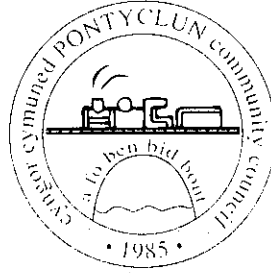


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

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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 pm on Wednesday, 3 July, 2002.

PRESENT: Community Councillors C G Bendle, Mrs V A Cale, C Davies, J G Davies, J R Dilworth, J V Huish and M Rea (Chairperson)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P C Steve Keddle, for part of the meeting and five members of the public for part of the meeting

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors R G Norman, S Rogers and Mrs P Thomas

2. **Declarations of interest**

Declarations of interests were sought from Members.

A Member indicated that he would be declaring an interest in the following matter and for the reasons indicated:

Member	Item	Reason
Councillor Dilworth	7 (g)	Employee of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make the appropriate entry in the Register of Disclosures of Personal Interests under Section 81 of the Local Government Act, 2000, at the appropriate time.

M Rea

3. **Chairperson's/Leader's business**

(i) **Queen's visit to Rhondda Cynon Taf**

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, was pleased to be able to report that he represented the Community Council at the Rhondda Heritage Park when he met the Queen on her 50th anniversary tour of the United Kingdom.

Councillor Rea commented that the visit had been very well organised and he wished to thank all those who had contributed towards making the event a successful occasion.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(ii) **Freedom of the Borough**

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, reported that he recently represented the Community Council at a ceremony in Pontypridd at which the Royal Regiment of Wales was given the freedom of the Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf. Councillor Rea reported that the ceremony was very well attended and that the Chairman of the Borough Council, Councillor Islwyn Wilkins had played a first class role.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(iii) **Playarea – Cefn yr Hendy development**

The Leader, Councillor Huish, reported that the trigger point for the construction of the playarea on the new Cefn yr Hendy residential development had been reached and the developer would shortly be bringing forward his proposals.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(iv) **New primary school – Cefn yr Hendy, Pontyclun**

The Leader, Councillor Huish, reported that as a result of significant structural problems at Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant, a sum in excess of £100,000 would be needed to be spent on the buildings.

The Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council had decided to close the school and transfer the pupils to the new, enlarged, school shortly to be constructed at Cefn yr Hendy, Pontyclun. There had been some opposition to the proposals from parents in Llantrisant

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but discussions would continue to overcome the perceived problems.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(iv) **Phase 5 development – Cefn yr Hendy, Pontyclun**

The Leader, Councillor Huish, reported that Phase 5 of the new residential development at Cefn yr Hendy was currently being progressed by the Welsh Development Agency.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(v) **Deputation from the public**

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, informed Members that he was aware that a number of young people were in attendance at the meeting and that they had nominated a spokesman to speak to the Council on their behalf.

Mr Dan Jones of 66 Llwyn Onn, Tylagarw, addressed the Council. Mr Jones drew the Council's attention to the re-newed country-wide interest in skateboarding among youngsters and asked whether it would be possible for the Council to provide a skateboarding area in the Community. Mr Jones stated that there were many genuine youngsters in the Community who enjoyed skateboarding and had nowhere to practise their sport. If facilities were available they would prevent youngsters from getting into trouble with the police and others from being drawn into drugs.

Several Members responded that the Council was committed to providing better facilities for the youth of Pontyclun, and had examined a number of potential sites without success. Practical difficulties existed in finding a suitable plot of land on which to build a skateboarding facility. Mr Jones was asked to consult his colleagues to ask if they were aware of a suitable plot of land and report back to any Council Member or Clerk if a plot was identified.

Councillor Huish responded that a playarea was proposed for the new residential development adjacent to the new school on Cefn yr Hendy, Pontyclun, but it was unlikely that this facility would be available for many months.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Jones for addressing the Council and for making his, and his friends' concerns known. The Chairperson reminded Mr Jones of the Council's commitment and of its offer to consider seriously any appropriate site in the Community for a skateboarding facility.



4. **Police matters**

(i) **Burglaries**

P C Keddle reported that a week earlier there had been three “distraction” burglaries suffered by elderly residents in Lewis Street and Merthyr Street. It appeared that one youth would engage the resident in conversation while another would burgle the house. All three burglaries had taken place between 11.15 a.m. and midday. Both youths were believed to be around 19 to 20 years old and one was understood to have been wearing a lime green shirt. P C Keddle asked if anyone had any information on the culprits, it should be passed to him at the Talbot Green Police Station.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(ii) **Drugs warrants**

P C Keddle reported that two drugs warrants had recently been executed at premises on the Cefn yr Hendy Estate, Pontyclun. One of the raids had produced positive results.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(iii) **Changes in police personnel**

P C Keddle reported changes in police personnel at Talbot Green and Pontypridd Police Stations. At Talbot Green, Inspector Sue Hurley had recently been appointed while in Pontypridd Chief Superintendent Peter Vaughan had been appointed.

RESOLVED: That invitations to address the Community Council be extended to both police officers in the hope that Chief Superintendent Vaughan would be able to attend the Community Council’s September monthly meeting. The invitation to Inspector Hurley be open-ended.

(iv) **Pontyclun Primary School**

Councillor Dilworth reported that following a meeting of the Governing Body of Pontyclun Primary School earlier in the week a decision had been taken to prohibit the parking of any vehicles on school premises. The decision would inevitably lead to greater pressure on parking facilities in nearby residential streets.

A discussion ensued and Members were reminded that the Pontyclun Institute and Athletic Club had previously given



permission for motorists visiting the School to park in the Club's car park.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

5. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 12 June, 2002**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 12 June, 2002, be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Re-location of bus shelter**

The Clerk advised the Council that it needed to identify a site for the re-location of the bus shelter which was formerly sited outside the brewery in Brynsadler. The bus shelter had been removed to allow access to the site for residential development.

The Council discussed the possibility of erecting the bus shelter at a number of sites. Most sites were dismissed with the exception of a site in Heol Miskin, Pontyclun, approximately opposite the existing bus shelter.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the possibility of erecting the replacement bus shelter in Heol Miskin at a site opposite the existing bus shelter.

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **New Audit Regulations**

The Clerk reminded the Council of the new "lighter touch" audit regime, effective for the Council's accounts for the year ended 31 March, 2002. Under the new provisions it was necessary to appoint an internal auditor and, subsequently to have the audited accounts further audited by an external auditor. For all community and town councils in South Wales the District Auditor would carry out the external audit.

In the case of the internal auditor, it would be for each council to make its own arrangements provided the internal auditor could be shown to be competent and independent of the council. It would not be acceptable for the internal audit to be carried out by a council member. Neither would it be acceptable for clerks of adjacent community councils to carry out audits on a reciprocal basis.

The Clerk proposed that the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council be approached to find out whether that authority would be

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prepared to undertake the Pontyclun Community Council's internal audit for 2001/02.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council approve the proposal to approach the Borough Council to undertake its 2001/2002 audit.
- (ii) That in the event of an internal auditor needing to be appointed between Council meetings, authority be given to the Chairperson and Leader in conjunction with the Clerk to make the appointment.

(b) **Draft guidance of the new ethical framework**

The Clerk reported receipt of a 74 page document from the Welsh Assembly seeking the comments of community councils on the draft guidance on the new ethical framework.

Only one document had been provided to the Community Council and, given the limited resources of the Council for large volume photocopying, an additional ten copies of the document had been requested. To date no further copies had been received from the Welsh Assembly. Effectively, the Community Council was not in a position to offer its comments on the document.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk write a strongly worded letter to Kate Cassidy at the Welsh Assembly pointing out that if the Assembly is serious about receiving community council views on any draft documents it should ensure that sufficient copies of the draft documents are made available to those bodies invited to offer their comments.

(c) **CCTV surveillance**

The Council received a letter from the partners at the Old School Surgery, School Street, Pontyclun, about vandalism at the premises. Due to a misunderstanding the letter was not received by the Council until 26 June, 2002.

On behalf of the partners it was stated that vandalism had reached a level where it was considered essential to erect a metal palisade fence around the surgery as a deterrent. It was asked of the Community Council whether it would be possible for the area immediately adjacent to the surgery to be covered by the CCTV system due to be installed in the near future.



A lengthy discussion took place on the difficulties being experienced at the surgery and what assistance the Council may be able to offer.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Clerk respond that while the Council recognizes the problems being experienced as a result of vandalism, responsibility for the design and implementation of the CCTV system in Pontyclun does not lie with the Community Council.
 - (ii) The extent of the coverage of the CCTV cameras was not known in detail but information on this matter could be obtained from the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.
 - (iii) In the event that the proposed CCTV system would not cover the area adjacent to the Old School Surgery, the Community Council believes that a local company, would be prepared to design and install a CCTV system specifically to meet the partners' needs.

(d) **Former Pontyclun to Cwm railway**

The Council discussed a letter from the Project Manager of the Rhondda and Cynon Valleys' Railway Society, who wished to bring to the Community Council's attention the proposal to re-open the former Pontyclun to Cwm railway as a commuter and tourist facility. The Society offered its services in answering any queries on the proposal from members of the public.

As part of its plan the Society had circulated 10,000 leaflets to local homes in the Pontyclun and Tynant area and had commissioned a feasibility study. It was hoped that the results of the survey would be available in August, 2002.

Members considered the possibility of inviting representatives of the Society to make a presentation to the Community Council.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the leaflet circulate be the Society be noted.
 - (ii) That no presentation be requested.



(e) **Planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ended 31 May and 7 June, 2002**

RESOLVED: That no comment be offered on the planning applications.

(f) **Application for the Grant of an Occasional Public Entertainment Licence for an Outdoor Event/ Special Event**

The Council received details of an application for the Grant of an Occasional Entertainment Licence for an event at the South Wales Fire Service Headquarters, Lanelay Hall, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the application be noted.

(g) **Payment of creditors**

(Councillor Dilworth declared an interest in this item of business and vacated the Council chamber)

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 7 to the Council's agenda.

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

There were no items for decision.

9. **Matters reported for information**

The Council received details of an application to the Standards Sub Committee(Community Councils) for the grant of dispensations to members of the Llantwit Fardre Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

10. The meeting ended at 8.05 p.m.

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