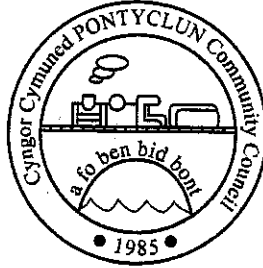


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Pontyclun Community Council

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Minutes of the April monthly meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Committee Room of the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 10 April, 2012.

PRESENT: Community Councillors J V Huish, R G Norman, M Rea, S Rogers and C Willis

Also in attendance: Three members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies.

2. **Declarations of interest**

The following declarations of interest were made:

Councillor J V Huish for agenda item 9(g) – "I am a member of the Borough Council's Development Control Committee"

Councillor R G Norman for agenda item 6(b) – "I am a member of the Management Committee of the Pontyclun Community Centre"

Councillor M Rea for agenda item 7(g) - " I am a member of the Borough Council's Development Control Committee"

3. **Residents' concerns**

(a) **Dr. Brendan O'Reilly**

(i) **Community Council Noticeboards**

Dr O'Reilly referred to a letter which had been on display in Community Council noticeboards for a considerable length of time. He suggested that it was now time for the letter to be removed.

RESOLVED: That Dr O'Reilly's comments be noted.

(ii) **Pontyclun public conveniences**

Dr O'Reilly advised that the Pontyclun Action Group was of the view that as the council was now in the "purdah" period prior to elections in May that no decisions should be taken by the Council affecting the public conveniences.

RESOLVED: That Dr O'Reilly's comments be noted.

(b) **Mr A R Lane**

(i) **"The Diary"**

Mr Lane expressed a view that an article included in a recent edition of "The Diary" had been published within the "purdah" period.

Mr Lane was advised that the article had been written three weeks before the purdah began and had been cleared for publication.

(ii) **May meetings of the Community Council**

Mr Lane drew attention to the fact that the next scheduled meetings of the Community Council were due to take place on Tuesday 8 May, 2012, and only 5 days after the elections on 3 May, 2012. He asked the Council to consider postponing the meetings until a week later.

The Clerk advised Mr Lane that he could not foresee any difficulties in the meetings going ahead as planned provided details of any new members were given by the Borough Council in sufficient time.

RESOLVED: That the arrangements for the May meetings be left at the discretion of the Clerk.

4. **Police matters**

(a) **Reports from the police**

In the absence of a representative of the police there was no crime report for the previous month.

(b) **Reports from Members**

Councillor Norman drew attention to the problem of enforcing parking regulations in the Community. He gave examples of motorists regularly flouting parking restrictions since traffic wardens no longer patrolled the Community.

There was general agreement that parking restrictions were being infringed. The Borough Council members advised that an improvement in the position would be achieved with the appointment of Civil Parking Officers. These officers were due to take up their duties in August, 2012.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Borough Council members be urged to impress upon the Borough Council the importance of the problems in the Community as a priority.
 - (ii) That a letter be sent to the police thanking them for their services in enforcing parking regulations in the Community over the years.

5. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 13 March, 2012**

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Council owned land in Brynsadler**

The Council discussed the letter from its solicitor in which it was confirmed that there was no discrepancy in the map accompanying the draft lease from the map which had accompanied the contract when the land was purchased.

The solicitor saw no reason why a lease of the land to the Pontyclun Ward Community Trust should not go ahead as originally planned.

The Clerk advised that the Trust had always been of the view that there was little validity to the challenge and was prepared to sign the lease without the benefit of legal advice.

The Clerk further advised that the Covenant between the Trust and the Welsh Government was awaiting signature by the appropriate minister. When the Covenant had been signed an effective date for the operation of the lease would be agreed and included in the Covenant.

RESOLVED: That the letter from the Council's solicitor and the report by the Clerk be noted.

(b) **Pontyclun Community Centre Management Committee**

(Councillor Norman declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in this item of business. He elected to remaining the Council chamber but took no part in the Council's discussion)

The Council discussed the letter of 29 March, 2012, from Mrs Hybart, Chairperson of the Pontyclun Community Centre Management Committee.

Mrs Hybart stated that the Committee was exploring an alternative idea for making the premises more accessible. It was possible that this would avoid the need for the work described in the Committee's earlier letter.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Council wish the Management Committee every success in exploring their new idea for making the Centre more accessible.

(ii) That in the event of the Management Committee requiring future assistance the Community Council would be pleased to assist.

7. **Minutes of the Council's Special Meeting of 2 April, 2012**

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as an accurate record.

8. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

9. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Pontyclun public conveniences**

The Council discussed the report of the architect on tender submissions for the building work to be carried out at the conveniences.

RESOLVED: That following the recommendation of the architect the Council appoint the firm of A & N Lewis of Unit 8, Ely Bridge Industrial Estate, Wroughton Place, Ely, Cardiff, the lowest tenderer, to carry out the work.

(b) **Council's vehicle**

The Clerk reported that the Council's 17 year old van was showing signs of significant wear and tear. The van had been purchased by the Council, second hand, 10 years earlier.

Despite its age, the van had not covered major mileage and had given excellent service during its period of Council ownership regularly carrying tools, equipment and materials. During the last four years it had also carried considerable quantities of water for the Council's hanging baskets during the summer months.

Mechanical reports indicated that the van was nearing the end of its useful life. The Clerk advised that consideration should be given to replacing the current van.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council agree in principle to replacing the van with a newer vehicle.
- (ii) That the timing of the replacement van be arranged by the Clerk to take account of the existing financial commitments of the Council in the coming months.

(c) **Jubilee Beacon**

The Council discussed progress on the joint venture with the Llantrisant Community Council to erect a beacon to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June.

The Council noted that the army cadet force had encountered difficulty in collecting sufficient quantities of timber to burn. It was also noted that a proposal would be made to the Llantrisant Community Council to award a grant of £200 towards the costs incurred by the army cadets.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That an offer by Councillor Rogers for the cadets to collect felled timber on his land be passed to the cadets.
- (ii) That the Council also make a grant of £200 towards the expenses which would be incurred by the army cadets.

(d) **Environmental Matters event**

The Council discussed information received from One Voice Wales about an Environmental Event to be held in Cardiff on 14 May, 2012.

RESOLVED: That the information be placed on the Council's agenda for its May monthly meeting.

(e) **Application for financial assistance**

The Council discussed an application for financial assistance from Macmillan Cancer Support.

RESOLVED: That the application be deferred to the Council's Annual Grants Meeting.

(f) **Application for financial assistance**

The Council discussed an application for financial assistance from the Pontyclun Athletic Ladies' Bowling Club.

RESOLVED: That the application be deferred to the Council's Annual Grants Meeting and that in view of the level of financial support requested that a member of the Club be invited to talk to the Council about the request.

(g) **Planning**

(Councillors Huish and Rea declared personal but not prejudicial interests in this item of business. They elected to remain in the Council chamber but did not take part in any discussions)

The Council received and reviewed details of planning applications contained in the latest Weekly Lists from the Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That no comments be made to the Planning Authority on any of the applications for this month.

(h) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 12 to the Council's agenda.

10. **Matters reported for decision since the despatch of agendas**

None were reported.

11. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **One Voice Wales –
Welsh Government Consultation Documents**

The Council received copies of the response from One Voice Wales to the Consultation Documents from the Welsh Government on new statutory guidance intended to simplify local service planning, simplify partnership working and strengthening the strategic role and accountability of the local service board (LSB)

RESOLVED: That the responses of One Voice Wales be noted.

(b) **Summer watering**

The Council received a schedule of the proposed summer watering arrangements in the Community for its hanging baskets, planters and plants in grass verges.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the schedule be noted.
- (ii) That the Clerk be given delegated authority to deal with requests for hanging baskets and a bench in Ynysddu, and a dog fouling bin outside the Pontyclun Fire Station.

(c) **Bereavements**

The Clerk reported on the passing of two prominent and well respected residents of Pontyclun:

- (i) Mr Simon Griffith, son of Mrs Marion and the late Eric Griffith of Tegfan, Pontyclun. Mr Eric Griffith was a former Member of the Community Council.
- (ii) Mr Bill Martin of Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler, Mr Martin was a well known fisherman and had been an active member of the Llantrisant Anglers' Association for many years.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk convey the Council's condolences to Mrs Marion Griffith and Mrs Merle Martin.

12. The meeting ended at 8.20 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. J. Griffith', written in a cursive style.