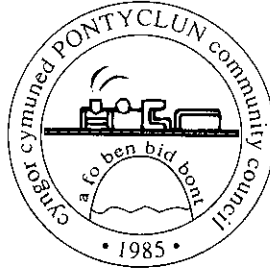


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

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Pontyclun Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held at the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 1 November, 2000

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mrs V A Cale, C Davies, J G Davies, J R Dilworth, J V Huish, Mrs P Thomas and M Rea

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Derek Peplow, Keith Lewis and Mark Roberts of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council for a presentation on recycling initiative, and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors C G Bendle, V A Cale, and ~~P Thomas~~. An apology for absence was also received from P C Steve Keddle.

R.G. NORMAN

2. **Presentation on recycling initiative**

Mr Derek Peplow and Keith Lewis of the Environmental Services Group and Mr Mark Roberts of the Education and Lifelong Learning Department of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council gave a presentation to the Council on a new recycling initiative.

The proposals involved residents being provided with special collection bags to facilitate the separation and collection of items for recycling. After collection, the recyclable items would be taken to a dedicated facility at Coed Cae Lane where separation, composting, and bulk sales to insulation manufacturers would take place.

The Borough Council sought to pilot a scheme in close proximity to the Coed Cae Lane facility and, if successful, to introduce similar schemes throughout the Borough. In this way, the Council would prepare the way for the significant reductions in landfill which had been projected by the government for coming years to meet its international obligations.

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 J. R. Dilworth

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council agree in principle to take part in the pilot scheme outlined by the Borough Council officers.
- (ii) That the Clerk confirm the Council's willingness to participate in the pilot scheme in writing and seek further details on the proposals from the Borough Council.
- (iii) That the Clerk arrange a visit to the Coed Cae Lane facility for members of the Community Council.
- (iv) That the Borough Council's officers be thanked for their interesting and informative presentation.

3. **Chairperson's business**

(a) **Llantrisant Community Council Civic Service**

The Chairperson reported that since the last meeting of the Community Council he had attended the Civic Service of the Llantrisant Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(b) **Youth Offenders**

The Chairperson reported on a presentation he had attended since the last meeting on dealing with youth offenders in communities. The presentation had been professional and its contents were thought provoking.

RESOLVED:(i) That the Chairperson make enquiries about the possibility of a similar presentation being provided to the Pontyclun Community Council.

- (ii) That the report be noted.

4. **Police matters**

RESOLVED: That in the absence of the Community policeman, P C Keddle, discussion on this item of business be deferred to the Council's next monthly meeting.

5. **Minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 4 October, 2000**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 4 October, 2000, be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **CCTV in Pontyclun**

Councillor Huish reported that plans for the submission of a CCTV bid on behalf of the Community Council by the Borough Council were well advanced. A draft of the Borough Council's submission to the government for funding under the Crime and Disorder Act would be produced shortly.

RESOLVED: That in the event of forms in connection with the application for funding needing to be filled in at short notice, the Clerk be given authority to act on the Council's behalf.

(b) **"Industrial Estates" sign**

Councillor Huish was pleased to be able to inform the Council that work on the erection of the "Industrial Estates" sign on the Talbot Green By Pass would commence on the following Monday, that is 6 November, 2000.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(c) **Reports by the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council**

Councillor Huish advised the Council of the publication of reports by the Borough Council on the following matters:

- (i) Community Safety Audit
- (ii) Community Safety Strategy 1999/2002
- (iii) Community Safety Action Plans
- (iv) Community Youth Justice Plan 2000/2001

RESOLVED: That copies of the reports tabled by Councillor Huish be kept on the Community Council files.

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **"Simplifying the System: Local Government Finance in Wales"**

Members received the consultation paper from the Cabinet of the National Assembly "Simplifying the System: Local Government Finance in Wales".

The consultation paper stated the existing system of for funding local government in Wales and suggested possible alternatives for the future taking account of the recent changes in local government. Comments on the proposals were welcome from all local authorities in Wales.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be given authority to offer comments to the National Assembly on behalf of the Community Council.

(b) **Taff Ely Drug Support**

The Council received an invitation to attend the 15th Annual Meeting of the Taff Ely Drug Support due to be held in the Rhondda Heritage Park on the evening of 13 November, 2000.

RESOLVED: That the Council be represented at the meeting by Councillor Chris Davies and the Clerk.

(c) **Llanharan and District Credit Union**

The Council received an invitation to attend the opening of the Llanharan and District Credit Union Office in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, on the afternoon of 13 November, 2000.

RESOLVED: That the invitation be made available to all members of the Community Council.

(d) **Application for Renewal & Variation Of a Public Entertainment Licence – Bute Arms, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun**

The Council discussed the application for the Renewal & Variation of the Public Entertainment Licence at the Bute Arms, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That in view of the long history of late night trouble, and anti social behaviour caused by patrons of the premises the Council oppose the application for the variation and renewal of the public entertainment licence.

(e) **Application for Renewal Of A Community Premises Entertainment Licence – All Hallows Church Hall, School Road, Miskin**

The Council discussed the application for the Renewal Of A Community Premises Entertainment Licence at the All Hallows Church Hall, Miskin.

RESOLVED: That the Council offer no objection to the application.

(f) **Planning applications contained in Weekly Notices for Weeks Ending 29 September, 6 and 13 October, 2000**

(Councillor Huish declared an interest in this item of business and took no part in the Council's deliberations. Councillor Huish reminded Councillor Norman of the advice given by the Borough Council's Legal Officer that all Borough Council members who were members of community councils should declare an interest in planning matters either at community council meetings or Borough Council planning meetings)

The Council discussed planning applications contained in the Weekly Notices for Weeks Ending 29 September, 6 and 13 and October, 2000.

RESOLVED: That, with the exception of application No. T/00/2806/12, where details of the application were awaited from the planning authority, no comments be offered on the applications

In the case of application T/00/2806/12, details be forwarded to Councillor Rea, when available, in order that comments on the application could be formulated.

(g) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 8 to the Council's agenda.

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

(a) **Owl Security Services**


The Clerk reported receipt of an invitation from Owl Security Services for members of the Community Council to attend a demonstration of digital recording and remote monitoring systems.

RESOLVED: That approval be given for any member to attend the demonstration due to take place at Owl Security Services on Thursday, 2 November, 2000.

(b) **Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru, 2001**

The Council discussed an application for financial assistance from Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru.

RESOLVED: That the Council make an award of £150.00

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9. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Dumping of builder's rubble**

The Council noted correspondence to the Borough Council about the dumping of builder's rubble off Maelog Close, Pontyclun.

(b) **Chairman's Civic Service**

The Council received a copy of a letter from the Chairman, Councillor Dilworth, to Mr Dominic Jenkins, Chief Executive of Ty Hafan, The Children's Hospice in Wales, in which Councillor Dilworth had enclosed a cheque for £110.00 being the collection raised at Councillor Dilworth's Civic Service.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Dilworth be thanked for his hard work in organising the Civic Service and thereby raising a significant contribution for the funds of the local children's charity.

10. The meeting ended at 9.05 p.m.

John Dilworth
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County Borough Council that it would be of assistance in the bidding process if the Community Council's capital contribution of £20,000 could be regarded as a revenue contribution of £5,000 per year for 4 years.

RESOLVED: That the £20,000 allocated by the Community Council as a contribution towards CCTV for Pontyclun be regarded as a revenue contribution of £5,000 per annum over 4 years.

(c) **"Industrial Estates" sign**

The Clerk reported that he was disappointed that the "Industrial Estates" sign, agreed for erection with the Highway Authority on the Talbot Green By Pass, had not yet been erected. The Clerk had pursued the matter with the Highway Authority and been told that the sign erection was imminent.

The matter was noted.

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Minutes of the Investigation Panel into the disposal of land in the vicinity of Talygarn Rehabilitation Centre**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Investigation Panel held on 27 November, 2000, were approved as an accurate record. There were no objections to the approval of the minutes.

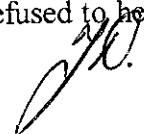
(b) **Adoption of the Investigation Panel's findings**

RESOLVED: That the Community Council adopt the Investigation Panel's findings. There were no objections to the adoption of the Panel's findings.

(c) **Motions of no confidence in the Chair and Vice Chair**

The Council debated motions of no confidence in the Chair, Councillor John Dilworth, and the Vice Chair, Councillor Gordon Norman, following acceptance by the Council of the Investigation Panel's findings.

The Council expressed its sadness that despite opportunities being afforded to Councillors Dilworth and Norman to apologise for their misguided actions in connection with the disposal of land in the vicinity of Talygarn Rehabilitation Centre, both had refused to do so. The Council was also disappointed that both Members had refused to heed the


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informal views of the District Auditor. The Council believed that instead of accepting responsibility for their actions both Members had attempted to spread blame by involving parties whose actions were innocent.

Motions of no confidence in the Chairperson, Councillor Dilworth, and the Vice Chairperson, Councillor Norman, were proposed, seconded and passed by the Community Council. (Councillor Dilworth voted against the motions)

(d) **Election of new Chairperson**

In view of the loss of confidence expressed by the Council in the Chair, Councillor Dilworth was invited to resign his office in order to restore the good name of the Pontyclun Community Council.

Councillor Dilworth refused to resign. He stated that that as he had not been disqualified from office he would continue as Chairperson for the remainder of his term. Councillor Huish pointed out to the Chairperson that had it not been for the prompt action of the Clerk in withdrawing Councillor Dilworth's letter of 24 July, 2000, Councillor Dilworth would have been disqualified from office.

RESOLVED: That in the face of the refusal by Councillor Dilworth to resign his office the Clerk be requested to:

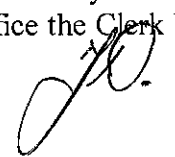
- (i) send a letter to each household in the Community outlining the facts which had led to the Council asking the Chairperson to resign his office
- (ii) make a press release outlining the facts which had led to the Council asking the Chairperson to resign his office.

(e) **Election of new Vice Chairperson**

In view of the loss of confidence expressed by the Council in the Vice Chair, Councillor Norman was invited to resign his office in order to restore the good name of the Pontyclun Community Council.

Councillor Norman refused to resign.

RESOLVED: That in the face of the refusal by Councillor Norman to resign his office the Clerk be requested to:



- (iii) send a letter to each household in the Community outlining the facts which had led to the Council asking the Vice Chairperson to resign his office
- (iv) make a press release outlining the facts which had led to the Council asking the Vice Chairperson to resign his office.

(f) **Minutes of the Finance Committee's meeting of 27 November, 2000**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance Committee's meeting of 27 July, 2000, be approved as an accurate record subject to the inclusion of a sub paragraph 4 (iii) "That any contribution to the Partnership be subject to the approval of the District Auditor"

(g) **Adoption of Finance Committee's recommendations**

(Councillor Huish declared an interest in this item of business and took no part in the Council's proceedings)

RESOLVED: That the recommendations of the Finance Committee be adopted.

(h) **Matters arising**

Pontyclun Youth Partnership

(Councillors Dilworth and Norman declared an interest in this item of business and took no part in the Council's deliberations.)

Councillor Huish advised the Council that the application for financial assistance by the Pontyclun Youth Partnership had been discussed by the Clerk and himself with the District Auditor earlier that day. The Auditor had been told that the Community Council was highly supportive of the initiative taken to form a youth club and wished the Partnership every success.

However, as custodians of public money, the Community Council believed that it had a responsibility to award any grant taking account of all factors.

In the case of the application by the Pontyclun Youth Partnership, the Council had reservations about the robustness

of the business plan. While the efforts of all those involved in the Partnership was to be commended, the Community Council remained to be convinced that the Partnership would be able to maintain its fund raising activities in the long term. The District Auditor shared the Community Council's views and suggested that the Council consider awarding a sum of money to the Partnership after premises had been secured and a youth club is established from those premises.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That with reluctance, the Community Council decline making a grant to the Pontyclun Youth Partnership until such time that the Partnership has secured premises and a youth club is established from those premises.
- (ii) That the Clerk write a letter to the Vicar of Pontyclun and the Secretary to the Partnership to explain the Council's position.

(i) **Groundwork Merthyr & Rhondda Cynon Taff**

The Council was very pleased to receive the Rights of Way Survey undertaken by Groundwork Merthyr & Rhondda Cynon Taff. The Council was appreciative of the considerable research undertaken by Groundwork in compiling a schedule of footpaths in the Community which could be restored to the benefit of landowners and walkers alike.

- RESOLVED:**(i) That the Community Council's congratulations be extended to Groundwork Merthyr & Rhondda Cynon Taff, and the Greening of Pontyclun Group for the production of a first class definitive document.
- (ii) That the Community Council's support be given for the restoration of footpaths in the Community within the budget approved by the Council.

(i) **The General Principles of Conduct in Local Government**

(Councillors Huish and Norman declared an interest in this item of business and took no part in the Council's deliberations)

The Council discussed the consultation paper from the National Assembly entitled "The General Principles of Conduct in Local

Government". The Council was invited to make comments on the document direct to the Assembly.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to formulate comments on behalf of the Community Council.

(k) **Draft Local Agenda 21 Strategy for Rhondda Cynon Taff**

(Councillor Huish declared an interest in this item of business and took no part in the Council's deliberations)

The Council discussed the Draft Local Agenda Strategy for Rhondda Cynon Taff. It was explained that the Borough Council had a duty to produce a strategy covering the whole spectrum of sustainability and the Draft Strategy was the Borough Council's first step towards meeting its obligations. The document had been produced following widespread consultation within the Borough Council under the auspices of Councillor Adrian Hobson. The Borough Council's proposals were likely to form part of the Authority's bid for Objective 1 funds.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the draft document be noted.

(l) **Application for the Renewal & Variation of a Public Entertainment Licence at the Brunel Arms, Pontyclun**

(Councillor Dilworth declared an interest in this item and took no part in the Council's deliberations.) Councillor Huish reminded Councillor Norman of the need for Councillor Norman to declare an interest in this item since he would be involved in deciding the application at a later stage.

The Council discussed the application. There was agreement that the Brunel Arms made a contribution towards drunken behaviour in Pontyclun especially at weekends. There appeared to be little responsibility exercised by the management of the premises in attempting to control the behaviour of some of its clientele.

RESOLVED:(i) That the Council urge the Borough Council to oppose the application in the light of the regular unruly behaviour of youths in the vicinity of the Brunel Arms.

(ii) That a letter similar to the one opposing a similar application for the variation and renewal of the entertainment licence of

The Bute be sent to the Borough Council.

- (iii) That copies of the letter be sent to the police and to the local magistrates' court.

(m) **Planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ended 20 an 27 October and 3, 10, 17 November, 2000**

Councillor Huish referred to the advice given to members of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council who were also members of community councils. Councillor Huish read out the advice which clearly indicated that members should not participate twice in a discussion on the same application. Councillor Huish advised that the advice of the legal officer should be heeded since it avoided placing members in a situation where they could be accused of prejudging an application. Councillor Huish indicated that under the Local Government Act, 2000, it would be the responsibility of the Monitoring Officer of the Borough Council to highlight potential cases of conflict of interest.

Councillor Huish declared an interest in this item of business and took no part in the Council's deliberations.

Councillor Huish advised Councillor Norman of his duty to declare an interest in the planning applications before the Community Council.

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

Application No. T/00/2888/10

That the Council oppose the application on the grounds that:

Both proposed extensions are too large, overbearing and out of proportion with the surrounding properties.

The visual aspect of the application, having four different roof levels in the front elevation, is unacceptable.

No attempt has been made to minimise the adverse visual impact of the proposed development on neighbours in the vicinity.



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No information has been provided regarding fencing or landscaping.

The proposal will have a negative impact on road safety in the immediate area.

The proposal makes no attempt to reconcile the design with the fact that Miskin is a Conservation Area.

(n) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 9 to the Council's agenda.

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

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by a resident of Talbot Green who was concerned about plans to erect a radio antennae at the telephone exchange in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. The caller had sought the support of the Pontyclun Community Council in opposing technology which he believed was largely untested.

The Clerk had explained to the caller that the November monthly meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council had been held on 1 November and that the next monthly meeting of the Council would not be held until 6 December, 2000. In spite of this the caller asked that the matter be raised at the Council's next meeting.

The Clerk was advised that the application had already been granted by the Planning Authority.

RESOLVED: That no further action be taken.

9. **Matters reported for information**

No matters were reported for information.

10. The meeting ended at 8.45 p.m.

