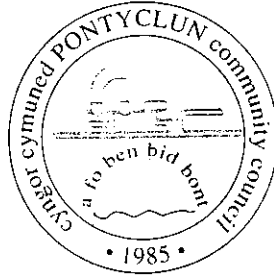


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Clerc I'r Cyngor  
J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.  
"Mandalay"  
Heol Bonifaen  
Talygarn  
Pontyclun  
CF72 9BZ



**APPENDIX No. 1**  
Pontyclun Community Council

Clerk to the Council  
J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.  
"Mandalay"  
Cowbridge Road  
Talygarn  
Pontyclun  
CF72 9BZ

Ffôn/Fax: 01 443 22775

Tel/Fax: 01 443 22775

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 3 March, 1999

**PRESENT:** Community Councillors Mrs V A Cale, R O Edwards, J V Huish, R G Norman, M Rea and Mrs D B Shackell

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

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors C G Bendle, J G Davies, T Flood and Mrs M M Griffiths

2. **Chairperson's business**

(a) **Documents from the Borough Council**

The Chairperson, Councillor Huish, tabled documents he had received from the Borough Council on Community Safety Audit and Housing Advice Centres.

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

(b) **Budgetary process at the Borough Council**

Councillor Huish advised that the Borough Council was finalising its budget for 1999/2000. In the absence of additional funding from the Welsh Office it appeared that all departments of the Authority would need to make reductions in their budgets of between 5% - 6%. In addition, it was likely that there would be an increase in Council Tax in the region of 12% to 15%.

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

(c) **Footpath lighting**

Councillor Huish handed a letter to the Clerk, from Mr K Russell, about the recently installed footpath lighting at the rear of Cerdin Avenue, Pontyclun.

The Clerk read out the letter in which Mr Russell, on behalf of residents, thanked the Community Council for funding the installation. Mr Russell expressed the wish that the Community Council would be in a position to fund footpath lighting schemes in the lanes to the rear of Derwen Road and Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun.

The Clerk also advised the Council that he had received thanks from a resident of Fairview Close, Pontyclun, who appreciated the increased illumination to the rear of his property but wondered whether the intensity of the illumination could be reduced.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the appreciation of local residents conveyed by Mr Russell be noted.
- (ii) That the Clerk contact the Council's contractors to establish whether there was a method of reducing the intensity of the light outside the premises of the resident in Fairview Close.

3. **Police matters**

(a) **Licensing**

P C Keddle advised the Council that he had convened a meeting of 4 local licensees for 6.30 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, 9 March, 1999. The meeting would be held in a room at the Windsor Arms, Pontyclun. In view of the Community Council's previously expressed concerns about late night alcohol related behaviour in the Community, P C Keddle invited Members of the Council to attend the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That two Members of the Community Council attend the meeting.



(b) **Heol yr Orsaf, Pontyclun**

P C Keddle advised that a meeting had taken place with representatives of the Highway Authority about the need to introduce parking restrictions at the junction of Heol yr Orsaf and Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. The representatives of the Highway Authority were satisfied that restrictions should be introduced and would take the necessary steps.

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

(c) **Report of a prowler, Stuart Street, Pontyclun**

P C Keddle advised the Council that the police had received a report of a prowler in the vicinity of Stuart Street, Pontyclun. An elderly lady had been frightened by the prowler and P C Keddle urged residents to be vigilant. In the event of a further incident P C Keddle advised that the police should be contacted immediately.

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

(d) **Possibility of the installation of a pelican crossing**

P C Keddle advised the Council that following a meeting with representatives of the Highway Authority there was a possibility of the installation of a pelican crossing in Pontyclun.

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

(e) **Disabled section of car park, Pontyclun Community Centre**

Councillor Norman drew P C Keddle's attention the practice of some able-bodied motorists of parking their vehicles in the section of the car park at the Pontyclun Community Centre which is reserved for disabled motorists. A considerable amount of inconvenience had been caused to disabled motorists.

P C Keddle noted the comments.

(f) **Hooliganism at the Pontyclun Community Centre**

Councillor Norman advised P C Keddle of a recent incident at

the Pontyclun Community Centre when large quantities of mud were thrown at a number of windows.

P C Keddle noted the report.

(g) **Speeding vehicles**

Councillor Norman advised P C Keddle of a number of incidents of speeding vehicles on the road between Llanharry and Pontyclun.

P C Keddle noted the report.

(h) **Car thefts in Groesfaen**

Councillor Rea asked P C Keddle if there had been recent incidents of car thefts in Groesfaen.

P C Keddle responded that while he did not have specific information on car thefts in Groesfaen he thought it likely that thefts had taken place because the Pontyclun area appeared to have been targeted for car thefts by gangs operating from Rhondda and Barry.

The matter was noted.

(i) **Vehicle speed trap**

Councillor Rea thanked P C Keddle for arranging a vehicle speed trap outside the former Wella factory in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, during the previous month.

The matter was noted.

(j) **Abandoned car in Groesfaen**

Councillor Rea sought clarification from P C Keddle on the duration of time necessary for the removal of an abandoned car. He stated that there was an abandoned car in Groesfaen which, to his knowledge, had been in its present position for around 11 to 12 weeks.

P C Keddle responded that there was no fixed time for the removal of an abandoned vehicle. Removal times varied according to the amount of involvement of the police and the response the police received from other agencies. All

investigatory work needed to be completed before a notice was affixed to the vehicle advising that the vehicle would be removed on the expiry of a given period.

The matter was noted.

(k) **Inconsiderate parking, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Edwards drew P C Keddle's attention to a recent incident of inconsiderate parking by the driver of a heavy goods vehicle in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

Councillor Edwards advised that the driver had stopped his vehicle in the carriageway and left it while he visited the fish and chip shop in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. The inconsiderate parking had caused enormous difficulties for other motorists passing through the village.

The matter was noted by P C Keddle.

4. **Minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 3 February, 1999**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 3 February, 1999, be approved as an accurate record.

5. **Matters arising**

(a) **Encroachment at the Ivor Woods**

Councillor Davies reported that the greenhouse which had been erected on land in the Ivor Woods had been removed. The site, however had not been cleared and debris from the encroachment remained.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk take the matter up with the solicitor who had acted for the person responsible for the encroachment and ask for the land to be returned to its original condition.

(b) **Review of electoral arrangements**

Members produced the signatures of 20 residents of the 30 residents' signatures required for a formal request to the Borough Council for a review of electoral arrangements in the Cefn yr Hendy Ward of the Community Council.



**RESOLVED:** That the a sheet containing the remaining 10 signatures be provided by Councillor Rea to the Clerk as soon as possible to enable the formal request to be made.

(c) **Millennium Street Map/Millennium Festivities**

The Clerk reminded the Council of its decision to produce a Millennium Street Map and advised the Council that as part of the agreement with Burrows Communications it was necessary for the Community Council to provide an editorial, photographs of the Community and a base map. The Clerk would write the editorial but it would be necessary to incur expenditure in producing photographs and obtaining an up to date base map.

The Clerk also reported on the meeting of the Millennium Festivities group which met on 1 March, 1999, and had formed a smaller working group to progress the co-ordination of celebrations in the Community. A meeting of the working group had been scheduled for 10 March, 1999.

**RESOLVED:** (i) That the Clerk be authorised to incur expenditure on photographs and an up to date base map as part of the Council's commitment to the production of the Millennium Street Map.

(ii) That the Council note the progress in the co-ordination of Millennium festivities in the Community.

(d) **Proposed siting of planters**

**RESOLVED:** That in the absence of Councillor Flood this item of business be deferred to the Community Council's next meeting.

(e) **Proposed Footpaths Leaflet**

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Mr Graham Woosnam about the proposed Footpaths Leaflet. Mr Woosnam had advised that after he had resolved certain matters of protocol he had been able to devote some time towards



producing a map of the circular walk envisaged by the Community Council. He would continue to work on the project and would contact the Council again in due course.

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

(f) **Access road to Pontyclun Joinery/  
Pontyclun Railway Station**

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Highways, Transportation and Engineering Department to establish the position on the promised road improvement to the Pontyclun Joinery and west bound platform of Pontyclun Railway Station.

The Clerk had been advised that unforeseen problems had arisen with Railtrack and that this was the reason for work not commencing in October, 1998, as originally envisaged. The Clerk was assured that the problems were likely to be resolved in the near future and that the SWIFT funding for the scheme would not be lost.

Since receiving this information from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council it had been noted that contractors had moved in to the site and work had commenced. It was understood that the scheme was scheduled to be completed in 16 weeks.

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

(g) **Trees in Heol Miskin and Ivor Woods**

The Council discussed a letter from the Arboriculture Officer of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in which it was stated that following the site meeting in Miskin he would look into the possibility of protecting healthy trees in Heol Miskin with a Tree Preservation Order.

The letter also referred to the inspection of a tree in the Ivor Woods, Brynsadler, which the Arboriculture Officer had visited following concern expressed by a resident in The Hollies. It was confirmed that the tree in question showed no mechanical or biological problems, although he expressed concern about the deposition of soil and garden waste around the base of the tree. The deposition of waste could result in biological problems in the future and monitoring was recommended.

**RESOLVED:** (i) That the information on the trees in Heol Miskin be noted.

(ii) That a copy of the Arboriculture Officer's letter be sent to the resident in The Hollies who had contacted the Council.

(h) **Letter of appreciation**

The Council received the letter of 8 February, 1999, from Chief Inspector Kinrade of the South Wales Police who thanked the Council for the warm welcome he had received at the Community Council's February meeting.

Chief Inspector Kinrade promised to pursue the matters raised by Members at the February meeting, in particular the disorder attributable to licensed premises in the Community. Chief Inspector asked that the police be supported in their discussion with licensees by the presence of a Community Council Member.

**RESOLVED:** That the letter be noted and the Community Council support the police in its discussions with licensees.

(i) **Public conveniences - Tender for work**

The Chairperson opened the only sealed tender which had been returned by the closing date for work on the forecourt at the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

**RESOLVED:** That the contract be awarded to K W Jones & Co, Builders, Pontyclun.

6. **Proposal for a hard surface play area near Glan yr Afon, Pontyclun**

A long discussion took place on the Council's plans to investigate the possibility of creating a hard surface play area near Glan yr Afon, Pontyclun.

During the Council's discussions reference was made to the consultation exercise which had taken place with residents of Glan yr Afon and Tir Afon Court where a majority of residents responding to the Community Council's questionnaire wished to register their opposition to the proposal.





The Council also received comments on the proposal from residents who would be affected who were in attendance at the Council's meeting.

Additionally, the Council considered a letter from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in which the Director of Leisure and Tourism stated that due to budgetary constraints he would not be able to offer the Community Council a professional appraisal of the proposal although he did highlight areas which needed to be clarified if the scheme was to be progressed.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That no further action be taken to progress the scheme for a hard surface play area at the Glan yr Afon site for the time being.
- (ii) That the Council make arrangements to view four other potential sites in the Maesyfelin area for a hard surface play area.

7. **Community Council's Newsletter**

The feedback received from the distribution of the recent Community Newsletter was extremely encouraging and Members commented on the many favourable comments received from residents.

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

8. **Footpath lighting, Fairview Close, Pontyclun**

**RESOLVED:** That no further discussion take place under this heading as the matter had been fully discussed earlier in the meeting.

9. **Invitation to visit Callac**

Councillor Huish reported that that some years earlier the Mayor of Callac in Brittany had led a party of approximately 50 residents from the town to Pontyclun. The visitors had enjoyed their visit to Pontyclun. An invitation had been received from a contact in Callac for residents of Pontyclun to make a return visit to Callac.

While no twinning arrangements existed between Pontyclun and Callac, an invitation had been received for a party of Pontyclun residents visit Callac in August, 1999. The invitation was to residents of Pontyclun and the issue was of wider community interest than an invitation to the Pontyclun Community Council.

**RESOLVED:** That a sub committee comprising Councillors Edwards, Huish,



Rea and Shackell be formed to decide upon the best way to respond to the invitation.

10. **Members' Business**

**RESOLVED:** That as the Councillor Griffiths, the Member who had asked for this matter to be discussed, was not present the matter be deferred to the next Council meeting.

11. **Possibility of extending a pavement in Heol y Felin, Pontyclun**

The Council discussed the letter of 8 February, 1999, from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering in which it was stated that the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council was not in a position to fund an extension of the pavement in Heol y Felin, Pontyclun. However, it had been estimated that the scheme would cost around £1,000.00 and if the Community Council was prepared to fund the scheme the Borough Council would seek committee consent carry out the work.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk advise the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering that the Community Council would be prepared to contribute £1,000.00 towards the scheme.

12. **Absence of mains sewerage facility, Groesfaen**

The Clerk reported that he had written to Hyder asking for the reasons why the company was not prepared to instal mains sewerage facilities in Groesfaen. A reply from Hyder was awaited.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk write directly to the Chief Executive of Hyder in the matter pointing out that no reply had been received to its earlier enquiry.

13. **Litter in the vicinity of Pontyclun Railway Station**

The Council discussed a letter from Mr Graham Croad of Rhyd y Nant, Pontyclun, who sought the Community Council's assistance in getting Railtrack to remove the accumulations of litter in the vicinity of Pontyclun Railway Station.

**RESOLVED:** (i) That the Clerk send a strong letter to Railtrack about the accumulations of litter in the vicinity of the railway station and requesting that Railtrack make permanent arrangements for the removal of litter from its land.



- (ii) That a copy of the Community Council's letter be sent to the Environmental Services Department of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

14. **CCTV in Pontyclun**

Councillor Rea referred to the recent publicity that the Trealaw Action Committee had received in its success in gaining funding for a CCTV system in the village. Councillor Rea pointed out that the Pontyclun Community Council had discussed the installation of CCTV for some time and wondered if there were any lessons to be learned from the Trealaw Action Committee's success.

A discussion ensued and it was agreed that the major obstacle to having a modern CCTV system in Pontyclun was the absence of the necessary fibre optic cable. Without fibre optic cable the only option for CCTV appeared to be an older type of technology which would not be capable of connection to the existing monitoring facilities in Rhondda Cynon Taff.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk establish the present position on the installation of fibre optic cable in Pontyclun.

15. **Applications for financial assistance**

The Council discussed applications for financial assistance from Pontyclun Rugby and Sports Club and Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Urdd Gobaith Cymru. The applications were decided taking into account guidance provided by the District Auditor on the award of grants.

(a) **Pontyclun Rugby and Sports Club**

The Chairperson, Councillor Huish, declared an interest in this application and vacated the Council Chamber during discussion of the application. During the Chairperson's vacation of the Chair, and in the absence of the Vice Chairperson, the Chair was occupied by Councillor Norman.

**RESOLVED:** That as the application fell into a category where the District Auditor had advised that a grant should not be made, no grant be awarded to the Pontyclun Rugby and Sports Club.

(b) **Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Urdd Gobaith Cymru**

**RESOLVED:** That a grant of £100.00 be made but as the Community Council's grant budget for 1998/99



financial year had been exhausted, the grant be paid out of the Community Council's grant budget for the 1999/2000 financial year.

16. **Taff Ely Crime Prevention Panel**

The Council discussed an invitation to nominate a member of the Community Council to sit on the Taff Ely Crime Prevention Panel.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillors Flood and Rea be nominated to sit on the Panel.

17. **First Stage Review and Assessment of Air Quality in Rhondda Cynon Taff**

The Council discussed the report produced by the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council on air quality in the Borough. The Council also considered a press cutting produced by Councillor Edwards in which a number of air polluting companies in the Borough were named.

The Council felt at a severe disadvantage in attempting to make comments on the document to the Borough Council since much of the information in the report was of a technical nature. For meaningful comments to be made by the Council it was felt that some technical appraisal of the document was necessary.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk contact Dr Delme Bowen to establish whether he would be in a position to advise the Council on the document.

18. **Right to Roam Bill**

The Council discussed a letter from the Ramblers' Association about the plans of Gordon Prentice, MP, to introduce a Private Member's Bill in Parliament to give people the right to roam over heath, down, mountain, moorland and common land, subject to common sense restrictions. It was planned to introduce the Bill on 26 March, 1999, and it had been guaranteed a full day of debate.

The letter urged the Community Council to write to its local MP to ask him to vote in favour of the Bill at the conclusion of the debate on 26 March, 1999.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk contact Dr Kim Howells, MP, asking him to support the Bill on 26 March, 1999.



19. **"Finding our Voices in the Welsh Assembly"**

The Council received an invitation to attend a conference at Builth Wells on Saturday, 13 March, 1999, entitled "Finding our Voices in the Welsh Assembly". The conference had been specially designed to meet the needs of local government in making views known at the Welsh Assembly. The conference would be addressed by a number of prominent public figures in Wales including the Secretary of State for Wales, Mr Alun Michael, MP.

**RESOLVED:** That the Chairperson and Clerk be nominated to attend the conference.

20. **Planning**

(a) **Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ended 5, 12, 19 and 26 February, 1999**

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

(b) **Creation of a car park at the Maesyfelin Rugby Field**

The Chairperson, Councillor Huish, declared an interest in the matter and vacated the Council Chamber during discussion of this item. During the Chairperson's vacation of the Chair, and in the absence of the Vice Chairperson, the Chair was occupied by Councillor Norman.

The Council discussed the letter of the Director of Planning dated 2 February, 1999, in which he stated that the views of the Director of Highways had not been sought on the development since planning permission may not be required. In the event that it is established that planning consent is needed for the development then the views of the Director of Highways would be sought.

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

(c) **Miscellaneous**

- (i) Members commented on the amount of development which had taken place at the Otters Brook Trout Pools. Members believed from the planning application which was discussed at an earlier meeting that the amount of work proposed at the premises was relatively small.



**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk make enquiries to establish whether the scale of development which had taken place at Otters Brook Trout Pools was within the terms of the planning consent.

(ii) **Lack of detail on planning applications**

Councillor Rea commented on the paucity of information supplied by the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council on planning applications. The lack of information prevented the Community Council from being aware of all aspects of the developer's intentions.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk again contact the Director of Planning and request that the 4th copy of all planning applications affecting the Community of Pontyclun be passed to the Community Council for information.

21. **Payment of creditors**

**RESOLVED:** That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 14 to the Council's agenda.

22. **Reports from Members**

(a) **Maes yr Afon, Pontyclun**

Councillor Edwards drew the Council's attention to a footpath at the front of Maes yr Afon, Pontyclun, which was very dark and intimidating during the hours of darkness. He suggested that the Council might like to consider the possibility of the installation of low level footpath lighting.

Councillor Edwards also referred to a serious infestation of weeds along the footpath which needed attention.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk make arrangements for a site meeting.



(b) **Footpath lighting, Groesfaen**

Councillor Rea asked whether there was any further information on the Council's plans to install footpath lighting along the path from Llantrisant Road to Y Parc, Groesfaen. The Clerk replied that he had heard nothing further from Infrastructure Services but would pursue the matter again.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk pursue the matter with Infrastructure Services.

(c) **Former cinema, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Rea reported that he had obtained the name and address of the owners, who lived overseas, of the former Park Hall Cinema in Pontyclun. He believed that the Council should contact the owners about the possibility of the purchase of the former cinema with a view to providing facilities for the youth of the Community.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk contact the owners of the former Park Hall Cinema to ask them whether they would be interested in selling the premises to the Community Council.

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

(a) **Accounts software package**

The Clerk gave details of a new accounts software package, called The Clerk, from Redview Computers which, in addition to meeting all the requirements necessary for the proper administration of the financial affairs of community councils, also assisted considerably in the production of the 1996 Accounts and Audit Regulations. The package cost £220. The Clerk was confident that the package would enable him to produce accounts more quickly thereby enabling him to devote more time to other aspects of the Community Council's work.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk be authorised to evaluate and purchase the package if appropriate.

(b) **Talygarn Pavilion**

The Clerk advised the Council that the Vicar of Pontyclun with Talygarn, the Reverend Glyn Austin, had contacted him

regarding the Talygarn Pavilion. While the Church had earlier believed that it had no further use for the Pavilion, the Parochial Church Council had reconsidered the position and was now of the view that it could, with some help, bring the Pavilion back into beneficial use for the community.

As a result, the Pavilion was no longer surplus to the Parochial Church Council's requirements.

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

(c) **Audit of accounts - 1997/98**

The Clerk reported that he had been notified by the District Auditor that the audit of the Community Council's accounts for the 1997/98 financial year would begin on Monday, 15 March, 1999. All the necessary notices had been given and all financial records of the Council were in order.

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

(d) **Clerk's salary - effect of increase in population**

The Clerk reminded the Council that the Council had elected to pay his salary on the national conditions of service agreed between the local councils and the Society of Local Clerks.

To date the salary had been paid in accordance with Scale L C 1, that is, where the population of a community or parish does not exceed 5,000. The latest available information on the population of the Community of Pontyclun showed that the population had increased to 5,327. The Clerk asked that consideration be given to paying his salary in accordance with Scale L C 2, that is, for a community or parish where the population lay in the band 5,001 to 10,000. Details of the increased cost were provided to the Council.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk's salary be paid in accordance with Scale L C 2.

24. The meeting ended at 9.25 p.m.

