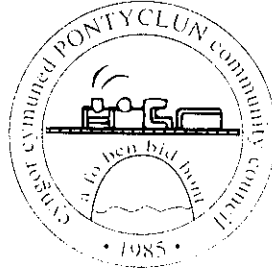


## Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Clerc i'r Cyngor  
 J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.  
 "Mandalay"  
 Heol Bontfaen  
 Talygarn  
 Pontyclun  
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## 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, 3 June, 1998

**PRESENT:** Community Councillors C G Bendle, J G Davies, R O Edwards,  
 J V Huish(Chairperson), R G Norman and M Rea

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** W P C Allison Hughes and two members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors  
 T J Burton, Mrs V A Cale, T Flood and Mrs M Griffiths

2. **Chairperson's business**

(a) **Road Traffic Accident**

The Chairperson reported on the recent road traffic accident outside the post office in Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler. It appeared that the driver of a heavy lorry at the top of the hill had lost control of the vehicle and it careered out of control into vehicles parked in the vicinity. Fortunately there were no injuries to the driver or pedestrians in the area.

The report was noted.

(b) **Capital Programme - 1998/99**

The Chairman was disappointed to have to inform the Community Council that at a meeting of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council the previous evening it had been

decided to remove all monies from the Authority's capital programme for 1998/99.

The decision had a number of consequences for the Community, in particular, the proposals for improvements of the A4119 in Groesfaen.

It was to be hoped that the financial position of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council would improve in 1999/2000 and that the capital programme would be reinstated.

The report was noted.

(c) **ABC of Chairmanship**

The Chairperson thanked the Clerk for providing him with a copy of the ABC of Chairmanship. He hoped that there would not be too many occasions during his term of office when reference would need to be made to the guidance.

The matter was noted.

(d) **Care in the Community**

The Chairperson reported on a seminar which had been held on the previous evening by the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council on moving patients at Hensol Hospital into the community.

A booklet had been produced on the subject and it was the Chairperson's wish that the booklet be placed on display at the Pontyclun Library after examination by Members of the Community Council.

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

3. **Police matters**

(a) **Road Traffic Accident in Brynsadler**

W P C Hughes referred to the road traffic accident outside the post office in Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler, and reported that preliminary indications showed that a mechanical fault had been responsible for the accident which had involved six cars.

W P C Hughes advised that the police were concerned with the volume of heavy goods vehicles passing through Pontyclun and intended stepping up spot checks on these vehicles.

The matter was noted.

(c) **Manoeuvring of heavy vehicles**

Councillor Rea drew the attention of the police to the damage caused to the road surface near the junction of Cowbridge Road with Millfield and pointed out that it had been caused by a heavy goods vehicle performing a U- turn. Councillor Rea asked that the police take note of the numerous vehicle manoeuvres performed by heavy goods vehicles in Pontyclun and bring pressure on the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council for an improvement in road signage from the M4 motorway.

(d) **Public right of way along the river Clun**

Councillor ~~Rea~~<sup>Edwards</sup> drew the police's attention to the carcass of a sheep on the footpath alongside the river Clun. Councillor Rea found the incident puzzling since no sheep normally grazed in the area and he was of the view that the carcass had been deliberately placed on the footpath.

(e) **Speeding vehicles**

Councillor Norman advised the police of many instances of speeding vehicles on the stretch of road from Leekes store in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, to Heol Miskin. Councillor Norman asked that the police pay particular attention to this length of road when the speed of vehicles in the area was being monitored.

(f) **Roadworks in Groesfaen**

Councillor Rea drew attention to the work of contractors in Groesfaen who were laying cables underneath the pavement. He commented that not only was their rate of progress abysmally poor but they appeared to be setting up their temporary traffic lights in a very haphazard manner. Their actions had contributed to numerous traffic holdups in Groesfaen in recent weeks. Councillor Rea asked the police to be vigilant in the matter.



**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk also raise the matter with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(g) **Temporary traffic lights**

Councillor Davies drew the attention of the Council and the police to the temporary traffic lights which had been erected in Pontyclun during the previous weekend.

It was doubtful whether the lights were needed and their erection had succeeded in causing considerable traffic congestion and frustration to those motorists waiting in the ensuing traffic queues.

4. **Minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 6 May, 1998**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 6 May, 1998 be approved as an accurate record.

5. **Matters arising**

(a) **Speeding vehicles in Pontyclun**

There were no further matters arising under this heading.

(b) **CCTV in the Community**

Councillor Davies reported that he had made enquiries with a local supplier about CCTV facilities. The supplier had offered to arrange a demonstration for Members of the Community Council on a no obligation basis.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Davies be asked to arrange a demonstration of the CCTV facility and to notify the Clerk of the demonstration date in order that all Members of the Council be given an opportunity to attend.

(c) **Off licence application - Hendy Stores**

The Clerk reported that the representative nominated to attend the Crown Court to oppose the application for the off licence, Councillor Rea, had been unable to attend court as originally planned.



The Clerk advised that while he was uncertain of the Court's decision in the case, he had subsequently established that if the appellant had won his case at the Crown Court it would have been open to him to apply for an award of costs against those parties who had opposed the application in court. Had the Council been represented in Court there was a realistic possibility that in the event of the case being won costs would have been awarded against the Community Council. In the Clerk's view it would have been difficult to justify the expenditure to the District Auditor at the annual audit.

The Clerk advised that to avoid the possibility of costs being awarded against the Council at future licensing appeals the Council need consider its position carefully before nominating one of its Members to attend court.


**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk's advice be noted.

(d) **Proposed Footpaths leaflet**

The Clerk reported that the walk by Members to view the route of the proposed circular walk in the Community had taken place.

While the route was found to be acceptable for most of its length, it was noted that a section of the walk proposed that members of the public use a section of road from The Cot into the grounds of Talygarn House. Concern was expressed that this section of the route would seemingly give the public authority to enter the private grounds of the hospital. It was felt that the circular walk should be contained within definitive rights of way.

**RESOLVED:** That the route of the proposed walk be amended to show that from The Cot the walk would follow the public right of way to its junction with Cowbridge Road. At Cowbridge Road the route would follow the A4222 towards Brynsadler for approximately 150 yards to the commencement of Footpath No. 328. The route to follow Footpath No 328 for approximately 200 yards to the junction of Footpath No 340. The route to then follow Footpath No. 340 to its junction with Cowbridge Road adjacent to the M4 motorway.



(e) **Proposed diversion of Footpaths Nos 323 and 333**

The Clerk reported that, despite having secured the agreement of all parties involved, it appeared that it would be some time before the formal diversion orders for Footpaths Nos 323 and 333 were made. In the meantime, the public continued to use the alternative paths albeit that there was need for a kissing gate on the boundaries of the land of Dr Wynne Davies and Mr Trevor Sparks.

**RESOLVED:** That in anticipation of the Diversion Orders being made, the Clerk be authorised to make arrangements to install a kissing gate on the boundary of the land of Dr Wynne Davies and Mr Trevor Sparks.

(f) **Highway matters in Pontyclun**

Councillor Rea reported on the site meeting which had taken place with the Director and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council about various highways matters in Pontyclun.

Members of the Community Council who had attended the meeting felt that their representations were not very well received and were told that while problems existed in Pontyclun it was considered that there were more urgent highways matters needing to be addressed elsewhere in the Borough.

The meeting ended with a commitment from the Borough Council representatives to make a single package of the problems in Pontyclun with a view to bringing forward a scheme for Borough Council approval. The Borough Council representatives pointed out that this was a more cost-effective approach rather than addressing each problem piecemeal.

There was a feeling among Community Council Members that they would prefer to see the problems tackled individually thereby achieving some progress. It was felt that if the highways problems were packaged it was less likely that they would be given sufficient priority for funding by the Borough Council.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk write to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to place on record the Community Council's deep concern at the proposals to package highways problems in Pontyclun. The Council firmly believed that this method would result in none of the problems being determined.

(g) **Proposals for a landfill site in Pontyclun**

The Clerk referred to the proposed public meeting to be convened in Pontyclun to discuss the controversial proposals for a landfill site. A date for the meeting had yet to be fixed since it was necessary to establish the position of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in the matter. It was hoped that the position of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council would be established shortly and that a public meeting would be called in the coming weeks.

The Chairperson, Councillor Huish, advised the Council that from the poll he had conducted in Pontyclun it appeared that around 95% of respondents were opposed to the proposals.

The matter was noted.

6. **Matters arising from the last edition of "Bro"**

Councillor Rea suggested that the matters which he wished to raise from the last edition in "Bro" be left in abeyance.

**RESOLVED:** That no discussion take place on matters appearing in the last edition of "Bro" but that Members be offered the opportunity to raise matters from the next edition of the publication as and when those matters gave rise for concern.

7. **Erosion of river banks in Pontyclun**

The Clerk advised that this item had been placed on an agenda for an earlier meeting at the request of Councillor Burton. As Councillor Burton had not been present at the earlier meetings the item had yet to be discussed by the Council.

**RESOLVED:** That the matter be deferred until Councillor Burton is present to address the Council on his concerns.



8. **Sewerage facilities in Groesfaen**

**RESOLVED:** That this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

9. **Possibility of receiving income from the Landfill Tax**

A discussion took place on information which had recently been received on the possibility of community councils receiving income for environmental projects from the Landfill Tax. The Clerk advised that he had not received any information on the matter from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, the Welsh Office or the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk make enquiries of the relevant bodies and bring information to the Council on the possibility of obtaining additional funding through the Landfill Tax.

10. **Traffic schemes for Groesfaen and Pontyclun**

The Council discussed the letter of 13 May, 1998, from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering in response to the Community Council's earlier enquiry on why the recently approved highway improvement scheme in Groesfaen had received priority for funding over the long standing claims of Pontyclun for highway improvement.

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

11. **Proposed annual newsletter**

The Council discussed the format of the proposed annual newsletter attached as Appendix 4 to the Council's agenda.

**RESOLVED:** That the format of the newsletter be approved and that Councillor Griffiths and the Clerk be nominated to provide the detail for the newsletter.

12. **Advertising hoarding, railway embankment, Pontyclun**

The Council discussed the reply from the Director of Planning in response to the Community Council's earlier concerns about the dangers to the public from the deterioration in the structure of the advertising hoarding and the fact that Railtrack did not appear to have received planning consent for the hoarding's erection.



The Community Council was disappointed to learn that Railtrack claimed benefit of "deemed consent" and there appeared to be a reluctance on the part of the Planning Authority to pursue the matter. As the structure had been recently repaired there appeared to be little the Community Council could do to progress the matter any further.

**RESOLVED:** That the letter from the Director of Planning be noted.

13. **Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough  
Council's Conservation Area Advisory Committee**

The Community Council discussed the invitation of the Borough Council to nominate a Member to its Conservation Area Advisory Committee.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Norman be nominated to represent the Community Council on the Conservation Area Advisory Committee.

14. **G T Clark Centenary Committee**

The Council discussed a letter from Mr Derrick Kingham, Secretary to the G T Clark Centenary Committee following the Council's decision to award that Committee a grant of £100.00 in connection with the recent flower festival to mark the centenary of the death of G T Clark.

Mr Kingham pointed out that the G T Clark Centenary Committee had not been connected with the flower festival since that had been organised by the parish churches. In the circumstances Mr Kingham felt duty bound to return the Council's cheque.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk respond to Mr Kingham to thank him for clearing up the misunderstanding. Furthermore, that the cheque for £100.00 be returned to Mr Kingham as a direct grant to the G T Clark Commemoration Committee.

15. **Application for an Occasional Public  
Entertainment Licence - Windsor Hotel Car Park**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had received notification of the application on 20 May, 1998, and that any comments from the Community Council needed to be returned to the Director of Environmental Services by noon on 22 May, 1998.

In view of the very short time available for comment the Clerk had consulted the Chairperson, Councillor Huish, and agreed that no comment be offered on the application.

**RESOLVED:** That the action of the Chairperson and Clerk be confirmed.

16. **Planning**

- (a) The Council discussed the planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 8, 15, 22 and 29 May, 1998.

**Application No. T98/2132/10**

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk advise the Planning Authority that the Community Council is opposed to the application on the grounds that:

- (a) The site for the proposed development is fundamentally unsafe since it backs on to an old quarry.
- (b) The proposed development would result in an overdevelopment of the existing site.
- (c) The site would be better used as a playarea for local children.
- (b) **Replacement Structure Plan 1991 - 2006**

The Council received details of the proposals of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council for modifying the Replacement Structure Plan 1991 - 2006.

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

(c) **Hedgerow Regulations, 1997**

The Council received the letter of 7 May, 1998, from the Director of Planning, and noted that the appeal by Mr G R Williams against the refusal of the Planning Authority to award planning consent for the removal of a hedgerow in Groesfaen had been withdrawn.

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

17. **Payment of creditors**

**RESOLVED:** That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 11 to the Council's Agenda.

18. **Reports from Members**

(a) **Pontyclun Primary School**

Councillor Norman reported that an inspection of Pontyclun Primary School had recently been undertaken by the H M Inspectorate of Schools. The Governing Body, Headteacher and staff were confident that the school would receive a first class report.

The report was noted.

(b) **Pavements in Tegfan and Brodawl, Pontyclun**

Councillor Edwards reported that the pavements in Tegfan and Brodawl had deteriorated to a considerable extent and were in urgent need of maintenance.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk take the matter up with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(c) **Unauthorised tipping - Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun**

Councillor Davies reported that a site at the end of Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun, where planning consent for tipping had earlier been refused, was still being used, albeit intermittently, for tipping. He had tried unsuccessfully to contact the Environment Agency but had been unsuccessful in his attempts. He would continue in his efforts to ensure that illegal tipping did not take place.

The report was noted.

(d) **Storage compound, Groesfaen**

Councillor Rea reported that despite earlier assurance from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in writing that maintenance work would be carried out to the walls of the storage compound off the A4119 in Groesfaen, nothing had been done. There was a real risk to a member of the public in the vicinity from unstable masonry.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk again take the matter up with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(e) **Bus shelter in Groesfaen**

Councillor Rea reported that recent reinstatement work by SWALEC at the rear of the Community Council's bus shelter in the middle of Groesfaen had been carried out to a very poor standard. He had raised the matter with the local Highways, Transportation and Engineering Depot in Talbot Green and was hopeful that through the Borough Council he would be able to get the contractors back to site to carry out a better standard of reinstatement.

The report was noted.

(f) **Bus shelters, Groesfaen**

Councillor Rea reported that both Council owned bus shelters in Groesfaen were in need of maintenance. The shelter in the centre of the village needed weeds removed from the paving stones to the rear of the structure while the bus shelter in Llantrisant Road needed a coat of creosote.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk arrange for the Council's Handyman to carry out the work.

(g) **Off street lighting**

The Chairperson, Councillor Huish, reported that a light column near Castan Road, Pontyclun, and another one in the lane connecting Merthyr Street and Maelog Close, were in need of maintenance.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk arrange for the necessary maintenance work to be carried out.

(h) **Removal of paving stones**

The Chairperson, Councillor Huish, reported that it appeared that a householder living in a bungalow at the western end of Lewis Street, Pontyclun, had removed paving stones outside his premises in order to increase the size of the layby.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk refer the matter to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(i) **Cefn y Parc cemetery, Cross Inn**

Councillor Rea reported that he recently had occasion to visit the cemetery at Cefn y Parc, Cross Inn, and was concerned to find that the grass in the cemetery was knee high.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk refer the matter to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(j) **Grass verge outside Pontyclun Library**

Councillor Rea referred to the earlier promise of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to lay paving stones on the grass verge outside the public library in Heol y Felin, Pontyclun. He pointed out that no work had yet been carried out.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk refer the matter to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(k) **Public Meeting**

Councillor Edwards advised the Council that a public meeting would be held in the Pontyclun Community Centre at 7.00 p.m. on Friday, 19 June, 1998, and would be addressed by the M P for Pontypridd, Dr Kim Howells. A warm welcome to attend the meeting was extended to all.

The matter was noted.

(l) **Sandra Flaherty**

Councillor Davies reported the death of Mrs Sandra Flaherty of Stuart Street, Pontyclun. Mrs Flaherty was a well liked and respected resident who devoted a significant part of her time to the welfare of people in the Community.

**RESOLVED:** That a letter of condolences from the Community Council be sent to Mr Michael Flaherty.

(m) **Blocked footpath near Pantaquesta Farm, Miskin**

Councillor Edwards provided details of a blocked public right of way near Pantaquesta Farm. Miskin.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk take the matter up with the Footpaths Officer of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

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

(a) **National Assembly for Wales**

The Clerk reported that during mid May, as a result of attending a seminar in Tredomen, he had been handed one copy of a consultative booklet produced by the Advisory Committee for the National Assembly for Wales.

The booklet contained a considerable amount of information and invited comments from the public on the Advisory Committee's recommendations within a fortnight of the date of receipt. Clearly, there was no way in which the Clerk could have organised further supplies of the document, called a meeting, and provided the Community Council's responses within the very tight timescale allowed.

The Clerk had registered his concern with the Association of Community and Town Councils at the unrealistic timescale offered to the public for comment on the document.

The report was noted.

(b) **Pontypridd and District Housing Association**

The Clerk read out a letter from the Pontypridd and District Housing Association where assistance was being sought from the Community Council to alleviate parking difficulties in the vicinity of the new housing development at Heol yr Orsaf, Pontyclun.

In particular, it was stated that some shoppers were failing to use the car park adjacent to the Community Centre preferring instead to use the access road into Heol yr Orsaf. Consequently, access to Heol yr Orsaf became difficult and the parked cars created a hazard for young children playing in the vicinity.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk write to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council supporting the Housing Association's request for parking restrictions in the approach to Heol yr Orsaf and the erection of prominent signs encouraging shoppers to use the public car park adjacent to the Community Centre.

(c) **Dumping of refuse**

The Clerk read out a copy of a letter sent by Mr Graham Croad of 52 Rhyd Y Nant, Pontyclun, to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council requesting action over the dumping of refuse in the back lane to the rear of Pontyclun Post Office and the nearby railway embankment. Mr Croad had sent a copy of his letter to the Community Council for its information.

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

(d) **Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee**

The Clerk read out a letter from Mrs Anne Nicholls, Secretary to the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee, in which she stated that it had been agreed to postpone the meeting of the Liaison Committee scheduled for 10 June, 1998. Mrs Nicholls said that the quarry was currently mothballed and no blasting had taken place since September, 1998.

Furthermore, Tarmac's Estates Department were presently in discussion with Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council regarding the planning conditions relating to the quarry and it was hoped that the discussions would be concluded within the following weeks

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

(e) **Planning appeal, hoarding near Corner Park Garage**

The Clerk read out a letter from the Director of Planning of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in which the Community Council was informed that the applicant for planning consent to erect an advertising hoarding near the Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy, had appealed against the Planning Authority's decision to refuse consent.

The comments already made by the Community Council would be taken into account by the Inspector hearing the appeal.

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

(f) **Talygarn Flower Festival**

The Clerk read out a letter from the Reverend Glyn Austin, Vicar of Pontyclun and Talygarn, in which he asked for his most hearty gratitude to be conveyed to the Community Council for the support it had offered to St Anne's Church during the recent flower festival. The Vicar stated the presence of Members of the Community Council at the service on Saturday, 23 May, 1998, was a vital part of an act of worship which, hopefully, drew the whole community together.

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

(g) **R C T in Bloom Competition, 1998**

The Clerk advised that the Community Council had again been invited to participate in the annual RCT in Bloom Competition.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk arrange for the War Memorial in Pontyclun to be entered for the competition.

(h) **ABC of Chairmanship**

The Clerk advised that the book "The ABC of Chairmanship" had been received from the University Bookshop in Cardiff. The book had been handed to the Community Council's current Chairperson and would be passed to subsequent Chairpersons as a source of reference during their occupancy of the Chair.

The matter was noted.

(i) **"Clerks and Councils Direct"**

The Clerk reported that he had been provided with a free copy of a booklet entitled "Clerks and Councils Direct". The booklet contained a significant amount of information on a number of topics of interest to local councils throughout the United Kingdom. Additional copies of the booklet were available at £5.00 per copy.



**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk arrange for the purchase of four further copies of the booklet on the basis of one copy for each ward of the Community Council.

(j) **Blocked footpath, Talygarn**

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by the Llantrisant and District Angling Society who complained that a public right of way in Talygarn had been obstructed by the landowner. The obstruction had earlier been the subject of a complaint from a member of the Community Council.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk pursue the matter with the Footpaths Officer of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

19. The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.