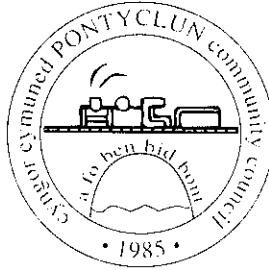


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Clerc i'r Cyngor
 J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.
 "Mandalay"
 Heol Bontfaen
 Talygarn
 Pontyclun
 CF72 9BZ



Pontyclun Community Council

Clerk to the Council
 J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.
 "Mandalay"
 Cowbridge Road
 Talygarn
 Pontyclun
 CF72 9BZ

Ffôn: 01443 227094
 Ffacs: 01443 238500

Tel: 01443 227094
 Fax: 01443 238500

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held at the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 1 December, 2004.

PRESENT: Councillors D Clayton Jones, C Davies, M P Griffiths, Ms S R Jenkins, M Rea and Mrs P Thomas.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: No members of the public were present

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs V A Cale, D G Henderson, A R Lane and R G Norman. An apology for absence was also received on behalf of P C Keddle

2. **Declarations of interest**

Declarations of interest were invited from Members.

RESOLVED: That any disclosures be included in the Register of Disclosures.

3. **Police matters**

In the absence of P C Keddle most issues affecting the police were deferred to the Council's next meeting.

(a) **Pedestrian crossing, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

Several Members expressed their concern over another accident on the pedestrian crossing in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk raise the Community Council's concerns about the latest incident with the

Ref

police and the Highway Authority asking that measures be taken to make the crossing safer for use by the public.

(b) **Experimental lane on the M4 between junctions 34 and 33**

A Member expressed concern about the experimental additional eastbound lane on the M4 between Junctions 34 and 33.

The Member acknowledged that while the eastbound flow of traffic may have improved, an increased risk of collision had arisen in that eastbound traffic in the outside lane of the M4 at Junction 34 now had reason to cross three lanes of motorway to the experimental lane, cutting across the path of vehicles not using the experimental lane. The Member stated that there had been a number of near misses.

RESOLVED: That the Member's comments be passed to the Highways Division of the Welsh Assembly Government.

4. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 November, 2004**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 November, 2004, be approved as an accurate record subject to the resolution under minute 8 (c) being amended to read "That Councillor Henderson be requested to firm up his proposals for discussion at a future meeting of the Council"

5. **Matters arising**

(a) **CCTV in Pontyclun**

The Council noted that the CCTV camera outside the Windsor Arms, Pontyclun had a fault and was awaiting repair.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk establish the expected timescale for the camera to be restored to full working order.

(b) **Clean Rivers Campaign**

The Clerk reported that the officer who had been requested to make a presentation to the Community Council that evening had reported sick. A commitment had been given by Mr Tom Richards, an officer working for the Clean Rivers Campaign, that if the officer had not returned to work by 5



January, 2005, he, Mr Tom Richards, would give the presentation personally.

The Clerk also referred to the discussions which had taken place at the Council's meeting on 3 November, 2004, about the concerns surrounding the future use of contaminated land at the former Purolite factory. The Clerk circulated a copy of the Remediation Plan for the site.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) that the report on the presentation to the Council be noted.
 - (ii) that the Clerk make enquiries of the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council to establish the policy of that authority in awarding planning consent where land is known to be contaminated.

(c) **Maesyfelin Playing fields**

The Clerk advised the Council that while no formal reply had been received from the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council about ownership of the Maesyfelin playing fields, he had received an e-mail from Steve Holdsworth the surveyor dealing with the Community Council's enquiries.

The e-mail stated that the whole of the playing fields had been donated to the former Glamorgan County Council for the purpose of constructing a school. No rights of access had been reserved for the public.

Documentary evidence existed of leases having been entered into by the Pontyclun Football Club and the Pontyclun Rugby Football Club.

Councillor Lane stated that he had carried out a survey in relation to the Environment Agency's plans to construct a bund on the Maesyfelin rugby field.

- RESOLVED:** That the Council await the formal reply of the Borough Council before deciding on a course of action.

(d) **The Aberystwyth Report – Reports from sub groups**

Communications Sub Group

The sub group had proposed the quarterly distribution of a newsletter from the Community Council. The letter would be on two sheets and would be widely distributed. It would summarise Council achievements and contain a section for readers' letters. It would contain a directory of local voluntary groups and seek to encourage participation of young people in the Community.

The newsletter would follow a format produced by Councillor Henderson and the services of a local printer would be employed for printing.

It was proposed that a first edition of the newsletter be produced early in the New Year and that a draft of the first publication be submitted to the January meeting of the Community Council. Volunteers would be sought for distributing the newsletter.

The sub group also recognised the importance of public meetings to inform the Council of opinion on local matters.

RESOLVED: That the progress made by the sub group be noted.

(e) **Funding and Managing Community Projects**

RESOLVED: That in the absence of Councillor Lane this item of business be deferred to the Council's meeting on 5 January, 2005.

(f) **Draft Licensing Policy of the Borough Council**

The Clerk referred to the Licensing Act, 2003, which transferred licensing duties for alcohol, entertainment and late night refreshment in relation to premises and persons from magistrates' courts to principal authorities.

A draft of the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's proposals for meeting its new responsibilities were contained in a new Draft Licensing Policy Statement. The Policy Statement takes effect from 7 February, 2005, and will remain in force for a period of not longer than 3 years. It will be the subject of regular review.

A copy of the Draft Policy Statement had been provided to the Pontyclun Community Council.

RESOLVED: That a copy of the Draft Policy be kept on file for reference by the Community Council.



(g) **Christmas 2004 celebrations**

The Clerk reported that arrangements for providing Christmas tree for display to commercial premises in the Community were well advanced.

He drew to the Council's attention a number of issues which required clarification, namely, the amount of prize money to be awarded to the winner of the best illuminated house competition, whether to proceed with a best illuminated street competition and whether the book tokens held be the Clerk should be used as prizes.

A Member also raised the subject of an official switch-on ceremony at The Bridge Café.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the amount of prize money be fixed at £25.00 for the best illuminated house in each ward of the Council.
 - (ii) That the Council decline to award a prize for the best illuminated street in the Community.
 - (iii) That the Council decline to use book tokens as prize money.
 - (iv) That Councillor Lane contact the proprietors of The Bridge about the possibility of an official switch-on of the Christmas lights.
 - (v) That Councillor Rea speak to the Librarian at Pontyclun Library about the possibility of devising a competition for the presentation of book tokens.
 - (vi) That Councillor Jenkins raise with the headteachers of Pontyclun Primary School and Y Pant Comprehensive School the possibility of involving pupils of the schools in a competition for the presentation of book tokens.

(h) **Former Park Hall cinema, Pontyclun**

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Borough Council about the possibility of the Borough Council making

a compulsory purchase order on the premises, on behalf of the Community Council, with the idea of selling on the premises to prospective purchasers. The Clerk had been informed that the proposal was not feasible since compulsory purchase orders were only available to secure land in the furtherance of functions of community councils.

Councillor Rea advised the Council that the Borough Council had issued the owners of the dilapidated former Park Hall cinema in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, an ultimatum to board up the premises or knock it down. A formal notice had been issued by the Borough Council and served on the solicitors acting for the owners.

Councillor D Clayton Jones suggested that a dual approach be adopted. He pointed out that if the building were to be listed by CADW there would be a possibility of attracting lottery funding to renovate the premises and bring them back into community use.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact CADW with a view to getting the premises listed.

6. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Audit of Community Council's Accounts for 2002/03**

The Clerk advised the Council that the Council's accounts for 2002/03 had been certified by the District Auditor. In the Audit Commission's opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements and no matters had come to the Commission's attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.

The Audit Commission commented that the accounts should have been approved by the Council by 30 September, 2003. In the event, they had not been presented for approval by the Council until 25 February, 2004.

The Audit Commission also drew attention to the fact that the Internal Auditor is required to complete all boxes on section 4 of the annual return. Where no risks have been identified the box should be marked "not applicable" or "none identified".

RESOLVED: (i) that the comments of the Audit Commission on the date of approval of the accounts be noted.

- (ii) that the Clerk's comments that the approval of the 2003/04 accounts would not meet the 30 September deadline.
- (iii) that the Clerk advise the Council's Internal Auditor of the requirement to complete all boxes in Section 4 of the annual return.

(b) **Possibility of the erection of a sign indicating "Surgery"**

Councillor Rea informed the Council that he had received representations from the doctors' surgery about the possibility of the erection of a sign in Llantrisant Road to direct drivers to the Old School Surgery in School Street, Pontyclun.

Councillor Rea had made preliminary enquiries with the Borough Council on the matter and had established that the Borough Council would be prepared to manufacture the sign and arrange its erection for a sum of approximately £500. The sign would be bilingual to meet the requirements of the Borough Council's Welsh Language Policy.

A discussion took place on whether the sign should say "Pontyclun Surgery" or "Old School Surgery"

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Community Council fund the manufacture and erection of the sign up to a maximum of £500.00.
- (ii) that the wording to be included on the sign be decided by the doctors' surgery.

(c) **Access road to Ty Draw, Brynsadler**

The Clerk advised that this item had been included on the agenda at the request of Councillor Henderson who had received complaints about the regular parking of a JCB at the A4222 end of the access road to Ty Draw, Brynsadler.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk establish whether the land in question had been adopted by the Highway Authority and report back to the next Council meeting.

(d) **Aluminium fence and mesh gabions on the former Crown brewery development, Brynsadler**

The Clerk advised that this item had been included on the agenda at the request of Councillor Henderson who had received complaints from residents about the unsightliness of the mesh gabions and the use of three different types of boundary fence on the development.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk seek advice from the Borough Council on whether the developer of the site is required to erect an uniform boundary fence and whether there is any way of overcoming the unsightliness of the mesh gabions.

(e) **Councillor/Clerk training days**

The Chairperson, Councillor Jenkins, was enthusiastic about the content of the training day organised for councillors and clerks by the newly formed One Voice Wales. Councillor Jenkins stated that she found the day helpful and that her views were shared by Councillor Henderson who also attended a training day.

Councillor Jenkins and Councillor Henderson intended to write a report on the training day for presentation to the Council.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Jenkins' comments be noted.

(f) **Vacancy on the Council's Finance Committee**

RESOLVED: That Councillor D Clayton Jones be appointed to the vacancy on the Finance Committee.

(g) **Members' Code of Conduct**

The Council received details of a presentation by Paul Lucas, Monitoring Officer for the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council on the current Members' Code of Conduct and likely changes to the Code.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson, Councillor Jenkins, and the Clerk be nominated to attend the presentation.

(h) **Application for financial assistance**

The Council discussed an application for financial assistance towards staging the 2005 National Eisteddfod of Wales at the Faenol estate on the outskirts of Bangor.

RESOLVED: That the Council make a grant of £150.00

(i) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be made to the creditors listed in Appendix 5 to the Council's agenda.

(j) **Planning applications**

RESOLVED: That no comment be offered to the Planning Authority on the planning applications contained in the latest weekly notifications.

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

No items were reported for decision under this agenda item.

8. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Provision of alternative bus shelter**

The Council received the latest letter written by the Borough Council to Redrow Homes requesting a replacement bus shelter for the Community Council owned bus shelter which was located outside the former brewery in Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the letter be noted.

(b) **Application for an Occasional Public Entertainment Licence at The Barn, Mwyndy.**

RESOLVED: That no comment be offered on the application.

(c) **Application for the renewal of a Public Entertainment Licence at the Windsor Hotel, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun**

RESOLVED: That no comment be offered on the application.

(d) **Application for the Transfer of a Justices' Licence at The Bute Arms, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun**

RESOLVED: That no comment be offered on the application.

9. The meeting ended at 9.50 p.m.

