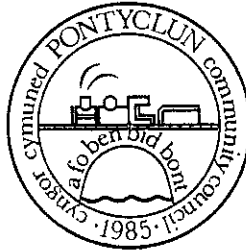


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPENDIX No. 1(a)

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 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 7 April, 1993.

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Alan Gregory and four members of the public

1. Apology for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors Mrs A Burton and Mr G M Moir

2. Chairperson's business

There were no items of Chairperson's business.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 March, 1993

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

4. Matters arising

(a) Proposed further residential development in Maesyfelin

Councillors Viv James and Delme Bowen jointly reported on the latest situation. Statements had been made by residents of Brynsadler to the effect that they could recall the height of the 1960 flood. The level to which the 1960 floodwater had risen was considerably higher than the floodwater levels considered by the National Rivers Authority in deciding to relax the objections to development on the Maesyfelin floodplain. Copies of the statements had been forwarded to the National Rivers Authority.

The planning authority, the Taff Ely Borough Council, had decided to refer the matter back for further

Eric V. Griffiths

investigation. It was proposed that a site meeting be held and that invitations to attend be extended to the Community Council, National Rivers Authority, in addition to Borough Council members.

RESOLVED: That when the date of the site meeting was known the Clerk notify Mr Stan Baugh and Mr Roy Davies, residents of Maesyfelin.

(b) Footpath problems - Pontyclun to Tylagarw

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the site meeting which had taken place on the morning of 7 March, 1993, between members of the Pontyclun Community Council and Llanharry Community Council at which local residents were present.

It was clear that a significant number of residents still used the footpath between Pontyclun and Tylagarw every day, despite the fact that, technically, the right of way across the bailey bridge had been temporarily closed by the County Council. It was noted that the condition of the bridge had deteriorated considerably and the attendees at the meeting wondered if the bridge was safe enough for the regular passage of heavy lorries.

RESOLVED: (i) That an invitation be extended to the County Council's Footpaths Officer to attend a site a site meeting when it was hoped that the long term plans of the County Council for the bridge would become clearer.

(ii) That the Clerk inform the Clerk to the Llanharry Community Council of developments.

(c) Proposed replacement of Pontyclun Community Centre

The Council noted the letter of 12 March, 1993, from the Borough Council's Chief Leisure Services Officer in which it was stated arrangements would be made for the project architect to discuss with the Community Council its requirements and to consult in respect of the overall design of the proposed facility.

(d) Lack of a pedestrian facility at the Ynysddu Farm Estate, Pontyclun

The Council considered the reply of the District Auditor

to a request for guidance on whether the Community Council were empowered to contribute towards the cost of widening a highway to provide a pedestrian access to the Ynysddu Farm Estate. The Auditor had replied to the effect that, in his view, authority was contained in Section 72 (3) of the Highways Act, 1980. The Clerk reported that he had communicated this decision to the County Engineer and Surveyor.

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that there had been a slight delay in the scheme on account of the need to purchase a small plot of land for the project. Nevertheless, work was well advanced on the construction of the footbridge and it was anticipated that the work would be completed without major delay.

RESOLVED: (i) That the advice of the District Auditor be noted.

(ii) That Councillor Bowen's report be noted.

(e) Unadopted sewers

Councillor John Dilworth further reported on the unsatisfactory position applying over the non adoption of sewers in the Borough of Taff Ely. He was pleased to be able to report that he had enlisted the support of Mr Alex Carlisle, MP. Councillor Dilworth was optimistic that progress could be made on this long standing and difficult issue.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

(f) Licensing of premises for the sale/consumption of alcohol

Councillor John Dilworth reported the continuing practice of magistrates to grant licenses for the sale/consumption of alcohol. Councillor Dilworth was of the view that as the police were already severely stretched in carrying out their policing duties in the Borough, the grant of additional licenses for the sale/consumption of alcohol placed an unnecessary and unwelcomed burden on the police. The effect of these additional duties was to place further strain on inadequate resources. Councillor Dilworth was firmly of the view that magistrates should exercise greater control in the award of licences for the sale/consumption of alcohol.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

(g) The Atkins Report

Councillor John Dilworth reported that he was very unhappy with the implications of the Atkins Report for Talbot Green. He believed that many of the assumptions underlying the Report were motivated by the needs of a housing association with an interest in the construction of houses at Cefn-yr Hendy. He was convinced that little or no thought had been given to the adverse implications for Talbot Green residents.

Councillor Delme Bowen also commented on the Atkins Report. He reported that the original proposal to close the existing Miskin Road/Bute Road had been withdrawn and the County Council had now recognised the need to install traffic lights at the junction with the A4119 at Mwyndy.

RESOLVED: That the comments of Councillors John Dilworth and Delme Bowen be noted.

5. Consumption of water - Dwr Cymru Questionnaire

The Council discussed a letter from Mr Brian Charles, Managing Director of Dwr Cymru, dated 31 March, 1993, in which he invited the Council to complete a questionnaire on proposed improvements to the Dwr Cymru services.

RESOLVED: (i) That a committee comprising the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, together with Councillors Bowen, Dilworth, James and Norman be convened to formalise the Council's replies to the questionnaire.

(ii) That an invitation be extended Mr Michael Brooker, Divisional Director of Dwr Cymru, to attend a future meeting of the Community Council to discuss water quality in the Community.

6. Erection street nameplates

The Chairperson, Councillor Tudor Burton, drew the Council's attention to several instances of inadequate street nameplates in the Community. The inadequate nameplates failed to draw attention to the presence of other streets in the immediate vicinity. As examples, he cited the Maesyfelin and Cefn-yr-Hendy Estates where nameplates merely indicated the name of the road without assisting an inquirer by indicating the names of other nearby streets. Councillor Burton pointed out that many other authorities had overcome the problem by incorporating "leading to" within a nameplate.

- RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk contact the Borough Council to find out if the Borough Council would, on a programmed basis, be prepared to erect new street nameplates in the Community to incorporate the words "leading to" together with the names of adjacent streets.
- (ii) That the Clerk indicate that the Community Council would be prepared to make a contribution towards costs incurred.

7. Facilities for D.I.A.L. in Pontyclun

The Chairperson, Councillor Tudor Burton, drew attention to the invaluable work carried out locally by the charity D.I.A.L. Councillor Burton pointed out that the organisation did not have any premises from which to work and depended very heavily on the generosity of its supporters. He wondered whether it would be possible for the organisation to work from the new community centre proposed for Pontyclun. Councillor Delme Bowen informed the Council the the Management Committee of the existing community centre was currently contacting local groups to ascertain the demand for facilities in the new centre. Councillor Bowen thought it appropriate that D.I.A.L. make contact with the Management Committee to make their needs known.

RESOLVED: That D.I.A.L. be advised to contact the Management Committee of the Community Centre to make their requirements known.

8. Alleged problems associated with the Dipali restaurant, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

Councillor John Dilworth advised the Council that he continued to receive complaints about the Dipali restaurant in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, trading outside the conditions of its planning consent. In addition to the disturbance caused to neighbours by late night clients leaving the premises, complaints had also been received about the nuisance caused by strong smells emanating from the premises and the number of vehicles parked on the pavement outside the premises which forced pedestrians to step into the highway. It seemed that representations had been made to the proprietor on a number of occasions but to no avail.

- RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk refer the matter of the continual breach of planning consent to the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer.
- (ii) That the Clerk refer the nuisance of strong smells to the Borough Council's Environmental Health Officer.

- (iii) That Mr Alan Gregory, the Council's representative on the Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee, raise the matter of the danger caused by parked vehicles at the next meeting of the Consultative Committee.

9. 1993 Sponsored Walk in aid of Kidney Research

The Clerk reported that the annual sponsored walk in aid of the Kidney Research Unit Foundation had been held on the morning of 28 March, 1993. In total around forty adults and children had participated and had resulted in an anticipated sum of around £700 being raised. A presentation evening had been organised by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff for the evening of 21 April, 1993, and the Council would be represented by the Chairperson, Councillor Tudor Burton, and his wife, Councillor Mrs Anita Burton. The Clerk thanked all members of the Council who had volunteered their services to act as stewards and helpers on the morning of 28 March.

RESOLVED: That the Council's formal thanks be also sent to:

- (i) The Committee of the Pontyclun RFC
- (ii) The staff of the Hendy Quarry
- (iii) Mrs Mary Burton, Mrs Sue Johns and Mrs Kath Edwards

10. Taff Ely Borough Council's Draft Recycling Plan

The Clerk advised the Council that he had received a copy of the Borough Council's Draft Recycling Plan. Under the Environmental Protection Act, 1990, all district councils had a duty to write recycling plans outlining proposals for recycling up to the year 2000. The Taff Ely Borough Council's Draft Plan had been submitted to the Welsh Office and an opportunity was now available for community councils to offer their comments on the proposals. The main recommendation contained in the Taff Ely Plan was an increase in the number of recycling sites (bottle/can banks etc in suitable venues) to 50 locations to equate to one for every 2,000 head of population.

RESOLVED: (i) That any member of the Community wishing to see the Draft Plan contact the Clerk

- (ii) That the Clerk contact Mr Ian Berry of the Borough Council to obtain a supply of posters for display in the Community Council's noticeboards to bring to the public's attention the opportunity to make comment on the Draft Recycling Plan.

11. Association of Councillors

The Council noted that the next meeting of the Welsh branch of the

Association of Councillors was due to be held on Saturday 17 April, 1993, at the Carmarthen District Council Offices, 3 Spillman Street, Carmarthen.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson, Councillor Tudor Burton, and Councillor John Dilworth be nominated to attend and their attendance be designated an approved duty.

12. Request for financial assistance

The Council discussed a request for financial assistance from Urdd Gobaith Cymru.

RESOLVED: That the application be deferred to the Council's annual grants allocation meeting.

13. Licensing

The Council discussed applications for a Protection Order and Full Transfer of a Justices' License at The Bute Arms, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That while the Council was not opposed to the applications, the attention of the magistrates deciding the applications be drawn to the behavioural problems of some of the premises' clients, the intimidation experienced by pedestrians passing the premises, and the amount police resources sometimes required to maintain order.

14. Application for Gaming License

The Council received details of an application for the renewal of the Gaming License for Vans Bingo Club, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the application be noted.

15. Planning Notifications for Weeks Ending 26 February, 5, 12, 19 and 26 March and 8 April, 1993

RESOLVED: That the following comments be made to the Borough Council:

Application No. 93/0167/13

That the Community Council is opposed to the application on the grounds that:

- (a) There is already sufficient land with outline consent for residential development in Pontyclun. The proposed Cefn-yr Hendy development will provide up to 900 additional houses in Pontyclun.

- (b) The proposal is outside the Structure Plan and Local Plan.
- (c) Provisional plans have already been agreed to develop the site for a replacement community centre with the possibility of an adjacent day centre.
- (c) Existing highways are already utilised to capacity. Additional development in excess of the Cefn-yr Hendy development will cause severe congestion.

Applications No. 93/0201/14 and 93/0202/14

The Council is opposed to the applications on the grounds that:

- (a) The applications are outside the Local Plan
- (b) The proposals would constitute an intrusion into the countryside
- (c) The access roads are below acceptable highway standard.

Application No. 56/239/10

That the Council is opposed to the application on the grounds that:

- (a) The proposal will intensify the use of the rear lane access. The applicant is already in flagrant breach of the planning consent which allows him to use the rear lane access only 4 times a week.
- (b) The proposal will lead to severe obstruction of the access to the westbound platform of the Pontyclun railway station.
- (c) The proposal will lead to obstruction of residents' access to their garages.
- (d) The proposal will lead to additional hazards for parents and children accessing the nearby Ysgol Feithrin.

Application No. 56/93/0240

That the Council is opposed to the application on grounds that the application is merely a retrospective application which, if granted, will legitimise the operation of refrigerated units with ineffective acoustic hoods. No attempt will be made to ensure that the hoods are effective and prevent a noise nuisance to adjacent residents. The Council is of the view that the applicant should operate his refrigeration units within his premises. If this were so, there would be no need for acoustic hoods.

16. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 19 to the Agenda.

17. Reports from Members

(a) Defective pavements

Councillor John Dilworth reported that he had recently advised a local resident to contact a solicitor to commence proceedings against the County Council following an accident where the resident had sustained injury as a result of a defective pavement. Councillor Dilworth had also advised the resident of the possibility of qualifying for legal aid to bring the action.

The report was noted.

(b) Pontyclun Railway Station

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that following the recent cost cutting exercises within the County Council he had made enquiries about the plans to improve pedestrian and vehicular access to the westbound platform of the Pontyclun railway station. Councillor Bowen had also made enquiries about the plans to control parking in Station Terrace and the protection of the public right of way to Tylagarw. He had received assurances that the works planned for Station Terrace and the westbound platform of the railway station would not be affected by the cut backs in expenditure.

The report was noted.

(c) Neighbourhood Watch

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that another successful



neighbourhood watch had been set up in the Community. The watch covered an area from Rhyd-y-Nant to Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, and its formation had been overseen by Mr Bob Humphreys, Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for the South Wales Constabulary in Taff Ely. Mr Humphreys had described neighbourhood watches as "the eyes and ears of the police" and in the latest watch to be formed a "telephone cascading " system had been introduced.

The report was noted.

(d) Credit Union

Councillor Viv James referred to his report at the last meeting of the Community Council where he had advised that the Borough Council had established a credit union in the Borough. Councillor James stated that the Borough Council had now appointed an officer to supervise the scheme and wondered if the Community Council would consider inviting that officer along to a future meeting in order to explain the work of a credit union.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the officer and invite him along to give a presentation on the work of a credit union to a future meeting of the Council.

(e) Platform safety at unmanned railway stations

Mr Alan Gregory, the Council's representative on the British Transport Police Consultative Committee, reported on his attendance at the last meeting of the Committee. Mr Gregory had raised the possibility of installing an automatic barrier at the entrance to each platform to prevent children rushing on to platform when a train was due to pass. The response Mr Gregory had received was that the proposal was impracticable and was contrary to safety regulations. However, it was pointed out that staff continually gave presentations to schools warning children of the dangers in playing close to railway lines.

RESOLVED: That while the Council understood the reasons for not erecting an automatic barrier at platform entrances Mr Gregory raise the possibility, at the next Committee meeting, of the erection of a simple child-proof barrier of the type which prevented children from wandering on to busy roads.

(f) Surfacing of backlanes

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that work to surface a number of backlanes in Pontyclun was proceeding well. A number of problems had been encountered as work had progressed but it was not anticipated that that the schemes would be seriously delayed. Requests had been received from residents for the installation of "sleeping policemen" in the affected backlanes and these requests were being examined.

The report was noted.

(g) Erection of fence and handrails - Heol Miskin, Pontyclun

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that the dilapidated fence surrounding the Borough Council owned triangular plot of land at the junction of Heol Miskin and Clun Avenue, Pontyclun, had recently been replaced. In addition, handrails had been installed on the adjacent footpath connecting Heol Miskin with Heol-y-Bryn. Both improvements had been well received in the Community.

The report was noted.

(h) Undergrowth fronting Heol Miskin

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that the Borough Council had recently started work on the removal of a large quantity of undergrowth in front of properties at the eastern end of Heol Miskin, Pontyclun. It was intended to re-establish the boundary where the undergrowth had been cleared by the erection of a new fence.

The report was noted.

18. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Development at the Ivor Arms, Brynsadler

Councillor John Dilworth referred to a report which had been made to a recent meeting of the Community Council where it was stated that an application for planning consent to develop at the Ivor Arms, Brynsadler, had been refused. It appeared that the report was premature and was based on the recommendation which the officers of the Borough Council intended making to the Borough Council's Planning Committee. In the event, when the application came before the Planning Committee a decision was taken not to follow the officers' recommendation. Consequently, planning permission for the development had been awarded.

RESOLVED: (i) That the information be noted.

(ii) That Members monitor the parking problems likely to occur in Cowbridge Road and on the access road into The Hollies as a result of the award of planning permission

(iii) That Councillor Delme Bowen raise with the County Council the possibility of designating the access road into The Hollies "access only".

(b) Poor condition of pavements in Maesvfein

Councillor Eric Griffith drew the Council's attention to the poor condition of some pavements in Maesvfein. He stated that as a result of the condition of one pavement a lady recently fell and suffered injury. She had been advised to commence an action against the County Council who had a statutory duty to ensure that pavements were not allowed to become dangerous to pedestrians.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the County Engineer and Surveyor to request that remedial work be carried out on all dangerous pavements in Maesvfein.

(c) Implications of development at Station Terrace and the westbound platform of the Pontyclun railway station

The Clerk distributed copies of two letters, dated 4th and 6th April, 1993, which had been received from Mr L Bailey of 4 Station Terrace, Pontyclun. Mr Bailey was extremely concerned about the implications for residents of Station Terrace who, at present, were able to park their vehicles in Station Terrace with minimal inconvenience. Mr Bailey believed that the situation would alter significantly after the improvements to Station Terrace and the westbound platform of the Pontyclun railway station had been carried out.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk follow up Mr Bailey's concerns with the County Council.

(d) Directory of County Council members

The Clerk distributed copies of a directory of County Council members which he had recently received from the Chief Executive of the County Council.

(e) Community Council's Handyman

The Clerk reported that the Community Council's Handyman, Mr Derek Tookey, had suffered an attack of shingles in March which had prevented him from reporting to work for the last month. Mr Tookey had made a full recovery and had returned to take up his duties.

The report was noted.

(f) PAYE - Changes in Inland Revenue procedures

The Clerk reported on the significant changes which had been made to the Inland Revenue procedures for operating PAYE. While the number of Community Council employees affected by the changes was not high, the changed requirements demanded that the Clerk familiarise himself with all the changes. Failure to observe the detailed Inland Revenue regulations for the deduction and payment of income tax and National Insurance could result in severe penalties being imposed on the Community Council. A high proportion of the Clerk's time in the last month had been devoted to studying the new Inland Revenue regulations.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

19. The meeting ended at 10.25 p.m.

Eric V. Griffiths