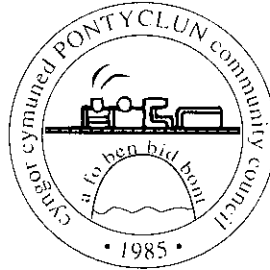


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

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Pontyclun Community Council

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

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs V A Cale, C Davies, M P Griffiths, D G Henderson, Ms S R Jenkins, A R Lane, R G Norman, M Rea and Mrs P Thomas

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: There were no members of the public in attendance

1. Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received on behalf of P C Steve 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

RESOLVED: That in the absence of P C Keddle this item of business be deferred to the next monthly meeting of the Council.

4. Minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 7 July, 2004

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 7 July, 2004, be approved as an accurate record.

5. Matters arising

Keep Wales Tidy Campaign

In response to a question from a Member, the Clerk informed the Council that he had contacted the Keep Wales Tidy Campaign with a view to arranging a presentation to the Council on the Clean Rivers Campaign.

The Clerk had been informed that the member of staff who made presentations under the Clean Rivers Campaign had passed away and that a successor had not yet been appointed.

The Clerk agreed that he would contact the Keep Wales Tidy Campaign again in a few weeks' time.

6. Minutes of the Community Council's grants meeting of 21 July, 2004

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's grants meeting of 21 July, 2004, be approved as an accurate record.

7. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

8. Minutes of the Community Council's grants meeting of 11 August, 2004

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's grants meeting of 21 July, 2004, be approved as an accurate record.

9. Matters arising

(a) Exclusion of press and public

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, for the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information namely, applicants for a service provided by the Council.

(b) Late applications for financial assistance

The Council considered two late applications for financial assistance in accordance with the guidance given by the District Auditor.

(i) **“Light up St David’s Church – Miskin”**

The Council discussed a request to make a contribution to the voluntary fund to floodlight St David’s Church, Miskin, at Christmas, 2004.

RESOLVED: That the Council earmark a sum of £250 for the fund subject to the necessary bona fides being received.

(ii) **Phoenix Diving**

The Council discussed an application for financial assistance from Phoenix Diving based at Garth Isaf Farm, Llanharan.

RESOLVED: That, Phoenix Diving be asked to give an outline of the facilities offered to residents of the Community of Pontyclun.

(c) **Pontyclun Football Club**

A Member sought clarification on why the Pontyclun Football Club had been refused a grant at the Council’s grants meeting.

The Clerk responded that the Community Council was totally supportive of the Pontyclun Football Club and had not declined to make a grant. The Community Council was appreciative of the wider problems facing the Football Club and the Pontyclun Rugby Club in facing their responsibilities to maintain the perimeter fence around the Maesyfelin playing fields and, recognising that maintaining the perimeter fence would impose massive financial problems on both clubs, the Council wanted to arrange a meeting between the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council as ground landlord, both Clubs and the Community Council to explore ways forward.

10. **Minutes of the meeting of the Council’s Finance Committee of 20 August, 2004**

The Clerk referred to the budget monitoring sheet provided to Members at the Finance Committee and confirmed that there was an error in the sheet. The result was that the Community Council’s estimated spend to 31 March, 2005, was increased by £500. A copy of an amended monitoring sheet was circulated.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance Committee's meeting of 20 August, 2004, be approved as an accurate record.

11. Matters arising

Automatic links between cash book and budget monitoring sheet

Councillor Henderson requested that once the automatic links had been set up between the Council's cash books and the budget monitoring sheet he be allowed the opportunity to check the links.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Henderson be allowed the opportunity to examine the links.

12. Adoption of Finance Committee's recommendations

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

13. Matters reported for decision

(a) **The Aberystwyth Report**

The Council discussed the report of the Council's working group on the Aberystwyth Report into the Role, Function and Future Potential of Community Councils in Wales.

The working group recommended five areas where the Community Council may choose to organise its work:

1. Strategic Planning

The Council should discuss and agree objectives which should form the basis of an Action Plan over the next four years.

2. Partnership Working

The Council should develop the means by which it becomes the focus for public information on activities in the Community.

3. e-government

The Council should publish its e-mail address and develop a Pontyclun Community Web site

4. Public Participation

The Council should publicise more widely the opportunities that the public have to participate in Council activities.

5. Communications

The Council should consider publishing its own community newsletter.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the Council adopt the recommendations of the working group.
- (ii) That Members give thought to the priorities under each heading.
- (iii) That the matter be placed on the agenda for the Community Council's next meeting.

(b) Land in the ownership of the Community Council in Miskin

The Council discussed the letter of 26 July, 2004, from Mr A Penman of The Lodge, Miskin, in which Mr Penman enclosed details of the work he proposed carrying out at the rear of his property. The land in question is in the ownership of the Community Council albeit that Mr Penman holds a lease on the land for a term of 999 years from 1981.

At an earlier meeting the Community Council had provisionally decided that, as a long term plan, it would consider the possibility of using the land to improve public access to St David's Church, Miskin. This long term plan had been conveyed to the Vicar of Llantrisant.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That in principle the Community Council has no objection to Mr Penman's proposal.
- (ii) That Mr Penman be advised to contact the Llantrisant Parochial Church Council to establish that that body has no objection to his proposals.
- (iii) That after establishing that that the Parochial Church Council has no objection to the proposals Mr Penman should advise the Community Council in writing.

(c) Car park adjacent to Maesyfelin Playing Fields

The Council discussed the letter of 29 July, 2004, from Mr K Penhallurick of 19 Millfield, Pontyclun.

Mr Penhallurick's concerns were twofold; he was worried about the appearance of a "Private Car Park" sign which had been erected at the entrance to the car park; he was also apprehensive about the condition of the railings, not only at the car park but around the whole cartilage of the playing fields. Mr Penhallurick drew the Council's attention to the fact that little or no maintenance had been undertaken to the railings for very many years. The railings had been damaged by a travelling fair which used the car park.

The Community Council's understanding was that ownership of the playing fields lay with the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council and that separate leases had been negotiated between the Borough Council and the Pontyclun AFC and Pontyclun RFC for their use of the facility. It was further understood that both clubs had responsibility for the maintenance of the boundary railings.

Councillor Rea stated that he had pursued the possibility of grant aid being made available to both clubs for the maintenance of the railings under the Church Funds but all monies had been allocated for the current year.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Clerk advise Mr Penhallurick of the Community Council's concern at the state of the boundary railings and that the Community Council was arranging a meeting between the Borough Council, the Pontyclun AFC and the Pontyclun RFC to find a way forward.
 - (ii) That in order to gain an estimate of the total cost of work in renewing the railings the Clerk establish the cost of replacing a 50 metre length of railings.

(d) **Pontyclun Youth Partnership**

The Council discussed an invitation from the Pontyclun Youth Partnership for a representative of the Council to attend a meeting of the Pontyclun Youth Partnership at the Pontyclun Community Centre on 13 September, 2004.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson, Councillor Ms Jenkins, be nominated to attend the meeting on behalf of the Community Council.

(e) **One Voice Wales**

The Council discussed an invitation to send representatives to the First Annual Meeting of One Voice Wales to be held in Llandrindod Wells on 23 October, 2004.

RESOLVED: That Councillors Lane and Ms Thomas be nominated to attend the meeting on behalf of the Council.

(f) **Glamorgan & Gwent Network of Community & Town Councils**

The Council discussed an invitation to send representatives to a meeting of the Glamorgan & Gwent Network of Community & Town Councils to be held in Bedwas on 11 September, 2004.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

(g) **Planning applications contained in recent Weekly Notifications**

(Councillor Rea declared an interest in this item of business and vacated the Council Chamber. Councillor Rea subsequently left the Community Centre without returning to the Council meeting)

The Council discussed planning applications contained in recent Weekly Notifications.

RESOLVED: That the following comments be made to the Planning Authority:

Application No. 04/1411/10

That while the Council is not opposed to the proposal, it feels that the Planning Authority should be aware that the area in the vicinity of the development has suffered from subsidence, a foul sewer collapse, and that access will be directly opposite an existing drive and will need to cross an existing footway.

Application No. 04/1387/10

That the Community Council require further details of this application.

Application No. 04/1055/13

That the Council object to the proposal since:

- (i) the development will result in a considerable increase in the number of heavy goods vehicles passing through the village of Pontyclun and surrounding areas.
- (ii) the development will result in the loss of the green wedge between Llanharry and Brynsadler.
- (iii) the development will result in yet further pressure being placed on an already overburdened infrastructure.

Application No. 04/1216/10

That the Council object to the proposal since:

- (i) The development will represent an unacceptable visual intrusion
- (ii) There are environmental concerns about the proposal.

Application No. 04/1674/10

The Community Council welcomes any application which will bring good quality jobs into the area and will improve the infrastructure.

While the proposal to build office accommodation is likely to result in good quality jobs being brought into the area, it is unclear whether there will be any improvements to the area's infrastructure. Nearby developments in recent years have only been accompanied by marginal improvements in the infrastructure.

The Community Council questions the need to build a flyover across the A4119. The proposals would find greater acceptance in the Community if access to the proposed new developments could be achieved by major improvements to the existing highways network without resorting to the

need to construct a large flyover across the A4119.

In principle the Community Council welcomes the development but would urge the Borough Council to enter into negotiations with the developer to explore ways of avoiding the need to construct a flyover.

(h) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 10 to the Council's agenda.

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

There were no matters reported for decision since the despatch of agendas.

15. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Proposed diversion of Footpath No. 334**

RESOLVED: That the letter of 21 August, 2004, objecting to the proposed diversion be noted.

(b) **National Joint Council for Local Government Services Salary Award for 2005/06**

The Council received details of the salary award.

RESOLVED: That the award be implemented.

(c) **The Revised Local Government Partnership Scheme and the Local Government Partnership Scheme Report, 2002/2003**

The Clerk reported that only one copy of each report had been received. A request had been made of the Welsh Assembly for further copies. These would be distributed with the agendas for the Council's next meeting.

The matter was noted.

(d) **The Operation of New Political Management Structures in Local Government**

Copies of the document were handed to each Member.

(e) **Determination of planning appeal**

Members received copies of the appeal decision relating to the application to develop a garage at the rear of 53 Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler.

The decision was noted.

(f) **Application to operate additional goods vehicles**

The Council received the reply of the Traffic Commissioner in response to the Community Council's earlier letter objecting to the proposal to operate additional goods vehicles from a site at the western end of Station Terrace, Pontyclun. The Traffic Commissioner stated that he was unable to consider the Community Council's objection unless the Council owned or occupied land within the vicinity of the operating centre.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council note the reply.
- (iii) That in future applications, the Community Council bring pressure on the Borough Council to oppose those applications.

(g) **Traffic survey in Pontyclun**

The Council received the reply of the Borough Council to a request for information on a traffic survey in Pontyclun which had taken place earlier in the year.

The reply stated that the survey had not been undertaken by the Borough Council but were carried out on behalf of a private developer. The Borough Council had no information on the data which had been collected.

The matter was noted.

(h) **Request for traffic mirror – junction of High Street and Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler**

Following the refusal by the Highway Authority to erect a traffic mirror at the junction of High Street and Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler, the Borough Council had stated a mirror could be counter productive as a safety measure because it would lead to an increase in the speed of emerging vehicles by drivers relying too much on the mirror.

The Borough Council stated that the views of the Assembly would be sought on the request and, in the meantime, a traffic officer would investigate the possibility of other appropriate measures to improve the situation.

(i) **Proposed Access Road to Ely Valley Industrial Estate**

Members commented on the letter dated 19 August, 2004, from Sheila Davies, Director of Development and Regeneration at the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council to Jane Davidson, A.M.

The letter stated that the results of a feasibility study on the best means of providing access to this industrial estate were expected shortly and the Borough Council would need to make a decision on whether to proceed with the approach.

In an earlier letter from Sheila Davies, dated 7 June, 2004, she had stated that the report of the feasibility study would be subject to full public consultation before any decision was taken on how best to proceed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk obtain clarification from Sheila Davies on whether the Borough Council had changed its view on the need for consultation with residents of Pontyclun.

16. The meeting ended at 9.05 p.m.

