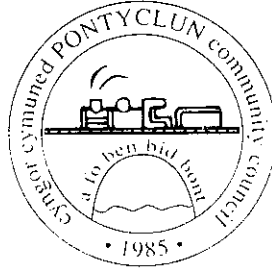


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

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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, 3 January, 2001

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mrs A Cale, C Davies, J G Davies, J R Dilworth, J V Huish, R G Norman, M Rea and S Rogers

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Two members of the public together with P C Keddle for part of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Community Councillor C G Bendle.

2. **Chairperson's Business**

The Chairperson, Councillor Dilworth, extended his wishes to all Members for a happy and prosperous New Year.

3. **Police Matters**

(a) **Festive Period**

P C Keddle reported that both the Christmas and New Year holidays had proved very quiet for the police in the Pontyclun area. He stated that as far as he was aware there had been no incidents. There had been one incident in Miskin.

(b) **Increase in drug availability in the Community**

Councillor Norman reported that he had been made aware of the increased availability of drugs in the Community. Councillor Norman stated that he was worried by the trend.

(c) **Gangs in Pontyclun**

Councillor Norman was glad to be able to report to the Council that there had been a decrease in the number of gangs hanging around in Pontyclun during the evenings. He attributed this to the increased police presence in the village.

(d) **Increased police presence**

Councillor Huish wished to extend his thanks on behalf of the Council to P C Keddle and his colleagues for the increased police presence in the area in recent weeks. Councillor Huish felt that there was a direct connection between the increased presence of the police and the reduction in reported incidents.

(e) **Appointments in the police service**

P C Keddle reported that there had been a number of new local appointments in the police service. He informed the Council that Inspector Dando was now in charge of Talbot Green Police Station and Chief Inspector Cooksley together with Superintendent Cooper had taken up posts in the Pontypridd Police Station.

Councillor Rea proposed that an invitation be extended to all three appointees to attend one of the Council's meetings to discuss matters of concern.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the appropriate action.

4. **Minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 6 December, 2000**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 6 December, 2000, be approved as an accurate record.

(A motion by Councillor Dilworth, and seconded by Councillor Norman, opposed the adoption of minute 7 (d) (i) and (ii). The motion was lost)

5. **Matters arising**

(a) **Recycling initiative**

The Clerk reported that he had heard from the Borough Council that the postponed site meeting to the recycling facility at Coed Cae Lane, Pontyclun, had been re-arranged for 2.00 p.m. for Friday, 19 January, 2001.

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

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The Clerk reported that one of the three promised "Industrial Estates" signs had been erected on the northbound carriageway of the A4119 near the Castell Y Mynach public house.

Two further signs were expected, one near the "Matalan" roundabout on the A4119 and the other on the Talbot Green By Pass near Mc Donald's restaurant. A further "Welcome to Miskin" sign had been promised for the approach to Miskin from the direction of the Corner Park Garage.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries of the Borough Council about the awaited signs.

6. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Local government elections in Wales**

The Council considered a letter from Ms Edwina Hart the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities at the National Assembly of Wales in which she wished to seek comments from the Community Council regarding the date of the next local government election in Wales. Ms Hart stated that she was aware there were strongly held views as to whether or not it would be preferable to change the year in which the next local government elections were held given that the last local government elections in Wales took place in May 1999 and were simultaneous with the first elections to the National Assembly.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk send a letter to the National Assembly advising that the Community Council is of the view that the local government elections could be delayed a year to May 2004.

(b) **South Wales Quality Freight Partnership**

The Council considered an invitation to nominate a representative to attend a half day seminar to discuss the problems of freight distribution in South Wales.

RESOLVED: That any members wishing to attend the seminar notify the Clerk and that attendance at the seminar be regarded as an approved duty.

(c) **Proposed Millennium Heritage Trail**

The Council discussed the proposals of the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council to make improvements to existing public

rights of way to create a long distance trail. Part of the proposed Millennium Heritage Trail would fall within the boundaries of the Pontyclun Community Council.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Community Council express its support for the proposals.

(ii) That the Community Council use the title "Millennium Trail" in its publication of a circular footpath for Pontyclun and Talygarn.

(d) **Application for financial assistance**

The Council considered a request for a financial contribution towards the cost of staging the 2001 Urdd National Eisteddfod.

RESOLVED: That the Council award a grant to the National Urdd Eisteddfod of £200.00.

(e) **Proposals for improving access to the Ivor Woods**

The Council received a letter from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council regarding the proposed wheelchair access to Ivor Woods. The estimated cost of the modifications needed to the bridge was £15,000.

RESOLVED: That the Council clarify that the sum of £15,000 is the total budgeted sum for all the improvement works including work to the footbridge across the river Ely and the footpath from the A4222.

(f) **The Rambler's Association**

The Council received an invitation to renew its membership of The Ramblers' Association.

RESOLVED (i) That the Community Council renew its Membership of the Ramblers' Association for a further year.

(ii) That the Clerk arrange for all Members to receive copies of the Association's publications as received.

(iii) That the Clerk arrange for the diary of events organised by the Ramblers' Association to be displayed in the Community Council's noticeboards.

(g) **Planning applications contained in weekly notifications for Weeks Ended 24 November, 1, 8, 15 and 29 December, 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 also members of community councils should declare an interest in planning matters either at Community Council meetings or Borough Council planning meetings.)

(Councillor Norman stated that he had approached a number of officers of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council for guidance in the matter. He had received conflicting advice. He suggested that further clarification be obtained from the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils. Councillor Norman subsequently declared an interest in the item of business and took no part in the Community Council's deliberations.)

(Councillor Dilworth pointed out that if the Community Council was minded to seek further clarification from the Wales Association then he, too, would need to declare an interest due to his connections with that body.)

RESOLVED: (i) That the Council raise again with its legal advisers at the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils the position of members who are members of community and principal councils and are faced with the prospect of discussing planning applications at both councils.

(ii) That no comments be offered on the applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ended 24 November, 1, 8, 15 and 29 December, 2000.

(h) **Payment of creditors**

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

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

There were no items reported for decision since the dispatch of the agendas.

8. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Retirement of Mr D. Tookey**

The Clerk advised the Council that Mr David Tookey, the Community Council's Handyman, would be retiring on 11 February, 2001. He advised the Council that they would need to advertise the vacancy shortly in order to ensure that there was no time lapse between the retirement of Mr Tookey and the appointment of a new Handyperson.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Community Council authorise the Clerk to advertise the vacancy for Handyperson in the Community Council noticeboards and in the Llantrisant Observer.
 - (ii) That the Council establish a shortlisting panel comprising two members from the majority party and one Independent member to compile a short list of candidates for interview at the Council's meeting on 7 February, 2001.
 - (iii) That in order to make a presentation to Mr Tookey at the meeting of 7 February, 2001, the meeting commence at 6.45 p.m.
 - (iv) That the Council's appreciation of Mr Tookey's service be recorded on a special scroll

(b) **Council Tax Precepts 2001/2002**

The Council received the Borough Council's precept notification requirements for the 2001/2002 financial year.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange a meeting of the Finance Committee during the month of January in order that a recommendation on the level of precept for 2001/2002 can be made to the Council's meeting on 7 February, 2001.

(c) **Extension of speed restrictions in Groesfaen**

The Council was pleased with the response of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in which it indicated that it would be extending the 30 m.p.h. zone in Groesfaen in the near future. The issue was one on which the Community Council had campaigned for many years.

RESOLVED: That the correspondence be noted.

(d) **Grounds in the vicinity of Talygarn Rehabilitation Centre**
Position Statement of the Pontyclun Community Council

Councillor Huish advised the Council that following the publication of its Position Statement he had received positive feedback from the public.

Councillor Rea commented that the Statement was factual, apolitical, and fairly represented the position of the Community Council. He wished to thank the Clerk for his efforts in preparing the information sheet.

9. The meeting ended at 7.50 p.m.