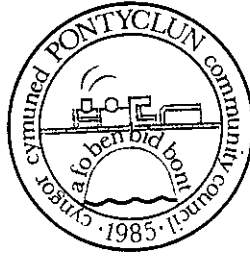


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
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"Mandalay"
 Cowbridge Road,
 Talygarn, Pontyclun,
 Mid Glamorgan CF7 9BZ

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 3 January, 1996.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle (Chairperson), Mr T J Burton, Mrs V A Cale, Mr J G Davies, Mr R O Edwards, Mrs M Griffiths, Mr R G Norman and Mr M Rea

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Three members of the public.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors Mr T R J Flood and Mr G M Moir

2. **Chairperson's business**

Expression of gratitude

The Chairperson, Councillor Cyril G Bendle, expressed his gratitude for the unanimous vote of confidence passed by the Council at its last meeting. Councillor Bendle stated that he and his family had also been encouraged by the expressions of support he had received in the community.

3. **Police matters**

In the absence of any representatives from the police this item was not discussed.

4. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 6 December, 1995**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 6 December, 1995, be approved as an accurate record.

5. **Matters arising**

(a) **Annual Audit, 1994/95**

The Clerk reported that there had been no response from the District Auditor in reply to the Community Council's letter of 19 November, 1995.

The matter was noted.

(b) **Direction signs to the Windsor Field**

The Council discussed the County Engineer and Surveyor's letter of 6 December, 1995, in which he responded to the Community Council's request for the erection of directional signs to the Windsor Fields. The County Engineer claimed that "the name Windsor Fields is not well known" and felt that it would be inappropriate to use a location name in the circumstances. Furthermore, he claimed that recent developments such as the "Park and Ride" station facility and the expanded car park had resulted in the erection of signs. To add further signage would, claimed the Engineer and Surveyor, be confusing to drivers. It was also claimed that in view of the imminent change to the road layout in Station Terrace the request for directional signs to the Windsor Fields was premature.

The Community Council was concerned by the negative attitude of the County Council especially as the County Engineer and Surveyor gave the impression that he had a better knowledge of local placenames than residents of Pontyclun. Again the Council was concerned at the reference to work at Station Terrace being "imminent". To the Council's certain knowledge work at Station Terrace had been "imminent" since the completion of work on the eastbound platform of Pontyclun station many months earlier.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk reply to the County Engineer:

(i) That, contrary to his view, the name "Windsor Fields" is well known in the locality.

(ii) Pointing out that a



directional sign for the Windsor Fields could be erected, without causing any confusion to drivers, at the Clun Avenue entrance to the Fields.

- (iii) Asking for sight of the plan of the proposed roadworks for Station Terrace and, bearing in mind the reorganisation of local government on 1 April, 1996, asking whether work on the scheme was likely to commence within the lifetime of the Mid Glamorgan County Council.

(c) **Sewage Pumping Station, Maesyfelin, Pontyclun**

The Clerk reported that earlier that afternoon he had received a telephone call from Welsh Water about the colour of the timber fence surrounding the sewage pumping station in Maesyfelin, Pontyclun. It appeared that Welsh Water would have no objection to applying timber preservative to the fence provided there was agreement from local residents on the choice of colour of the preservative. Welsh Water did not want to become involved in a situation where, if they agreed to repaint the fence in a particular colour another group would demand that it be painted in yet another colour.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk advise Welsh Water that if the fence were painted with chestnut brown timber preservative it would be agreeable to all residents.

6. **Mineral Local Plan for Limestone Quarrying in Mid Glamorgan: Deposit Report: Schedule of Proposed Changes:**

The Clerk reported that on 11 December, 1995, he had received notification from the County Planning Officer that a Public Local Inquiry is to be held in relation to the Mineral Local Plan for Limestone Quarrying in Mid Glamorgan: Deposit Report. The Inquiry is to be held in the Council Chamber of the Mid



Glamorgan County Council on Tuesday 23 January, 1996. The purpose of the Inquiry is to hear duly made representations to the Deposit Report and the response of the County Council. As the Community Council had made representations on the Plan, a copy of the County Council's comments on those representations was provided. An invitation to respond to the County Council's comments needed to be made by 2 January, 1996.

After consultation with the Chairperson it had been agreed to pass the County Council's comments to the two members for the Miskin Ward to ascertain whether any further comment from the Community Council was necessary.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That in response to the Mineral Planning Authority's statement that "considerable monitoring has taken place at this site but the MPA is not aware of any evidence that property has been damaged" the Community Council comment that a truthful statement should read "the Mineral Planning Authority does not accept the evidence that property has been damaged"
- (ii) That the Clerk find out from the Mineral Planning Authority the position on the Community Council's request for a Liaison Committee to be established to discuss the problems being experienced as result of stone extraction at the Forest Wood Quarry, Talygarn, Pontyclun.

7. **Highway diversion at Miskin**

The Council received details of The Diversion of Highways (Cefn yr Hendy Miskin Llantrisant Mid Glamorgan) Order, 1995, which came into operation on 20 December, 1995.

The Council was disappointed to note that, despite the submission of a petition to the Highway Authority containing the signatures of approximately 1,000 residents requesting the retention of access on to the A4119 at Mwyndy, there appeared to be no provision for the retention of access on to the A4119. There was a strong feeling that a green "wedge" should be maintained in the vicinity and that access on to the A4119 should be controlled by traffic lights.

- RESOLVED:** That the Community Council's feelings be passed to the Welsh Office for comment.

8. **Proposal for CCTV in Pontyclun**

The Council learned with deep regret that the Borough Council had abandoned its plans to introduce CCTV in Pontyclun on account of advice from British



Telecom that fibre optic transmission is not available at present. The possibility of using a digital compression system had been considered but this was considered to be both more expensive and technically inferior to fibre optic, effectively limiting the proposed installation to one camera. The Borough Council had resolved that CCTV surveillance should be deferred until fibre optic cable facilities were available. The Borough Council had suggested that the Community Council might wish to consider making a bid under the recently announced CCTV Challenge Competition 1996/97, details of which were provided.

The Community Council failed to understand how it had taken so long for the Borough Council to discover that the technology needed to operate the proposed CCTV system was not in place. Had the true position been established earlier it would have saved much abortive work and would not have raised expectations in the Community.

- RESOLVED:**
- (I) That the Borough Council be advised of the Community Council's disappointment at the news at so late a stage.
 - (ii) That the Clerk make separate enquiries with British Telecom to verify the accuracy of the statement that suitable fibre optic cable was not available in Pontyclun.
 - (iii) That the Community Council consider the possibility of making a bid under the CCTV Challenge Competition 1996/97, by the closing date of 31 March, 1996.

9. **Community Wheels**

The Council discussed a letter from Councillor Vivian P James, the Honorary Secretary and Coordinator of Community Wheels, stating his intention of retiring from his post on 28 February, 1996.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

10. **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix No. 10 to the Council's Agenda.

11. **Planning**



(a) **Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending
1, 8, 15 and 22 December, 1995**

It was noted that there were no planning applications contained in the Weekly Notifications for weeks ending 1, 8 and 15 December 1995 affecting the Community.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk distribute copies of Weekly Notification for Week ended 22 December, 1995, to Members on 7 January, 1996, and that the Clerk be authorised to forward any comments by Members to the Borough Council.

(b) **Appeal to the Welsh Office**

The Council noted that an appeal had been lodged with the Welsh Office against the refusal of the Borough Council to award planning consent for three executive type houses on land at The Cottage, Cowbridge Road, Talygarn, Pontyclun.

The Council also noted that its earlier observations to the Borough Council on the application would be sent to the Planning Inspectorate at the Welsh Office and would be taken into account by the Inspector in deciding the appeal.

12. **Reports from Members**

(a) **Pontyclun Primary School**

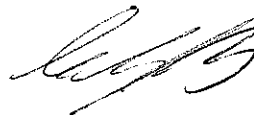
Councillor Norman referred to the reports of the dark area at the entrance to the Pontyclun Primary School. He was pleased to be able to report that the matter was in hand and that illumination would be provided shortly.

The report was noted.

(b) **Litter bins, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Norman advised the Community Council that the Borough Council had re-sited litter bins in Cowbridge Road in order to provide facilities for litter disposal while ensuring that the vision of motorists at road junctions was not impaired.

The report was noted.



(c) **Telephone kiosk, Mwyndy**

Councillor Norman reported that after five years of pressure British Telecom had finally been persuaded to remove the telephone kiosk from the grass verge on the A4119 at Mwyndy. Councillor Norman was glad to note that the kiosk had been re-sited at a more suitable location approximately a quarter of a mile to the north at a layby.

The report was noted.

(d) **Children's playarea, Groesfaen**

Councillor Norman referred to his earlier report about the plans of the Borough Council to re-furbish the children's playground in Groesfaen. Councillor Norman produced a plan of the proposals and stated that he would make arrangements for the plan to be placed on display at a suitable location in Groesfaen.

The report was noted.

(e) **Car park - Windsor Field**

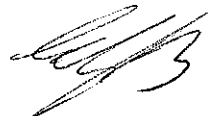
Councillor Edwards pointed out that there was still a significant quantity of rubbish left in the vicinity of the Windsor Field car park by the contractors who had carried out recent re-surfacing work. There was a strong feeling that the debris had been used as missiles to vandalise the footpath lighting along the Windsor Field.

Councillor Norman advised that the contractors would be returning to site to finalise the re-surfacing work and would be directed to remove all the debris in the vicinity. The Borough Council had undertaken to repair the footpath lighting at no expense to the Community Council.

The report was noted.

(f) **Arts in the Community**

Councillor Edwards drew the Council's attention to the lack of a facility in the Community for artists to display their work. Councillor Edwards believed that the Community Council should take a positive lead in encouraging local artists to display their works. He suggested that it might be possible for the



Community Council to assist by arranging for a display of works in the Pontyclun Community Centre.

RESOLVED: That the matter be placed on the Agenda of the next Community Council meeting.

(g) **Shop front shutters**

Councillor Graham Davies drew the Council's attention to the stark appearance of many of the shop front shutters in Pontyclun. He wondered whether shopkeepers could be encouraged to paint their shutters to make them aesthetically more acceptable.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Secretary to the Pontyclun Chamber of Trade to obtain shopkeepers' views on the suggestion.

(h) **Application for off licence - Royal Stores, Pontyclun**

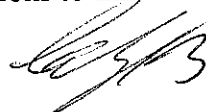
Councillor Tudor Burton reported that he had represented the Community Council at the recent hearing of the application for an off licence at the Royal Stores, Pontyclun. In accordance with the Council's wishes he had opposed the application.

The magistrates had refused the application although there was a strong likelihood that the applicant would exercise his right of appeal against the decision. Councillor Burton advised that in the event of a further court hearing he would not be able to represent the Community Council. There was a suggestion that if the appellant won his case at appeal he would be seeking an award of costs.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the District Auditor to obtain his view on whether it would be reasonable to pursue the Council's opposition to the application at appeal and thereby run the risk of an award of costs against the Council.

(I) **30 m.p.h. speed restriction, Groesfaen**

Councillor Merfyn Rae reported that he had contacted the Highways and Transportation Department of the County Council on a number of occasions to find out when the 30



m.p.h. sign on the A4119, at the beginning of the village when travelling towards Cardiff, would eventually be moved to its new location at a point west of the existing site. He was aware that the County Council had agreed to re-site the sign several months earlier but no action had resulted. In speaking to staff of the County Council he had gained the impression that he was being "fobbed off".

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the County Council to obtain a definitive answer on when the sign was likely to be re-sited.

(j) **Pavement between the Castell y Mynach Inn and Groesfaen**

Councillor Merfyn Rae reported that he had been in touch with the Highways and Transportation Department of the County Council about the lack of maintenance of the pavement between Groesfaen and the Castell y Mynach Inn which had allowed soil to migrate across the pavement. Councillor Rae was hopeful that the matter would be attended to shortly.

The report was noted.

(k) **Mud on highway**

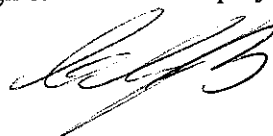
Councillor Merfyn Rae reported that he had contacted the Highways and Transportation Department of the County Council about depositions of mud on the highway in the vicinity of Groesfaen.

The report was noted.

(l) **Christmas decorations**

Councillor Mrs Ann Cale wished to record her appreciation of the efforts made by the Pontyclun Chamber of Trade to decorate the village over the Christmas period. Councillor Cale was of the view that the standard of displays had been of a higher standard than that achieved by neighbouring villages.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk send a letter to the Secretary to the Pontyclun Chamber of Trade offering the Community Council's congratulations on the achievement of a very high standard of display.



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

There were no items of business of an urgent nature.

14. The meeting ended at 9.20 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cliff Bonk". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.