

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, on Wednesday, 4 January, 1989, at 7.30p.m.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Professor I D Bowen, Mr E Hopkin, Mr V P James, Mr R G Norman and Mrs O P Phillips (Chairlady) + R.C. KENNARD

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors Mrs A Burton, Mr T J Burton, Mrs I V Evans and Mrs D Richards-Clarke

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P C J Horsey

1. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 7 December, 1988

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 7 December, 1988, be approved as an accurate record.

2. Matters arising

(a) Blasting at Hendy Quarry

A lengthy discussion took place on the problems being experienced by Miskin residents as a result of blasting at the Hendy Quarry, Miskin. In particular, grave concern was expressed by members, and residents of Miskin present at the meeting, about the blast which occurred on 12 December, 1988, which had lead to debris bombarding houses in Beechlea Close. A house in the Close had suffered significant damage from debris, while in another case, a rock weighing 17 lbs had become embedded in a lawn. It was reported that soon after the blast quarry employees were observed in the Close sweeping up debris. It was understood that following the incident the Quarries Inspectorate of the Health and Safety Executive had imposed a prohibition order on the quarry. Mr John Pugh, a solicitor living in the Close, informed the Council that he had been instructed by a resident in the Close to act on the resident's behalf.

Councillor Norman reported that a petition from Miskin residents, calling for the closure of the Hendy Quarry, had been sent to the Mid Glamorgan County Council and the Taff Ely Borough Council. The latter had agreed to purchase its own monitoring equipment. Councillor Bowen told the Council that he had formally requested that the matter of blasting at the Hendy Quarry be placed on the agenda of the Environmental Health Committee of the Borough Council at its meeting on 7 February, 1989.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk:-

(i) again contact the Quarry Inspectorate

*OP Phillips*

*\* and School Road  
OP Phillips*

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of the Health and Safety Executive, referring to the long-held suspicions of the Community Council that safety regulations were being breached by quarry management, quoting the evidence of the blast of 12 December, 1988, as evidence of a violation, and requesting the Health and Safety Executive to carry out a thorough investigation of the incident of 12 December, 1988.

- (ii) obtain an assurance from the Health and Safety Executive that in the event of the quarry management being unable to comply with statutory safety regulations the quarry be closed.
- (iii) write to the Chief Superintendent of Police in Pontypridd, informing him of an earlier blast on 12 August, 1988, and asking whether the quarry management had the authority to close School Road unilaterally during a blast.

(b) Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant

RESOLVED: That as the Council's nominee, Dr S M Bowen, had become a parent governor on the governing body, the Council nominate Mr A C Dunstall of 3 Pinewood Hill, Talbot Green, to fill the vacancy.

(c) Dog Fouling

The Clerk informed the Council that, having made investigations, he had established that there were no statutory powers available to the Council which would allow the Council to enter trading activities in supplying "doggy scoops".

RESOLVED: (i) That notices be placed in each of the Council's noticeboards encouraging dog owners to prevent the fouling of footpaths by their pets by using "doggy scoops".

- (ii) That the Clerk circulate a letter to shops in the Community stocking pet requisites urging them to stock "doggy scoops".

(d) The St David's Walk for Life

The Council discussed the letter of 21 November, 1988, addressed to the Chairlady, received from the Lord

CPD

Mayor of Cardiff, inviting the Council to become involved in organising a sponsored walk in aid of the Kidney Research Unit for Wales Foundation.

- RESOLVED: (i) That the Council agree in principle to support the event.
- (ii) That a working group comprising the Chairlady, Mrs Pam Phillips, Councillors I D Bowen and Mrs A Burton, together with the Clerk, be formed to discuss the best way to promote, and involve residents of the Community in the event.

(e) NACRO - Community Programme/Employment Training

The Clerk reported that he had made further enquiries with NACRO about how much of the agreed programme of work was likely to be completed under the period of grace allowed for the completion of schemes under the Community Programme. The Clerk informed the Council that no further work would be started after the footbridge across the Nant Dyfrgi had been completed.

RESOLVED: That a <sup>h</sup>schedule of outstanding work be referred to the Finance Committee for prioritisation, pending a decision by another agency to become involved with the Community Council.

(f) Wales Association of Community and Town Councils - East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee Meeting of 6 December, 1988.

The Clerk reported that at the Area Committee meeting of 6 December, 1988, reference was made to highway authorities' statutory responsibility to maintain footways in a good state of repair. Delegates attending the meeting were reminded that where footways were in a poor state of repair, and where injury was subsequently sustained by a pedestrian, then it was open to that pedestrian to sue the highway authority.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk obtain an authoritative statement on the matter for inclusion in a future edition of the Community Council's magazine "CLUN".

3. Cardiff Valleys Rail Development Strategy - Phase 2

The Council received, with interest, Phase 2 of the Cardiff Valleys Rail Development Strategy. It was noted that the Phase 2 strategy would be implemented by the Mid Glamorgan and South Glamorgan County Councils in partnership with British Rail. The total value

of the Strategy would be around £6 million and the investment package would further improve the rail service and extend its catchment population, without any increase in the subsidy required from the central government to British Rail. It would be of particular benefit in terms of improving access to employment from the Valley areas (including the Brigend Valleys), in terms of enhancing tourism potential of the area generally, and in meeting the social and economic objectives of the two county councils. The Community Council was particularly interested to learn that on the main line between Cardiff and Bridgend, stations were planned for both Miskin and Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Community Council support the proposals contained in Phase 2 and that the Mid Glamorgan County Council be urged to implement the proposals as soon as possible.

(ii) That a copy of the Cardiff Valleys Rail Development Strategy - Phase 2 be placed in the Pontyclun library.

#### 4. Proposed pelican crossings in Pontyclun

The Council was disappointed to learn that the County Council did not feel that the installation of pelican crossings, at the sites previously identified by the Community Council, was justified. There was a feeling that the surveys carried out by the County Council did not take account of the recent increases in pedestrians crossing Llantrisant Road and Heol Miskin and the increased numbers of vehicles using the roads

RESOLVED: That as the County Council was unable to agree to the installation of pelican crossings, a request for the installation of zebra crossings at the same sites be made.

#### 5. Route of Footpath No 333

The Clerk reported that for a number of years pedestrians using Footpath No 333 had not followed the precise route of the footpath, but had, instead, taken a route alongside the fence overlooking the M4 Motorway. No objections had ever been made to the public following this "short cut". However, the County Council had recently erected a fence at right angles to the motorway fence, and one of the effects was to prevent pedestrians from using the "short-cut".

RESOLVED: That the public be encouraged to use the correct route of Footpath No 333 and that the Clerk arrange for the Council's handyman to clear the route of undergrowth and loose rocks.

#### 6. Request for financial assistance

The Council considered a request for financial assistance from Arts for Disabled People in Wales.

RESOLVED: That the Council make a donation of £25.00 to the association.

7. Planning(a) Weekly Notifications for Weeks 48,49, 50, 51 and 52

The planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications 48 and 49 were considered by the Council. It was noted that Weekly Notifications for Weeks 50, 51 and 52 had not been received from the Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That with reference to application No 56/1014/88 the Council express the view was to be granted for the proposed development, then there would be an overwhelming need to insist upon an improved access allowing good visibility to emerging traffic in both directions.

(b) Planning Appeal

The Council noted that an appeal had been lodged against the decision by the Taff Ely Borough Council to refuse an application for planning permission to erect a detached house and garage on land to the east of the A4222 off Cowbridge Road, Talygarn, Pontyclun.

8. Payment of Creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 8 to the Agenda.

9. Reports from Members(a) Landfill at Bute Quarry, Miskin

Professor Bowen reported that the Environmental Health Committee of the Taff Ely Borough Council had recently considered a request that the fill at the Bute Quarry, Miskin, be restricted to builders' rubble. The request had not been acceded to and as a result, the tipping of materials of a general nature, including household refuse, would commence in the near future.

The report was noted.

(b) Coffee Morning - Busy Knees

The Chairlady, Mrs Pam Phillips, informed the Council that a nursery would shortly open at Bethell Baptist Church, Pontyclun. The organisers of the nursery intended holding a coffee morning prior to the opening and an invitation was extended to all members of the Community Council to attend.

The report was noted.

10. Any other business of an urgent nature(a) Bottle Banks

Councillor Kennard sought clarification of the

Community Council's intentions for the siting of bottle banks in the Community.

RESOLVED: That in parallel with the representations presently being made to the Taff Ely Borough Council for the siting of a bottle bank in Pontyclun, the Community Council also pursue the possibility of siting its own bottle bank in the Community.

(b) "Wheely Bins"

The Chairlady, Mrs Pam Phillips, referred to the experiment taking place in parts of the Borough of Taff Ely to assess the usefulness and viability of "wheely bins". It was agreed that even if the experiment was successful there would be many areas of the Borough where "wheely bins" would be unsuitable.

The report was noted.

(c) Application by the Mid Glamorgan Health Authority to develop land at Talygarn, Pontyclun

The Clerk read out a letter from Captain K Dixon of "Lanorna", 41 Heol Miskin, Pontyclun, in which he protested strongly at the plans of the Area Health Authority to develop land at Talygarn for residential purposes. It was noted that copies of the letter had also been sent to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Wales and the Taff Ely Borough Council.

Captain Dixon's letter laid great emphasis on the damage which would be caused to wildlife and to the environment if the proposed development were allowed to take place. The Council warmed to Captain Dixon's deep knowledge of natural history.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk reply to Captain Dixon:-

- (i) thanking him for his letter and telling him that the Council was unanimous in its praise of his actions and entirely supportive of his views.
- (ii) informing him that the Community Council had already conveyed its objections to the proposals to the Borough Council.

11. The meeting ended at 9.35p.m.

*GP Phillips*