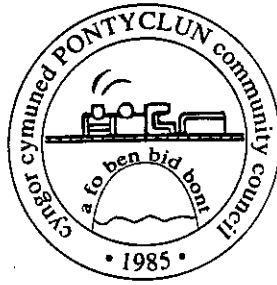


**Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun**

Clerc I'r Cyngor  
J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.  
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**APPENDIX No. 1**  
**Pontyclun Community Council**

Clerk to the Council  
J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.  
"Mandalay"  
Cowbridge Road  
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Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 1 October, 1997

**PRESENT:** Community Councillors C G Bendle, T J Burton, V A Cale,  
J G Davies, T Flood, J V Huish, R G Norman and M Rea Chairperson)

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Inspector E Evans and P C Steve Keddle (for part of meeting) and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors R O Edwards and M M Griffiths

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk arrange for a get well card to be sent to Councillor R O Edwards.

2. **Chairperson's business**

There were no items of Chairperson's business.

3. **Police matters**

(a) **Cycling on pavements**

Councillor Burton drew P C Keddle's attention to an incident a week earlier when he had almost been knocked over by a cyclist riding his bicycle on a pavement. Councillor Burton was temporarily shocked by the incident and was unable to identify the cyclist.

(b) **Congregating youths**

Councillor Norman advised P C Keddle that youths were again congregating in the school yard at Pontyclun Primary School after school hours. P C Keddle responded that he was aware of the potential problem and would monitor the matter.

(c) **Car parking in the vicinity of Pontyclun Primary School**

Councillor Cale drew P C Keddle's attention to the inconsiderate parking by the parents of some children when delivering or collecting their children from Pontyclun Primary School. Parents' cars regularly caused congestion in Palalwyf Avenue and Cerdin Avenue and some of the parents infringed parking restrictions. Members commented on the dangerous habit of some parents of driving into the approach road to the Infants' Department and reversing out into traffic in Palalwyf Avenue.

Councillor Norman, as Chairman of the Pontyclun Primary School Governing Body, informed the Council that the headteacher of the Primary School had requested parents on a number of occasions to park their cars in the unoccupied parking spaces at the Pontyclun Athletic Club. Despite the headteacher's requests parents continued to park as closely to the school as possible. Parking restrictions in surrounding streets were regularly infringed.

Councillor Flood asked the Council to bear in mind that it was the irresponsible minority of parents who parked thoughtlessly in the streets around the school. It was important to target the regular, twice a day offenders, rather than the occasional delivery vehicle which made deliveries to local businesses.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the Clerk be requested to write to the Secretary to the Pontyclun Primary School Governing Body asking that the matter of dangerous and inconsiderate parking by parents of schoolchildren be placed on the agenda for Governing Body meetings at least once every year.



- (ii) That the local traffic warden be requested to visit the area, periodically, and report motorists for infringement of parking restrictions.

(d) **Parking on bridge**

Councillor Burton drew attention to the practice of some coach drivers of parking on the pavement of the railway bridge in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. The problem was particularly acute when they were visiting teams to the Pontyclun Sports and Rugby Football Club. The Council felt that the direction sign indicating the public car park adjacent to the Sports and Rugby Football Club was not sufficiently prominent.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the Clerk write to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council requesting a more prominent directional sign to the car park.
- (ii) That, in designing the new sign, the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council be requested to avoid giving the impression that the car park was solely for the use of patrons of the Sports and Rugby Football Club.

(e) **Licensing**

Inspector Evans informed the Council that he was aware of the strong local feelings over the anti social behaviour of some of the patrons of licensed premises in Pontyclun. Inspector Evans had a meeting planned for the following day with the new Chief Inspector with a view to introducing "hit squads" to target licensed premises in the area where there was a history of problems. The "hit squads" would operate on a rotating basis.

In response to a question about the possibility of introducing video cameras to record instances of anti social behaviour, Inspector Evans responded that there were implications over the possible infringement of civil rights and although pilot schemes were operating in some parts of the country it was unlikely that



clearance for video taping would be given in the South Wales Constabulary for the time being.

Councillor Flood advised that in his experience of youth work he was quite certain that the problem of anti social behaviour lay with the drunken patrons of licensed premises and not with the youth of the Community.

(f) **Police Office, Pontyclun Community Centre**

Inspector Evans informed the Council that he was regularly updated by P C Steve Kettle on matters affecting the police which had been discussed at Community Council meetings. In particular he knew of the Council's concern over the non use of the office at the Pontyclun Community Centre which had been specifically provided for police use.

As a result, Inspector Evans was pleased to be able to let the Council know that from the following month the police office at the Community Centre would be regularly used by the police. Only in times of urgency would the officer in Pontyclun be called to the Talbot Green Police Station.

(g) **Car break-ins**

Councillor Cale drew the attention of the police officers to two recent incidents near her home when both her daughters' cars were broken into on the same evening. There was a very strong suspicion that both break-ins were carried out by a well known criminal who was in the vicinity of the cars on the evening in question but despite bringing this information to the attention of the police it appeared that no approach had been made to question the suspect about the incidents.

(h) **Attendance at future meetings of the Council**

Inspector Evans thanked the Council for allowing him to attend the Council's October meeting and expressed a wish to attend future meetings. The Chairman requested that Inspector Evans notify the Clerk of his intention to attend a future meeting in order that Members could be advised in advance.

4. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 September, 1997**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 3 September, 1997 be approved as an accurate record.



5. **Matters arising**

(a) **The Princess of Wales**

- (i) The Clerk advised the Council that a copies of the letter of condolences which had been sent to the Spencer family had also been placed in the Council's noticeboards.

The matter was noted.

- (ii) The Clerk informed the Council that, after consultation with the Chairperson, a bouquet of flowers in memory of the Princess had been placed on the war memorials in Miskin and Pontyclun.

The matter was noted.

(b) **Trimming of hedge along the A4119 in Groesfaen**

The Clerk reported that he had recently received a telephone call from a member of staff of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to say that the Council's Handyman had been working in breach of safety regulations when trimming a hedge along the A4119 in Groesfaen.

Specifically, the Handyman was not wearing a reflective jacket, had not erected warning signs on the pavement, and had not coned-off his working area to allow a 1.4 metre working space. While the first and second requirements could be met, the need to allow a 1.4 metre working space effectively necessitated cones being erected partly on the A4119. The Highway Authority was not prepared to close one lane of the A4119 to allow hedge trimming to take place. The Handyman had been instructed to stop work.

The Clerk had pointed out to the officer of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council that if that authority had fulfilled its legal responsibility to keep the pavement free of undergrowth it would not have been necessary for the Community Council's Handyman to carry out the work. The point was conceded by the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council officer who stated that he would arrange for the hedge trimming to receive a higher priority on his schedule of work.

The report was noted.



(c) **Community Questionnaires**

The Clerk advised that since the last meeting of the Council a further meeting of the working group had taken place to analyse completed Community Questionnaires. Analysis was now complete on the general Questionnaires, the Questionnaires completed by pupils of Pontyclun Primary School and pupils of Y Pant Comprehensive School. A summary of the Questionnaires would be submitted to a future meeting of the Council.

The report was noted.

(d) **Proposed Community Footpaths leaflet**

The Clerk reported that he had been unable to make arrangements to hold a meeting with representatives of the Ramblers Association to discuss the proposed Community Footpaths leaflet. He would make arrangements to hold the meeting during October.

The matter was noted.

(e) **Bute Lane, Pontyclun**

Members noted the comments of the Director of Environmental Services of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in which he stated that during a visit to the Lane "there was no evidence of trade litter or bottle storage in the lane". It was also stated that "both the Bute and Brunel Arms were visited and their arrangements regarding bottle (and refuse) storage and collection were investigated fully". The Director was satisfied that collections arrangements at both premises were "satisfactory".

The Council was extremely surprised at the claim that there were no litter problems in the Lane. Members regularly saw accumulations of litter, received complaints from the public and was aware of a case where legal proceedings were being taken against the Highway Authority. Furthermore, in a letter from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council's Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering which had been received too late for inclusion with Members' agendas, it was stated that that department was "aware of the problem in the area and is currently monitoring the situation in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, 1990". Additionally,



the Director stated that "the proprietor of the Bute public house has also been contacted pointing out his responsibilities and requesting his help in alleviating the matter.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council await the outcome of the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering's monitoring and that if Members became aware of further instances of litter accumulation in the Lane, that information be given to the Clerk for notification to the Director.

(f) **Police resources**

The Council discussed the response from the Assistant Chief Constable of the South Wales Police to the Community Council's request for additional police resources. It was pointed out that while it was true to say that demands upon the police had increased out of all proportion to increases in resources, there had, nonetheless, been a significant improvement in the police's position in South Wales over the previous two years and the improvement had been directed to front line services.

**RESOLVED:** That the reply be noted.

6. **Proposed erection of a bus shelter in Groesfaen**

The Council was disappointed to learn from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council that its joint proposals with a prominent, national company specialising in the erection of bus shelters, for the erection of a bus shelter in Groesfaen were unacceptable.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Chairperson, Councillor Rea, take the matter up with the consultants currently preparing a report on traffic safety measures in Groesfaen.
  - (ii) That the Clerk raise the matter with the Trustees of the Babel Presbyterian Church to ascertain whether any of the Church's land fronting Llantrisant Road could be made available to accommodate the proposed bus shelter.

7. **Missing item of machinery**

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by the Council's Handyman on the morning of Friday, 19 September, 1997, who informed him that a hedge

trimmer, the property of the Community Council, had been mislaid on the previous day. Despite exhaustive searches the hedge trimmer had not been found. The loss had been reported to the police and the Council's insurers.

**RESOLVED:** That the Chairperson together with Councillors Norman, Davies and the Clerk meet with the Council's Handyman to establish precisely the circumstances surrounding the loss of the hedge trimmer.

8. **Bus shelter, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun**

The Council discussed a letter from Mrs Giles of 20 Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, which drew attention to the need for repairs to be carried out to the bus shelter immediately outside her home. The Council also discussed the Clerk's reply to Mrs Giles and the prompt action taken to carry out repairs to the bus shelter.

**RESOLVED:** That the correspondence be noted.

9. **Placement of skips in the Community**

The Council received information from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council for the placement of skips in the Community during October. The Borough Council had specifically requested that the placement schedule not be displayed in public noticeboards since experience had shown that builders and shopkeepers had taken advantage of skips for the disposal of trade refuse thereby depriving the private citizens the opportunity to dispose of refuse.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk arrange for each Member of the Community Council to be provided with a copy of the placement schedule.

10. **Policy on the installation of dropped kerbs**

The Council received a letter from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in which he stated that his Council's policy is to incorporate footway crossing construction only in areas where planned footway improvements are carried out.

**RESOLVED:** That the information be noted.

11. **Proposed Forest Wood Liaison Committee**

The Council discussed a letter from the Director of Planning of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in which he stated that he had written to





the Director of Legal and Administrative Services asking him to prepare a constitution for each of the mineral liaison committees within the Rhondda Cynon Taff. A response to the request was awaited.

The Planning Committee had resolved to have representation on the liaison committee and it had been suggested that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Planning Committee, together with the two local Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, be invited to attend. The suggestions had not, at the date of writing, been approved.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk write to the Director of Planning asking that the Community Council be offered representation on the committee.

12. **Information on Twinning**

The Clerk reported that he had received an information pack from the Local Government International Bureau which explained the procedures needed to be followed for a twinning arrangement. The Bureau also enclosed a copy of Linking News and a copy of the Twinning Handbook.

**RESOLVED:** That all the information be passed to Councillor Griffiths.

13. **Planning applications contained in the Weekly Notification covering the period 25 August, 1997, to 19 September, 1997, and the Notification for Week Ended 26 September, 1997**

**Application No. 97/2724/23**

The Council was unclear whether the application related to the farmer's plans to erect a steel framed building to store his own agricultural implements or whether the application related to a proposal by a company specialising in the sale of agricultural implements which wished to store agricultural equipment on a large scale.

**RESOLVED:** That the in the event that the former scenario was applicable, the Council would have no objection to the proposal. In the event that the latter scenario was applicable, the Council had serious concerns about the increase in traffic which would be generated in the surrounding lanes.

14. **Licensing**

(a) **The Bute Hotel, Pontyclun**

The Council discussed the letter from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County



Borough Council advising of the application for a Public Entertainment Licence at the Bute Hotel, Pontyclun. The Council also considered the very strong local feeling against the application which had been generated by the anti social behaviour of patrons of the premises over a number of years. Residents had urged the Community Council to take heed of their opposition to the application and oppose the application.

As the closing date for the receipt of comments on the application needed to be lodged with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council 23 September, the Clerk after consultation with the Chairperson, had sent a letter to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council opposing the application. A copy of the Clerk's letter was included at Appendix 10 (a) to the Council's Agenda.

**RESOLVED:** That the action taken by the Chairperson and Clerk be endorsed.

(b) **The Brunel Arms, Pontyclun**

The Clerk advised the Council that in early September he was informed, verbally, of an application by the Brunel Arms, Pontyclun, for a renewal of its Public Entertainment Licence. The Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council claimed that formal notification of the application had been sent to the Community Council some weeks earlier although no notification had been received by the Community Council.

In view of the long history of complaints of anti social behaviour and late night rowdiness emanating from the patrons of licensed premises in Pontyclun the Clerk had written to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council opposing the application. A copy of the letter opposing the application was included at Appendix 16 to the Council's Agenda.

**RESOLVED:** That the action of the Clerk be approved.

15. **Payment of creditors**

**RESOLVED:** That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 17 to the Agenda.

16. **Reports from Members**

(a) **Railway embankment, Pontyclun**

Councillor Burton reminded the Council that there was a considerable

amount of undergrowth between the railway line and the approach road to the public car park to the rear of the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. A significant improvement in security for users of the car park would be achieved by the removal of the undergrowth on the railway embankment. It was also very likely that increased use of the car park would be made by members of the public. The removal of the undergrowth had been suggested to Railtrack some time earlier but it remained unclear whether the work would be carried out.

**RESOLVED:** (i) That the Clerk take the matter up with Railtrack again

(ii) That the Clerk ask the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council whether it would be possible for that authority to erect a more prominent sign to the car park and avoid giving the impression that the car park was for the use of patrons of the Pontyclun Rugby Football and Sports Club.

(b) **Reverend Glyn Austin**

Councillor Burton drew the attention of the Council to the recent appointment of the Reverend Glyn Austin as vicar to the Parish of Pontyclun with Talygarn. Councillor Burton suggested that a letter be sent to Reverend Austin and his wife welcoming them to Pontyclun and wishing both a long and happy association with the Parish.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk take the necessary action.

(c) **Pontyclun Railway Station**

Councillor Flood reminded the Council that representations had been made in the past to Railtrack past about a serious risk to young children who were able to wander on to the platforms at Pontyclun Station. No action had been taken by Railtrack and the potential for a very serious accident was still present when express trains sped through the Station often feet way from playing children.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk again raise the matter with Railtrack and that a letter be also sent to the British Transport Police.

(d) **Proposal to construct a road between Pontyclun and Tylagarw**

Councillor Flood expressed his disappointment that the proposal to construct a road between Pontyclun and Tylagarw had not been able to



attract funding for work to commence. He was aware that Councillor Huish had entered into a considerable amount of discussion over the proposal and that locally there was a great need for a road. Despite funding for the proposal not being available at present discussions were still taking place and it was hoped that funding would be available at a later date.

The report was noted.

(e) **Proposed new school, Cefn yr Hendy**

Councillor Davies drew attention to the planning brief for the new Cefn yr Hendy residential development and pointed out that there was provision for a new school to be constructed on the Estate. Councillor Davies pointed out that there was a considerable amount of residential development taking place but there appeared to be no sign of the planned school being constructed.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk contact the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to establish when the proposed school for the new residential development on the Cefn yr Hendy Estate was likely to be built.

(f) **Proposal to provide a concrete access path to the Ivor Woods**

Councillor Davies stated that he knew that the Council had earlier discussed a proposal to provide a concrete access path for pedestrians from Cowbridge Road to the Ivor Woods. Councillor Davies asked that the matter be raised again and that a definite commitment to construct the path be given by the Council.

**RESOLVED:** That the item be placed on the Community Council's agenda for its November meeting.

(g) **Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy**

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, spoke of his concern about a very large advertising hoarding which had recently been erected at the northerly end of the Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy. To the best of his knowledge the erection of the hoarding had not been the subject of a planning application. Councillor Rea had passed on his concerns to the Clerk who had reported the matter to the Planning Department of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

**RESOLVED** (i) That the action of the Chairperson and the Clerk be approved.



- (ii) That the Clerk also contact the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council about the practice of the management of the Corner Park Garage of parking vehicles on the adjacent pavement and the way in which the excessive storage of vehicles at the premises had resulted in the considerable encroachment on to the grass verge parallel with the A4119.

17. **Any other business of an urgent nature**

(a) **Grass verge outside No.79 Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

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

The Clerk referred to the Community Council's earlier correspondence with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council about the possibility of taking away the grass verge between the pavement and the A4222 in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, and paving or laying tarmac on the area. The Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council had declined to remove the grass verge.

In the light of a recent accident to Mrs Pranker of 79 Cowbridge Road, and correspondence from Mrs Pranker asking for the verge to be removed the Clerk, at the request of the Community Council had asked the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to reconsider its earlier decision.

The Clerk read out the reply which had been received from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and which had been received too late for inclusion with the Council's agenda.

**RESOLVED:** That a copy of the letter be forwarded to Mrs Pranker.

(b) **Litter on highway in Pontyclun**

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in reply to the Community Council's earlier concerns about the large amount of litter in Pontyclun which appeared to have originated from the McDonald's restaurant in Talbot Green.

The Community Council was pleased to hear that the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council had brought the Community Council's concern to the attention of the manager of McDonald's and had asked for his cooperation in ensuring that litter generated from his premises



was contained on site.

The matter was noted.

(c) **Merthyr and Rhondda Cynon Taff Groundwork Trust**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had received an approach from the Merthyr and Rhondda Cynon Taff Groundwork Trust who wished to make a presentation to the Community Council on the type of environmental work they had undertaken for similar bodies in the area.


The Clerk had thanked the Trust for its interest and, subject to the Community Council's approval, had provisionally arranged for a half hour "slot" at the beginning of the Community Council's November meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk make firm arrangements for the presentation to be given at the next Community Council meeting.

18. The meeting ended at 8.37 p.m.

Schedule of creditors for payment to be presented  
to the Council at its meeting on 5 November, 1997

	£	p	£	p
J H G Lewis (October salary)	482	97		
J H G Lewis (October mileage)	152	25		
J H G Lewis (October postage)	15	00		
J H G Lewis (Stationery)	1	69		
			651	91
D Tookey			36	22
Inland Revenue			141	00
Impressions			182	83
D Tookey			22	75
Anrod Industrial Supplies			66	51
Taff Ely F.U.N.			50	00
Dial Llantrisant			150	00
Llantrisant Folk Club			50	00
Pontyclun Football Club			50	00
D Tookey			26	40
D Tookey			55	39
Audit Commission			538	15
Inland Revenue			396	76
Equitable Life Assurance			85	28
D Tookey			10	00
J H G Lewis (Poppy wreath reimbursement)			22	50
R S Bird Ltd			419	94

.....  
 (Chairperson)  
 (Date).....  
