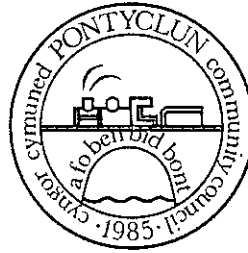


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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 Wednesday, 4 March, 1992.

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors Mr T J Burton and Mr R G Norman

2. Chairperson's business

The Chairman reported that plans were well advanced to hold the fourth annual sponsored walk in aid of kidney research. The walk would be held at 11.00 a.m. on the morning of Sunday, 22 March, and he was confident that the Community would maintain its high reputation for making an excellent contribution to the total funds raised throughout Wales on that day. He pointed out that as the Council had participated in the event on each occasion he thought it appropriate that the Council should maintain a special bank account for the purposes of future sponsored walks.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make arrangements with the Council's bankers for a bank account devoted solely to funds raised for kidney research; the signatories to the account to be Councillors Mrs Burton and Mrs Phillips, together with the Clerk.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 February, 1992

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 February, 1992 be approved as an accurate record subject to the inclusion of the words that any "Request for financial assistance to proceed as a formal motion." be included as an additional sentence after the word "services" in the resolution to Minute No. 5.

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4. Matters arising

(a) Groesfaen sub post office

The Chairperson, Councillor Delme Bowen, reported on the meeting which had taken place on 20 February, 1992, between representatives of the Community Council and Mr Isaacs and Mr Kirk of Post Office Counters Ltd. While Messrs Isaacs and Kirk were prepared to talk about arrangements to ensure the continuation of postal facilities in Groesfaen, they made it clear that they were not prepared to talk about the termination of the contract between the former sub postmaster and Post Office Counters Ltd. Furthermore, the temporary postal facilities in a portakabin would cease after a period of three months after the termination of the contract with the former sub postmaster. Post Office Counters Ltd were prepared to consider any offers of suitable premises in the village for the continuation of postal facilities. After a lengthy discussion it also emerged that Post Office Counters Ltd might be agreeable to an arrangement whereby postal facilities might be re-established at the former premises provided that they were run on a leased arrangement and independently of the proprietor of the village store. Post Office Counters Ltd would be prepared to consider offers from individuals interested in providing postal facilities along these lines. The Community Council representatives undertook to convey the idea to the proprietor of the village store.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(b) Further residential development at Maesyfelin

The Clerk informed the Council that since the last meeting of the Council he had written two letters to the National Rivers Authority. The first letter had sought the N.R.A.'s comments on whether any work would be necessary to the southern bank of the river Ely as a result of the award of planning permission for further residential development in Maesyfelin. The reply of the N.R.A. was contained at Appendix 2 to the Agenda. In a further letter the Clerk had enquired of the N.R.A. what redress would be available to existing and future residents of Maesyfelin in the event of the developer failing to keep his legal commitment "to safeguard the improved flood plain area in perpetuity". At the date of the meeting no reply had been received from the N.R.A.

RESOLVED: (i) That the reply of the N.R.A. be circulated to residents of Maesyfelin as soon as possible.

(ii) That copies of the outstanding response from the N.R.A. be distributed to Maesyfelin Ward Members as soon as possible after receipt.

(c) Premises for Handyman

The Council noted the letter from G L Sharkey (Builders) Ltd. in which it was stated that the company did not wish to proceed with arrangements to lease premises to the Community Council.

(d) Wales Association of Community and Town Councils - East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee

Councillor Dilworth gave a report on the previous evening's meeting of the East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils. A well attended meeting had been addressed by Mr John Osmond chairman of the campaign for a Welsh Assembly. Mr Osmond had delivered an interesting and thought provoking address in which he compared and contrasted the stances of the political parties in Wales to the creation of a Welsh Assembly. Mr Osmond stated that support for a Welsh Assembly had grown significantly since the referendum on the subject. It was the intention to convene a forum to promote a Welsh Assembly after the General Election. Following the address Mr Osmond answered a series of questions from delegates on a Welsh Assembly and on the proposals for the reform of local government which had been announced by the Welsh Office that afternoon.

The report was noted.

(e) Employment Action

The Clerk reported that he had been given a number of dates when it would be convenient for representatives of the Council to meet officers of the Borough Council to discuss Employment Action in greater detail.

RESOLVED: That representatives of the Community Council meet representatives of the Borough Council at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 17 March, 1992.

5. Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee

Mr Alan Gregory, the Community Council's delegate to the Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee, reported that the next meeting of the Consultative Committee was due to be held on 25 March, 1992. While Superintendent Webber of Pontypridd had offered broad guidelines to the Committee in the way in which he believed the Committee could best meet its responsibilities, he looked to each member of the Committee to concentrate on matters of general concern within their localities rather than on isolated issues of relatively limited concern. Mr Gregory sought the advice of the Community Council on what were perceived to be the matters of concern in the Community.

RESOLVED: That Mr Gregory be made aware of the Community Council's concern over the following matters in the Community:-

- (a) The problems associated with the transportation of vast quantities of infill material through the Community.
- (b) The concern of residents over the use of the Department of Environment Goods Vehicle Test Centre at Mwyndy on Sundays - the only day of respite for local residents.
- (c) The concern of residents over the practice of youngsters of driving vehicles at high speed through the Community.
- (d) The response of residents to the earlier appeal for recruits to the Special Constabulary.

6. Proposed diversion of Footpath No. 341

The Council discussed the letter of 11 February, 1992, from the Chief Executive and Clerk of the Borough Council setting out details of the proposal to divert Footpath No. 341.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree to the route of the proposed diversion.

7. Proposed diversion of Footpath No.346

The Council discussed the letter of 11 February, 1992, from the County Engineer and Surveyor giving details of the proposal to divert Footpath No. 346 and the intention to erect a footbridge across the river Ely between the existing bailey bridge and the railway bridge.

RESOLVED: That the Council welcome the proposals especially as the public would no longer need to cross the existing bailey bridge alongside heavy goods vehicles.

8. Revised rates of Members Allowances

The Clerk reported receipt of the revised list of allowances payable to members carrying out approved duties.

RESOLVED: That the revised list be noted and that the Clerk implement the revised allowances where appropriate.

9. Planning

(a) Section 78 Appeal against the refusal of planning permission

The Council considered a notification from the Borough Council that the applicant for planning consent to develop land on the site of the former Bethel Chapel in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, intended appealing against the refusal to grant consent.

RESOLVED: That the details of the appeal be noted.

(b) Section 78 Appeal against the refusal of planning permission

The Council considered a notification from the Borough Council that the applicant for planning consent to develop land for a high-tech laboratory at Fairview House, Talygarn, intended appealing against the refusal to grant consent.

RESOLVED: That the details of the appeal be noted.

(c) New computerised planning system

The Council discussed a letter from the Borough Council's Chief Planning and Economic Development Officer in which details of the new computerised system for the handling of applications for planning consent were given.

RESOLVED: That the details be noted.

(d) Planning Notifications received for weeks ending 31 January, 10 February, 17 February and 24 February, 1992.

The Council considered the planning details in the

weekly notifications for Weeks 31 January, 10 February, 17 February and 24 February, 1992.

RESOLVED: That further details be sought on application No. 92/0063/10.

10. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 11 to the Agenda.

11. Reports from Members

(a) Age Concern - Taff Ely / Tonteg Hospital

Councillor Mrs Phillips told the Council of a recent initiative between Age Concern - Taff Ely and the Tonteg Hospital whereby patients suffering from dementia could be admitted to a day clinic with the objective of giving their normal carers some relief. The scheme was in its infancy, having started only in January, 1992, but had been extremely well received. The scheme had not been advertised but approaches could be made directly to the hospital. There was much scope for voluntary assistance with volunteer drivers being particularly sought. Assistance was also being sought to provide cushions, chairs, pictures for the wards of Tonteg Hospital providing the new facility.

The report was noted.

(b) Organisational changes at Borough Council

Councillor Viv James referred to the undertaking given by coalition group on the Taff Ely Borough Council, to reduce administration costs by 5%. He pointed out that it was not an easy matter to achieve savings of this magnitude but that the objective had now been attained. A number of staff in the Borough Council had made application for voluntary redundancy. Significant savings would also be made following the decision to merge the Environmental Health Department with the Borough Surveyor's Department. Following the decision to reduce the level of funding to the Rhondda Heritage Park, a further considerable sum of money would be saved. A decision was due to be taken shortly on whether to provide funds for the restoration of the former Nantgarw Pottery.

The report was noted.

(c) Ynysyplwm development -
Implications for the Community

The Chairperson, Councillor Delme Bowen, referred to the massive infill operation presently taking place at Ynysyplwm. It appeared that most of the stone infill being used was being hauled by heavy lorries through the Community from the Creigiau Quarry. There was a possibility that the Creigiau Quarry would need to expand. In this event, there was a proposal to construct a new road on the site of the former railway line.

The report was noted.

(d) Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Councillor Gordon Moir reported on his attendance at the meeting of the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee on 19 February, 1992. Following concern expressed at the previous meeting of the Committee about the respective roles of the attending parties, the County Council was, on this occasion, represented by Mr Mike Flynn, the County Planning Officer and Mr G Chapman, Acting Principal Solicitor, in addition to Dr M K Gandy of the County Planning Department. Mr Chapman stated what he understood the terms of reference the Liaison Committee to be. Councillor Moir was of the view that not everyone present had had an opportunity to make a contribution to the Terms of Reference.

Towards the end of the meeting a sharp exchange of views had taken place between the Area Manager of Wimpey Hobbs and some of the members of the Liaison Committee over Wimpey Hobbs' plans to supply infill for the Ynysyplwm development. Initially it had been understood that supplies of infill could be provided from waste material at the quarry. When asked for a guarantee that the demands of Ynysyplwm would not lead to further to further blasting at Hendy Quarry the Area Manager retorted that no guarantee would be given. The Area Manager of Wimpey Hobbs had subsequently offered an apology for his remark.

The report was noted.

12. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Parking in Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler

Councillor John Dilworth referred to the absence of

parking restrictions on the highway in front of the Community Council's bus shelter in Brynsadler. As a consequence of the absence of restrictions vehicles were regularly parked at the site and caused obstruction to the passage of vehicles in Cowbridge Road and to passengers alighting and boarding buses.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson, Councillor Delme Bowen raise the matter with the County Council.

(b) Pool of water - Windsor Woods

Councillor John Dilworth drew the Council's attention to the large pool of water which had collected in the Windsor Woods and which, because it was unfenced, posed a serious danger to children. It was believed that the pool was the result of a failure by the contractors who had laid the new sewerage main to reinstate the ground properly.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the matter, initially with the Borough Council.

(c) Children's play area, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Cyril Bendle expressed his concern that despite the erection of a sign urging dog owners not to allow their pets to foul the play area, fouling remained a problem. Additionally, the recently erected sign had been removed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Borough Council's Chief Leisure Services Officer to see what other measures could be introduced to alleviate the problem.

(d) Children's play area, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Cyril Bendle said that the efforts of the Borough Council to update the furniture in the play area were to be commended. He wondered, however, whether the children's slide could be repositioned in order that its polished surface could face away from the glare of the sun. Children using the slide in its present position ran the danger of receiving burn injuries on hot days.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Chief Leisure Services Officer of the Borough Council.

(e) New sewerage mains - Removal of kissing gate

Councillor Mrs Anita Burton referred to the construction of the new mains sewer adjacent to the A4222 in Pontyclun and pointed out that the kissing gate which had been removed by the contractors had yet to be replaced.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk again take the matter up with the Llantrisant Community Council.

(f) Notice of Motion

Notice was given that at the next meeting of the Community Council members wished to discuss what steps could be taken to improve the visual amenity in the area of the Ottersbrook Trout Pools.

(g) Shamrock Travel - Inauguration of new bus service

The Clerk distributed copies of a letter which had been received from Shamrock Travel, Pontypridd and which had been received too late for inclusion with the Agenda papers. The company sought financial assistance from the Community Council towards the cost of printing leaflets advertising a new bus service serving local communities.

RESOLVED: That no grant be made but the use of the Community Council's noticeboards be offered to display details of the new service.

(h) Maintenance of Rights of Way - Agency agreement with the County Council

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the County Engineer and Surveyor, which had been received too late for inclusion with the Agenda papers, about the County Council's plans to reimburse the Community Council only £480.00 for maintenance work on Rights of Way for the year 1990/91. Reimbursement for the previous year had been £729.00.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be given authority to pursue the matter with the County Council to secure a more realistic level of funding for works carried out to Public Rights of Way.

(i) Secretary of State for Wales' proposals for the reorganisation of local government in Wales

The Clerk read out an extract from the transcript of a

speech made by the Secretary of State for Wales in the House of Commons on the previous afternoon about local government reform in Wales. It was proposed that, as far as community councils were concerned, the Welsh Office would issue a further consultative document in the coming months.

The matter was noted.

(j) Notice of Appeal against Enforcement Action

The Clerk circulated details of an appeal, which had been received too late for inclusion with Agenda papers, lodged by the occupier of a caravan, sited in Talygarn, against the decision of the Borough Council to take enforcement action over failure to comply with planning requirements.

The details were noted.

13. The meeting ended at 10.15 p.m.

 J. D. Bower.

