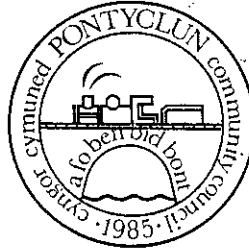


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
 J. H. G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.
 Telephone: Llantrisant (0443) 227094



"Mandalay"
 Cowbridge Road,
 Talygarn, Pontyclun,
 Mid Glamorgan CF7 9BZ

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 8.00p.m. on Wednesday, 6 November, 1991.

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Eight members of the public and Miss Angela Griffiths of the Llantrisant Observer.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received were received on behalf of Community Councillors Mr T J Burton and Mrs A Burton. An apology was also received on behalf of P C Steve Keddle.

2. Chairperson's business

(a) Councillors Mr and Mrs Burton

The Chairperson, Councillor Bowen, was sad to have to inform the Council that the sister of Councillor T J Burton had recently passed away.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk convey the Council's condolences to Councillors Mr and Mrs Burton

(b) Chairperson's Social Evening

The Chairperson, Professor Bowen, reminded Members that his Social Evening at the Pontyclun Institute and Athletic Club had been arranged for Friday, 22 November, 1991. Professor Bowen urged Members to attend the evening and help forge links between the Community Council and neighbouring community councils.

The matter was noted.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 2 October, 1991

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 2 October, 1991, be approved as an accurate record subject to:-

- (a) the references in Minute 6 (c) to "Councillor Burton" being amended to read "Councillor Norman", and the reference to "Councillor Norman" being amended to read "Councillor Burton" and

- (b) the inclusion of the following report after Minute 12 (j):-

"(h) Wales Association of
Community and Town Councils

Councillor Dilworth presented a written report on the meeting of the East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee held Ystrad Mynach on the evening of 3 September, 1991."

RESOLVED: That the report be noted."

4. Matters arising

(a) Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee

RESOLVED: That the Council's nominee to the Consultative Committee be Mr Alan Gregory of 9 Maelog Close, Pontyclun. In the event of Mr Gregory being unable to attend a meeting, his substitute be Councillor Norman.

(b) Miskin War Memorial

RESOLVED: That a site meeting be arranged on the morning of Sunday, 17 November, 1991, to inspect the workmanship of Lericci Artistic Sculptures at Talygarn Church and the workmanship of M Harding and Sons at Pontycymmer War Memorial.

(c) Traffic hazard, Talygarn Drive

The Council discussed the reply of the County Engineer and Surveyor dated 25 October, 1991.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk reply to the Engineer and Surveyor to express the Council's disquiet that the main point of the Council's request, that is in improving safety standards in Talygarn Drive, had been overlooked.

(d) Proposed Tree Preservation Order, Brynsadler

The Council noted that the Borough Council felt unable to make a tree preservation order for the small area of woodland adjacent to Paddocks Crescent, Brynsadler, for the reason given in the letter of 24 October, 1991.

(e) Maesvfelin playingfields

The Council noted the correspondence which had taken place between the Taff Ely Borough Council, the Mid Glamorgan County Council and the respective sporting organisations using the Maesvfelin playingfields in Pontyclun. While certain aspects of the ownership of the playingfields were unclear it was felt inappropriate for the Community Council to enter into any discussions with any of the parties.

RESOLVED: That the Council defer entering into any discussions until ownership of the playingfields had been clarified.

5. Notice of Motion - To discuss the possibility of holding a public meeting with residents of Llwynfen Road and part of Rhvd-v-Nant - Pontyclun Councillor J R Dilworth

Councillor Dilworth explained that he was awaiting legal advice on the matter of ownership of the lane at the rear of Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun. He had hoped that the advice would be available for presentation to the Council at that evening's meeting. In the absence of the legal advice Councillor Dilworth asked that the Council defer consideration of the matter to a further meeting.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Council await the legal advice sought by Councillor Dilworth.

(ii) That when that legal advice was received the subject matter be discussed by the Council and that an invitation to attend the Council's meeting be extended to the affected residents.

6. Offer to lease premises for Handyman

The Council discussed the letter of 6 October, 1991, from Mr G Sharkey offering to lease premises at the Pontyclun Joinery for use by the Community Council's Handyman.

RESOLVED: That the Council refer the offer to the District Valuer and Valuation Officer for his observations.

7. "Employment Action"

The Council discussed the letter from the Borough Council's Chief Technical Services Officer in which he informed the Council that the Special Programmes Section of his Department had been awarded the sole contract to undertake the Government sponsored scheme "Employment Action" in the Taff Ely Area. The criteria for participation in the scheme were listed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Chief Technical Services Officer with a view to exploring the possibility of obtaining assistance under "Employment Action" in carrying out remedial works to the public footpath skirting the river Ely and the Otters Brook Trout Pools in Brynsadler.

8. Proposed extension to the Windsor Field, Pontyclun

The Council discussed the letter of 28 October, 1991, from the Borough Council's Chief Leisure Services Officer about the Community Council's earlier request for the Borough Council to consider extending the Windsor Field, Pontyclun, to provide additional playing areas. The Community Council was pleased to learn that the request had been agreed in principle by the Borough's Leisure and Recreation Committee, subject to a further report on costs.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

9. Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

The Council received a schedule of resolutions passed by the Association of Community and Town Councils at its Annual Conference on 12 October, 1991.

RESOLVED: That the schedule be noted.

10. Application for financial assistance

The Council discussed an application for financial assistance from the joint Chairmen of the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Urdd Gobaith Cymru, Bro Glyndwr.

RESOLVED: That the Council decline making a grant on the grounds that a grant for £100.00 was made to Urdd Gobaith Cymru at the Council's October meeting.

11. Planning matters

(a) Construction of railway station and ancillary facilities in Pontyclun

The Community Council discussed the letter of 21 October, 1991, from the County Planning Officer inviting observations on the planning application to develop two platforms, shelters, ramped pedestrian access, together with lighting, on land adjacent to Station Approach, Pontyclun. A copy of the plan of the new development was submitted for consideration by the Council.

Professor Bowen informed the Council that the County Council had intended convening a site meeting on 30 October, 1991, to discuss the application but the meeting had postponed at short notice. It was expected that the meeting would be held in the near future.

A lengthy discussion on the proposals followed. In principle the Council was in favour of the development. However, it was felt that particular consideration needed to be given to:-

- (a) Providing adequate parking facilities for the new station by the utilisation of land on the former Goods Depot and possibly land in the vicinity of the Pontyclun Joinery.
- (b) Providing adequate access to and from the new station. In particular Station Approach was understood to be below accepted highway standards
- (c) Providing a safe highway junction at the intersection of Station Approach and Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That detailed observations on the proposal be forwarded to the County Council after the planned site meeting had taken place.

- (b) Weekly planning applications for Weeks 39,40,41,42 and 43

Planning application No. 56/91/0757

The Council discussed the application to develop the site of the former school in School Street, Pontyclun, to provide a new doctors' surgery. It was understood that access to the development would be via School Street.

While there was general agreement from the Council, and from residents of School Street, that in principle the site was suitable, grave misgivings existed about the lack of parking facilities in the Street. Residents already suffered from a shortage of parking spaces and it was feared that further development would exacerbate existing problems.

Councillor Dilworth referred to an earlier planning application for the site, which had been the subject of a Welsh Office appeal. The Inspector had recognised the

parking difficulties in School Street and recommended that access to the development be through Station Approach. Councillor Dilworth believed that access to the proposed surgery development should also be through Station Approach. A number of residents in attendance at the meeting supported this view.

Other Members of the Council also recognised the parking and highway problems in School Street. It was suggested that additional parking facilities could be made available in the nearby properties belonging to the Taff Ely Borough Council at the western end of Lewis Street.

Doctors Jerrett, Robinson, Duffin-Jones and Hopkin explained their case for developing the site in School Street. Their existing premises in Clun Avenue had become totally inadequate. With further increases in population projected for the Community it was imperative that alternative premises be found as a matter of urgency. The doctors recognised the parking difficulties in School Street and, with that in mind, had issued instructions to the architects responsible for planning the new surgery to maximise the number of parking spaces at the new development. With careful planning it had been possible to provide 25 on-site parking spaces. In response to the suggestion to make access to the new surgery through Station Approach, the doctors stated that British Rail, who owned the road, had been contacted. The fees demanded by British Rail for the use of Station Approach were exorbitant and made the development an unrealistic proposition.

RESOLVED: That as the parking problems associated with the new surgery were inextricably linked with the parking and highway problems connected with the adjacent development of the railway station, comments on the planning application be deferred until such time as the site meeting referred to in minute 11 (a) had been held.

Planning Application No. 56/91/0709

RESOLVED: That the application be opposed on the grounds that:-

- (a) That the proposed development would block the route of Footpath No 296
- (b) The development would constitute an intrusion into the countryside.

(c) The proposal is outside the Local Plan.

(d) The proposal would generate additional vehicular traffic in narrow country lanes.

Planning application No.56/91/0727

RESOLVED: That as development has already taken place, and the Borough Council are taking enforcement action against the developer, no comment be offered.

(c) Planning appeal - Land at Mwyndy, Pontyclun

The Council that an appeal had been lodged by Mineral Supplies Ltd., of Mwyndy Cross, Pontyclun, against the refusal of the Taff Ely Borough Council as local planning authority to refuse consent for residential development of land presently used as a coal depot at Mwyndy Cross, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk provide the Inspector conducting the appeal with a copy of the Community Council's original comments on the proposal.

12. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 16 to the Agenda.

13. Reports from Members

(a) Hendy Quarry, Miskin

Councillor Moir reported that, after 18 months, notification had been received that although some maladministration had taken place, the Ombudsman did not regard the maladministration as being significant enough to warrant action being taken against the Taff Ely Borough Council and the Mid Glamorgan County Council.

The report was noted.

(b) Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Councillor Moir reported that at the February, 1991, meeting of the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Doctor Gandy of the County Council's Planning Department gave an overview of information provided by the British Geological Society. The minute of that meeting quoted Doctor Gandy as saying that there was no evidence to say that blasting had caused damage to properties. Following further enquiries with the British Geological Society, it was their view that Doctor Gandy's statement was "unjust". Despite the matter being brought to his attention, Doctor Gandy refused to have the statement struck out of the minutes. In subsequent correspondence with the County Planning Officer, Mr Flynn, he, Mr Flynn, denied that any approach had been made to himself or Doctor Gandy on the matter.

Councillor Moir was of the view that the Liaison Committee had become little more than a public relations exercise. He was convinced that little, or no, feedback from the Liaison Committee reached the County Planning Officer:

RESOLVED: That the Council pass a motion of censure on the County Council's handling of the matter and that the County Planning Officer be informed that the Community Council had lost confidence in the County Council's input to the Liaison Committee.

(c) Pedestrian crossing, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Dilworth reported that another accident had occurred in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, at the site of the pedestrian crossing. Councillor Dilworth had organised a petition calling for the zebra crossing to be upgraded to a pelican crossing. He had forwarded the petition to the Superintendent of Police in Bridgend.

The matter was noted.

(d) Storage of petroleum spirit - residential area

Councillor Dilworth expressed his deep concern about petroleum spirit being stored in a single storey building in Cerdin Avenue, Pontyclun.

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

(e) Obstruction of highway - Cerdin Avenue, Pontyclun

Councillor Dilworth reported that there had been a number

of complaints about the obstruction of the highway in Cerdin Avenue, Pontyclun, by a parked caravan.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk report the matter to the police.

(f) Obstruction of pavements by traders' signs

Councillor Mrs Phillips again expressed her concern about the practice of certain traders in Pontyclun of placing their advertising signs on pavements. There had been action by the County Council Highways Department to warn traders that they faced prosecution if they persisted in obstructing pavements. However, the warnings appeared to have lost their effect and obstruction of pavements was taking place on a regular basis.

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

(g) Potholes in highways

Councillor Griffith reported that there were large potholes in the highway outside the Bute Arms, Pontyclun, and at the junction of the A4222 and Llanharry Road, Brynsadler.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the County Highways Department.

(h) Wayside seat, Brynsadler

Councillor Norman informed the Council about the damage to the Community Council's wayside seat at the junction of the A4222 and the Llanharry Road in Brynsadler. It appeared that a vehicle had careered, out of control, down the hill and caused significant damage to the seat. The Clerk added that he had arranged for the seat to be repaired and that he would be invoicing the haulage company responsible for the damage.

The report was noted.

(i) Corner Park Garage - Parking of vehicles

Councillor Bendle reported that the Community Council's success in getting the proprietor of the Corner Park Garage to remove his cars from the grass verge adjacent to the garage had been short-lived. The cars were again partially parked on the grass verge.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson take the matter up with the County Council.

(j) Walkway between Brynamlwg and Heol-y-Coed, Pontyclun

Councillor Bendle drew the Council's attention to the considerable amount of vegetative growth encroaching on to the walkway between Brynamlwg and Heol-y-Coed, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Highways Department of the County Council.

(k) Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy

The Chairperson, Professor Bowen, reported the presence of large quantities of dark smoke emanating, on a regular basis, from a site at the rear of the Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk report the matter to the Chief Environmental Health Officer for investigation.

(l) Application to develop land, Maesyfelin, Pontyclun

Councillor James reported that a site meeting had recently been held by the Borough Council at Maesyrafon, Maesyfelin, Pontyclun, following receipt of an application to develop land. The recommendation from the site meeting to the Planning Committee was that the application should be refused.

The report was noted.

(m) Straying Animals Working Party

Councillor Norman reported on his attendance at the last meeting of the Straying Animals Working Party. He was pleased to be able to inform the Council the the Working Party would be holding a meeting in the Hendy Woods, Pontyclun, to gain first hand experience of some of the problems being experienced by residents on the Hendy Estate as a result of straying livestock.

The report was noted.

(n) Private sewage plant, Hendy Woods

Councillor Norman reported that plans were at an advanced stage for the connection of the sewer, leading to the sewage plant in the Hendy Woods, to the mains sewer. It was likely the the senior citizens' complex at David's Court would also be connected to the main sewer.

The report was noted.

(o) Overcrowding of school buses

The Chairperson, Professor Bowen, reported that he had raised at a recent education committee meeting the gross overcrowding of school buses travelling to, and from, the Llanharry Comprehensive School. The matter was being investigated by the County Council.

The report was noted.

14. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Spring flowering bulbs

The Clerk reported that all the sacks of spring flowering bulbs had been distributed for planting in public open spaces. He enquired if any further sacks were required.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk purchase two further bulbs of spring flowering bulbs.

(b) One day conference on low flying aircraft

The Clerk reported receipt of a notification of a one day conference to be held in Llandrindod Wells on the problems of low flying aircraft.

RESOLVED: That the Council decline the invitation to attend the conference.

(c) Glamorgan Naturalists Trust

The Clerk reported that an official of the Glamorgan Naturalists Trust had reported to him the disappearance of large numbers of wild animals and birds from Talygarn. The official was convinced that the disappearance of local species was related to the proliferation of mink in the area.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Chief Environmental Health Officer, as that officer had responsibilities for the control of nuisances.

(d) Taff Ely Drug Support

The Clerk advised that the Annual General Meeting of Taff Ely Drug Support was due to be held in the Llantwit Fardre Sports and Social Club, Central Park, Church Village, on Thursday, 21 November, 1991, and an invitation to be represented had been sent to the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Council be represented at the meeting by Councillor T J Burton and that his attendance be classified as an official duty.

(e) Remembrance Day Services - 10 November, 1991

The Council was reminded that in previous years it had expressed a wish to be represented at the Remembrance Day Services held in the Community.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk arrange for a wreath from the Community Council to be placed on the war memorials in Pontyclun and Miskin.

(ii) That members of the Council be encouraged to attend local Remembrance Day Services.

(f) Community Council's answerphone

The Clerk reported that the Community Council's answerphone was becoming increasingly unreliable. It had given several years of good service and had been repaired on a number of occasions. The Clerk recommended that the Council purchase a new answerphone.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make arrangements for the installation of a new answerphone.

(g) Mwyndy Cross/Cefn-yr-Hendy

The Clerk reported that Councillor T J Burton had expressed concern to him over the increasing practice of referring to Mwyndy Cross as "Cefn-yr-Hendy". Residents of Mwyndy Cross were unhappy about the practice and, on their behalf, he had taken the matter up with the Taff Ely Borough Council, who, in the main, were the biggest offenders. He had received an assurance from the Chief Planning Officer that the name "Cefn-yr-Hendy" would not be used in future on correspondence relating to Mwyndy Cross.

The report was noted.

15. The meeting ended at 10.15 p.m.

