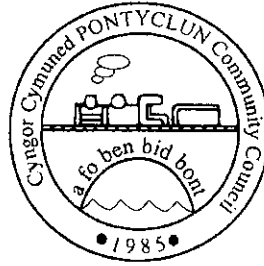


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun**Pontyclun Community Council**

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Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held on 4 January, 2006, at 7.00 p.m. in the Pontyclun Community Centre.

PRESENT: Community Councillors V A Cale, C Davies, P Griffiths, D Henderson, Ms S Jenkins, A R Lane, M Rea and P Thomas

Also in attendance: One member of the public for part of the meeting

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors D Clayton-Jones, R G Norman and P C Steve Keddle.

2. **Declarations of interest**

RESOLVED: That any declarations of interest be recorded in the Register of Members' Interests

3. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 7 December, 2005**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 7 December, 2005, be approved as an accurate record subject to:

(a) the resolution under minute 4(b) being amended to read:

- (i) That the Council take the recommendations of good practice suggested at the training days and look at ways of incorporating the good practice into the Council's regular meetings.
- (ii) That a sub committee comprising Councillors Davies, Griffiths, Jenkins and Norman meet in the New Year with a remit

to consider resources available to the Council in delivering its services

- (b) the resolution under minute 6 (c)(i) and (ii) be combined to read:
- (i) That an order for six planters be placed; three planters of uniform specification, at the site already identified, and a further three planters of varying height at a site to be determined.

Councillor Lane proposed that a minute be included to reflect the discussion which took place at the December meeting on the reasons for the non-erection of the rope lights along Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

It was agreed that a draft of Councillor Lane's proposal be submitted to the Clerk for circulation and agreement by Members.

Councillor Lane referred to minute 4 (f) and asked why discussion at a site meeting had concerned a matter affecting the Pantydderwen Estate, Pontyclun, when the Estate was outside the Community Council's boundary.

The Clerk responded that the site meeting had been convened to discuss apparent obstructions in the river Ely. As a representative of the Environment Agency was present at the site meeting the opportunity was taken to express concern to the representative about a collapsed bank on the river Ely and a blocked surface water outlet at the nearby Pantydderwen Estate. The Clerk advised that the Community Council had never felt constrained on issues which were marginally outside its boundary. There were many examples where the Community Council had expressed a view on issues outside the Community which could have had an impact on the Community.

4. **Matters arising**

(a) **Elected Member training**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had made enquiries with the Borough Council about the cost of the training courses listed in the recent booklet on Elected Member Training.

He had been advised that a nominal charge of £15.00 would be payable for each member attending Borough Council training course.

The Clerk also advised that he had made enquiries with One Voice Wales to establish whether any training courses were

being run by that organisation. He was advised that One Voice Wales could not offer any training courses at present although it was planned that a range of courses would be offered to member councils in approximately 6 months' time.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

(b) **Council's key objectives**

A review took place of the Council's key objectives.

RESOLVED: That the Council's Action Plan for the period January, 2006, to March, 2006, be updated to reflect:

(i) **Station Terrace issues**

The date of the next meeting of SEWTA.

An invitation to a representative of SEWTA to attend the following meeting of the Community Council to discuss plans for improvements to car parking facilities in the vicinity of Station Terrace.

(ii) **Rivercare Project**

The interest of local volunteers to be confirmed and organised.

A meeting between the local volunteers and Ben Williams of Rivercare

The recruitment of more volunteers

(iii) **Footpaths leaflets**

Leaflets to be received by Councillor Griffiths

Distribution of leaflets

(iv) **Maesyfelin railings**

Advice to be sought on responsibility for maintaining the railings from the legal advisers to One Voice Wales.



(v) **Voluntary Groups**

That a list of local voluntary groups be placed on the Community Council's website giving the name of a contact.

(vi) **Public Participation**

That the feedback from the Council's "Have Your Say Day" be listed in separate categories.

The Council agreed to review its Action Plan quarterly.

(c) **Council's additional summer work programme**

The Council's additional summer work programme was discussed, in particular the staffing implications.

RESOLVED: That the Council earmark a sum of £5,000.00 from its budget to provide for flexible working arrangements during the summer.

5. **Police matters**

In the absence of a representative of the police this item of business was deferred to the next Council meeting.

6. Matters reported for decision

(a) **Exclusion of Press and Public**

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended, for the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information namely, term or terms proposed by or to the Council in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property, goods or services.

(b) **Land at Brynsadler Mill**

The Clerk read out a letter dated 22 December, 2005, which had been received from the District Valuer for Wales.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That given the potential for a “gap” advice on the proposals of the Welsh Development Agency be obtained from the District Auditor and One Voice Wales.
 - (ii) That the Council obtain an Underground Mining Subsidence Report from the District Mineral Valuer.
 - (iii) That copy of the e-mail containing the proposals of the Welsh Development Agency be provided to Councillor Rea.

(c) **Council’s precept for 2006/07**

RESOLVED: That the Council’s budget for 2006/07 be deferred for consideration by a group of Members in January.

(d) **Pontyclun After School Club**

Following the Club’s earlier application for financial assistance the Council considered details of the Club’s immediate needs.

RESOLVED: That a grant of £110.00 be made to the Club.

(e) **Hanging baskets**

The Council discussed potential sites for the erection of additional hanging baskets in the summer.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That a bracket for double hanging baskets be erected in the triangle of land at the junction of Clun Avenue and Heol Miskin, Pontyclun.
 - (ii) That Councillor C Davies identify suitable locations for the erection of brackets for hanging baskets in Miskin.
 - (iii) That Councillor M Rea identify suitable locations for the erection of brackets for hanging baskets in Groesfaen.

(f) **Sites for additional flowerbeds**

RESOLVED: That additional flowerbeds be created at:

- (i) A site near the Pontyclun Fire Station

- (ii) A site at the junction of Llanharry Road and Cowbridge Road in Brynsadler.

(g) **Sites for additional planters**

The Council discussed a number of locations for additional planters in the Community. Many of the suggestions received were considered by the Council to be in "green" areas. The Council felt that planters would be placed with better effect in areas of the Community which could be regarded as more "urban"

RESOLVED: That the appropriate consents be pursued obtained for a site on the footway outside No.22 Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

(h) **Annual Photography Competition**

The Clerk advised that provisional arrangements had been made with the Librarian at Pontyclun Library to hold an exhibition of the entries to the Competition. Provisional arrangements had also been made with Mr Richard Williams, photographer with the Llantrisant and Pontypridd Observer, to judge the competition.

It was likely that the exhibition would be held in late January/February.

RESOLVED: That when details of the exhibition had been finalised posters be displayed in the Council's noticeboards to advertise the event.

(i) **Planning applications**

Councillor Rea declared an interest in this item of business and left the Council meeting

The Council discussed planning applications contained in the latest Weekly Notifications.

RESOLVED: That no comments be offered to the Planning Authority.

(j) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 5 to the Council's agenda.

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

(a) **Re-tendering of local bus services**

- The Council discussed a recent letter from the Borough Council about re-tendering of local bus services.

The Council noted that very few of the services listed in the schedule accompanying the letter affected the Community.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Chairperson would check the comments made by members of the public for any relevant comments effecting bus services in the Community.
- (ii) That the Council express its concern to the Borough Council over the absence of any integrated bus services to Pontyclun Railway Station.

(b) **Highways issues**

The Clerk read out an e-mail which he had received from Mr Ray Pritchard of Clos Brenin, Brynsadler, about traffic congestion near the traffic lights on Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler, and the absence of house number directions on the Clos Brenin site, Brynsadler. The latter concern resulted in avoidable traffic congestion on the estate.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council accept the offer of Councillor Henderson to call at a property in Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler, to explore the possibility of staff employed at the premises using less congested areas to park their vehicles.
- (ii) That the Clerk draws the attention of the Borough Council to the absence of house number direction signs on the Clos Brenin estate asking that suitable signs be erected.

(c) **Community Newsletter**

The Clerk read out an e-mail which had been received from Mr Richard Kennard of Castell-y-Mwnws, Pontyclun.

Mr Kennard congratulated the Community Council on the production of its latest newsletter but was disappointed that the Council had overlooked the need for Welsh language content.

The Council acknowledged its oversight and agreed that future editions of the Community Newsletter would have bilingual content.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk thank Mr Kennard for his e-mail and confirm that future editions of the Newsletter would have bilingual content.

8. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Local access to planning applications**

The Council received the reply of the Borough Council to its earlier query on why access to planning applications could not be gained locally.

Mrs Jane Cook, Service Director for Development Control, responded to say that local access to planning applications was a project which the Borough Council was already progressing in conjunction with the ICT department of the Borough Council. Unfortunately no timescale was presently available.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

(b) **The Church Village By-Pass**

(i) **Compulsory Purchase Order, 2005**

The Council received details of land to be purchased compulsorily for the construction of the Church Village By Pass.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(ii) **Side Roads Order, 2005**

The Council received details of the side roads which would be affected by the construction of the Church Village By Pass.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(c) **Interim Audit of Accounts, 2005/06**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had arranged for an Interim Audit of the Community Council's accounts for 2005/06

to be undertaken. The audit would commence on 10 January, 2006.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(d) **Audit of Accounts for 2004/05**

The Clerk reported that the District Auditor had raised two queries on the Community Council's Annual Return for 2004/05.

The first sought the reason why the Council's income for 2004/05 had increased by a "significant" amount. "Significant" was defined as being in excess of 15%. The increase in income was 17% and was substantially attributable to an increase in bank interest £217.52.

The second query was the requirement of the District Auditor for the Council's Internal Auditor to sign a section of the Annual Return. The guidance note on the Annual Return had not specified that a signature was required but, nevertheless, had now been signed by the Internal Auditor.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(e) **Christmas Illuminations in Pontyclun**

On behalf of the Council the Chairperson extended her thanks to Councillor Lane for his efforts in erecting Christmas illuminations in Pontyclun.

(f) **Review of Community Boundaries**

Members referred to the considerable development within, and on the boundaries, of the Community in recent years. The Boundary Commission had advised that the Borough Council should be approached to carry out a review of its community boundaries. The Borough Council had been approached on a number of occasions without any success.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Boundary Commission to inform it of the lack of success with the Borough Council and ask that the Commission become involved to ensure that the review is carried out. Further, that reference should be made to recent reports by the Boundary Commission where reports had been initiated following requests by members of the public.

(g) **Youth worker**



Councillor Lane enquired whether any Member had heard of the possibility of a youth worker being engaged in Pontyclun. There had been a suggestion in a recent letter from the Vicar of Pontyclun that local churches were pursuing this course. It appeared that a number of meetings which had taken place with the Borough Council had not resulted in Pontyclun being allocated a youth worker.

Nobody had any information on this but it was felt that a meeting needed to take place with representatives of The Bridge to progress the matter.

(h) **Public meeting at Tylagarw**

Councillor Lane referred to a meeting he had attended in Tylagarw which had been held to discuss residents' concerns about the potential for further residential development, and the inadequacy of the existing highway system.

Attendees at the meeting were disappointed that there was no representation from Persimmon, house builders, or Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, the Highway Authority.

The report was noted.

(i) **Former Park Hall cinema, Pontyclun**

The Clerk reported that he had been unable to obtain a copy of the Order which had been served on the owners of the former Park Hall cinema in Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council for a copy of the Order.

(j) **Dangerous parking of vehicles**

Councillor Rea drew attention to the practice of some motorists in parking very close to the junction of Clun Avenue and Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. The vision of drivers joining Llantrisant Road from Clun Avenue was seriously affected by the practice and there had been a number of accidents at the junction.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council asking that parking restrictions be introduced at the junction to improve road safety.

(k) **Best Illuminated House Competition, Christmas, 2005**

Members received a report following judging of the Best Illuminated House Competition, Christmas, 2005.

RESOLVED: That prizes of £25 be awarded as follows:

No. 5 Bryn Creigiau, Groesfaen
No. 28 The Drive, Miskin
No. 26 The Hollies, Brynsadler
No. 5 Windsor Court, Pontyclun
No 18 Heol y Coed, Pontyclun

Best Illuminated Street:

Heol Glan Elai, Pontyclun

9. The meeting ended at 9.23 p.m.

