Council to grant planning permission for further tipping at Talygarn. Councillor Professor Bowen also attended the Inquiry and, in support of the refusal to award permission, produced detailed scientific findings produced by Dr S M Bowen together with the file of cooespondence dealing with breaches of an earlier tipping licence by the applicant. The Inquiry lasted two days and the decision of the Inspector was awaited.

The report was noted.

(b) Grounds Maintenance Functions - Borough Council

Councillor R G Norman reported that he had met with Mrs Andrews of the Leisure Services Department and had outlined to her the areas of land in the Community which the Community Council maintained. He believed that he had covered all the locations in the Community but invited members to contact him if they felt that there were areas which he had omitted.

The report was noted.

(c) Land to the rear of the Pontyclun Community Centre

Councillor R G Norman reported that he, together with Councillor V P James, had submitted a Notice of Motion to the Taff Ely Borough Council calling upon the Borough Council to earmark the land at the rear of the Pontyclun Community Centre for use as a doctors' surgery and sheltered accommodation.

The report was noted.

(d) Layby in Groesfaen

Councillor R G Norman reported that after many months of pressure he had managed to get the layby to the front of the bus shelter in the centre of the village in Groesfaen, tarmaced. However, he had been disappointed to find that the area to the rear of the bus shelter had been overlooked. He would continue to exert pressure to get the area to the rear of the bus shelter tarmaced.

The report was noted.

(e) Age Concern - Grants from the Welsh Office

Councillor R G Norman reported on his attendance at a recent meeting of Age Concern. The meeting had been addressed by Mr Keith Bennett who had given an outline of four separate grants available to the elderly from the Welsh Office. Mr Bennett had offered to address other groups to inform them of the availability of grants.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange a public meeting in Pontyclun, to which Mr Bennett would be invited, where he could give an address to the elderly of the Community .

(f) Development at Ynysyplwm

Councillor Professor Bowen reported on his attendance at recent meetings of the Borough Council where development of the Ynysyplwm site, Talbot Green, had been discussed. While it seemed likely that the new general hospital would be built on the site, it also seemed likely that there would be industrial development and new municipal offices for the Borough Council at the location.

The report was noted.

(g) Red Cross Service, St Anne's Church, Talygarn

The Chairlady, Councillor Mrs Burton, reported that she had represented the Community Council at a recent service by the Red Cross Association held in St Annes's Church, Talygarn. She had been thanked by the the Association's officers for the continued support of the Community Council.

The report was noted.

14. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Prince of Wales Committee

Councillor V P James drew the Council's attention to the need to plant spring flowering bulbs in grass verges in the Community during the autumn. He pointed out that the Council had been unsuccessful in its application for financial assistance to the Prince of Wales Committee in the previous year but felt that it was worth trying again. Councillor Mrs O P Phillips commented that there had been a recent article in the press advising of the availability of 100% grants from the Prince of Wales Committee to voluntary bodies prepared to undertake the planting of trees and shrubs.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk make enquiries of the Prince of Wales Committee about the availability of grants for the purchase of spring flowering bulbs. In the event of the Council being ineligible for assistance, the Clerk to arrange for the purchase of 4 hundredweights of spring flowering bulbs.

(ii) That the Clerk make enquiries of the Prince of Wales Committee to establish whether the Community Council would be eligible for assistance to purchase trees and shrubs.

(b) Former NACRO accommodation in the Ivor Woods

Councillor V P James informed the Council that a request had been received for the removal of that part of the former NACRO accommodation still remaining in the Ivor Woods. The Clerk responded that NACRO had removed all the accommodation which was of any further use. The small, damaged shed which remained was not required by NACRO.

RESOLVED: That the damaged shed still remaining in the Wood be given away, subject to the person removing the item agreeing to indemnify the Council in the event of any accident or injury occurring during the removal.

(c) Litter bins in the Ivor Woods

Councillor Norman raised the matter of the additional litter bins for the Ivor Wood. He asked if the Clerk knew when they would be delivered. The Clerk replied that the bins had been on order for several months. The Clerk agreed to pursue the matter with the County Council.

(d) Children's playground/Playing fields

Councillor Norman reported that the fence separating the children's playground, off Cowbridge Road, from the adjacent sports fields, having had the wires removed, now served little purpose. The headteacher of the Pontyclun Junior School had obtained a quotation for the fence's replacement and had been quoted a sum of £1,000. Councillor Norman said that he intended raising the matter with the Taff Ely Borough Council to see if there was any possibility of assistance from the Borough.

The report was noted.

(e) Sewage problems at Castell-y-Mwnws

Councillor Kennard reported that since the last meeting of the Community Council there had been further problems with the sewers at Castell-y-Mwnws. Despite a letter from the Clerk to the Chief Technical Services Officer of the Borough Council no action had been taken.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the matter again with the Borough Council as a matter of urgency.

(f) Premises for the Council's Handyman

Councillor T J Burton again raised the matter of premises for the Council's Handyman. He drew the attention of the Council to a plot of land, in the ownership of the Borough Council, adjacent to Merthyr Street. He believed that the plot would make an excellent site to locate premises for the Handyman.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries of the Borough Council to establish whether the plot, or part of it, could be made available to the Community Council for the purpose of providing accommodation for the Council's Handyman .

(g) Paper "Igloos"

Councillor Professor I D Bowen informed the Council that a demonstration of paper "igloos", a new concept in waste paper collection for recycling, was to be held by the Borough Council in the Central Park, Church Village, at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 9 October, 1990. Any member of the Community Council interested in attending the demonstration would be welcome.

The report was noted.

(h) Lanfill site at the former Bute Quarry, Miskin

Councillor Professor Bowen reported that the former Bute Quarry in Miskin was now open as a landfill site. An advantage would accrue to the Community Council in that the Council's Handyman would be able to dispose of debris accumulated in the course of his duties without needing to travel to the public refuse tip at Penycodcae.

RESOLVED: (i) The the Clerk arrange to purchase a quantity of tipping vouchers for the Council's Handyman.

(ii) That the subject of the Bute Quarry be placed on the Agenda of the next Community Council meeting.

(i) Community Council bulletin "CLUN"

Councillor Professor Bowen advised the Council that the latest edition of "CLUN" had been received from the printers and that he would be giving supplies to Members in the next few days. He asked that Members arrange the distribution of "CLUN" to all households in their wards.

The matter was noted.

(j) Community Council's Microcomputer

The Clerk reported that he was very pleased with the results he had obtained from the Council's Microcomputer and the DisplayWrite 4 word processing package. He suggested to the Council that to maximise use of the microcomputer, and obtain greater efficiency, the Council should consider the purchase of a simple package to deal with the Community Council's accounts.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries about the availability of a simple accounts package for the Community Council's accounts.

(k) Letter of appreciation - Pontyclun Girls' Brigade

The Clerk read out a letter of appreciation he had been handed that evening from the Pontyclun Girls' Brigade. The Girls' Brigade wished to thank the Community Council for the financial grant it had received in September.

The letter was noted.

15. The meeting ended at 9.30 p.m.