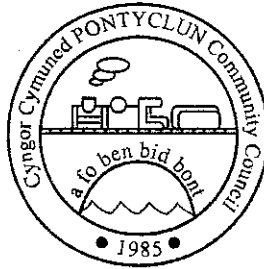


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Pontyclun Community Council

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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, 4 July, 2007.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Ms V A Cale, D. Clayton-Jones, C Davies, P Griffiths, A R Lane, M Rea and Ms P Thomas

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P C S O Jitka Tomkova and three members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received on Community Councillors Ms D Hayes, Ms S R Jenkins and R G Norman.

2. **Chairperson**

In the absence of the Chairperson, Councillor Ms P Thomas, the Council's Vice Chairperson, occupied the Chair.

3. **Declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest were received from Members.

4. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 13 June, 2007**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 13 June, 2007, be approved as an accurate record.

5. **Matters arising**

Have Your Say Day

The Clerk confirmed that arrangements to hold the Council's next Have Your Say Day in the Bethel Baptist Church,

Pontyclun, on Saturday, 14 July, 2007, were well advanced. Leaflets promoting the event had been dropped through the letterboxes of all houses in the Community, posters had been displayed in Pontyclun shop windows and further posters had been displayed in all Community Council noticeboards. PCSO Tomkova confirmed that she, together with her sergeant would be attending the event.

The report was noted.

6. **Police matters**

(a) **Caravans parked on highways**

PCSO Tomkova referred to an earlier query about what powers existed for the police to control the parking of caravans on highways. She reported that, provided no obstruction was being caused by the caravan, the police had very few powers under which to take action. An exception might be where there was a need to move the caravan and it was found to be not in a roadworthy condition.

The report was noted.

(b) **Raising the Awareness of Police and Communities Together (PACT)**

PCSO Tomkova stated that she was keen to raise the public's awareness of Police and Communities Together (PACT). She had organised the delivery of 550 letter drops to local households. In spite of this, attendance at that evening's meeting had remained around its usual number. She was disappointed that there had been no representation from Miskin. Reference was made to the number of letters dropped through letterboxes. Some Members believed that, given the population of the Community, it might be necessary for the letter drop to be significantly higher to achieve an improvement in attendance at PACT meetings. It was mentioned that when the Community Council organised a letter drop, a print run of 3,000 letters was needed. This number excluded the Ynysddu Farm Estate.

The report was noted.

(c) **Powers of Police Community Support Officers**

PCSO Tomkova advised the Community Council that the powers of PCSOs had recently been increased. The powers of Officers were now equivalent to that of a traffic warden. PCSO uniforms had been altered to reflect the changes. Given that the

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role of Officers was a changing role, it was likely that there would be further policing powers transferred to PCSOs.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk write to the Chief Constable to suggest that when further alterations are made to PCSO uniforms that the new designs more closely reflect the uniforms of police officers rather than traffic wardens.

(ii) That the report be noted.

(d) **Speeding traffic in Groesfaen**

Councillor Rea drew PCSO Tomkova's attention to the habit of many motorists of speeding through Groesfaen. While the fixed speed camera had been of assistance, motorists continued to exceed the speed restrictions before the camera, when travelling east, and after the camera when travelling west.

PCSO Tomkova advised that the police had recently acquired a number of hand held radar speed guns. One of these speed guns had been allocated for use by police in the Talbot Green Police Station. She would report the need to use the speed gun on the section of road described by Councillor Rea.

The matter was noted.

(e) **Parking of vehicles in Pontyclun**

Councillor Davies again raised the issue of vehicles parking close to the junction of Llantrisant Road and Clun Avenue, Pontyclun. Despite the Community Council's concerns having been passed to the Highway Authority on a number of occasions nothing had been done to restrict parking near the junction.

Councillor Rea responded that in his role as Borough Council member he had attended a site meeting to discuss the issue. Councillor Rea had been told at the meeting by officers of the Highway Authority that there was no provision in the Highway Authority's budget to introduce parking restrictions at the junction.

The report was noted.

(f) **Fracas in Pontyclun**

Following a question from Councillor Lane, PCSO Tomkova was able to confirm that following a recent fracas in Pontyclun a person had been arrested.



The matter was noted.

(g) **Thefts from properties in Pontyclun**

PCSO Tomkova advised that a considerable amount of police time had been devoted to differentiating the genuine scrap dealers who toured the back lanes in the Community on legitimate business from the activities of bogus scrap dealers. The activities of the bogus scrap dealers had resulted in a number of thefts in the Community. PCSO Tomkova was optimistic that the matter could be brought to a successful conclusion.

The report was noted.

(h) **Break-in at the Flower Pot, Pontyclun**

PCSO Tomkova reported that there had been a recent break-in at the Flower Pot in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. A sum of money in the region of around £50 had been stolen. Police enquiries into the matter were continuing.

The report was noted.

(i) **Damage at the Spar Stores, Pontyclun**

PCSO Tomkova reported that damage had been caused at Spar Stores, Pontyclun, over the previous weekend. The culprits had been apprehended and were required to make compensation for the damage.

The report was noted.

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Independent Internal Auditor's interim report for 2006/07**

Members discussed the report of the independent internal auditor on his interim audit of the Community Council's accounts for 2006/07.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Clerk makes enquiries to establish whether a template exists for conducting risk assessments in other community Councils.
 - (ii) That the Clerk makes enquiries about the possibility of introducing Internet banking for the Community Council.

(b) **Siting of a memorial seat**

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The Council discussed a request from Mr Rhodri Powell, of the Llantrisant and District History Society for practical assistance to place a memorial seat outside the Pontyclun Community Centre in memory of the late Eric Griffith. The late Mr Griffith was Chairman of the local History Society as well as a former member of the Pontyclun Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for the seat, which had already been bought by the History Society, to be permanently placed at an agreed site outside the Pontyclun Community Centre.

(c) **Weekly Planning Notifications**

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

The Council discussed planning applications in the latest Weekly Notifications.

RESOLVED: That with the exception of application No.s 07/0898/13 and 06/2203/10, the following comments be made to the Planning Authority:

Application No. 07/0898/13

That consideration of this application be deferred to the Council's meeting on 18 July, 2007.

Application No. 07/0423/10

That the Community Council is opposed to the proposal on the grounds that:

- (i) the proposal is inappropriate in a Conservation Area.
- (ii) a tip would be created in a residential area.
- (iii) the number of tipping operations necessary would have a serious effect on the quality of life of residents of Talygarn, Brynsadler and Pontyclun.
- (iii) the proposed means of access to the tip, via a narrow lane, is unsuitable.

Application No. 07/0868/10

That the Council supports in principle the proposal to protect a large number of residential properties

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and the Maesyfelin playing fields from flooding by the construction of a bund.

The Community Council would urge the Planning Authority to satisfy itself that any floodwaters which are diverted by the bund do not increase the risk of flooding on other low-lying residential properties such as the Ynysddu Estate, Pontyclun.

Application No. 06/2203/10

That consideration of this application be deferred to the Community Council's meeting on 18 July, 2007.

(c) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 4 to the Council's agenda.

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

Local Development Plan – Topic Papers

The Clerk read out a letter from the Borough Council which referred to a number of Topic Papers. The Community Council was invited to comment on the letter.

RESOLVED: (i) That without the Topic Papers the Council was unable to comment on the Borough Council's letter.
(ii) That the Clerk request the Borough Council to provide a full set of Topic Papers. In the Topic Papers are received by 18 July, 2007, they would be discussed at the Community Council's meeting that evening.

9. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Annual Grants Meeting**

The Clerk reminded the Council that the annual Grants meeting would be held in the Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on 18 July, 2007. Application forms for grants had been sent to all recipients of grants for the previous year. In addition, notices advising of the availability of grants had been displayed in all the Community Council's noticeboards. Some forms had also been distributed to the public by Members. The closing

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date for the receipt of applications for grant is 13 July, 2007.

A discussion followed on whether July was the best month of the year to hold a grants meeting.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the Council's grants meeting for 2007 go ahead as planned.
(ii) That the suitability of July for the annual grants meeting for future be raised at the Council's next Annual Meeting.

(b) **Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council's Local Development Plan**

RESOLVED: That in the absence of Councillor Norman, the Community Council's representative on the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council's Local Development Plan consultee meetings, a report on the latest consultee meeting be deferred to the Council's September monthly meeting.

(c) **Ombudsman for Wales – Annual Report for 2006/07**

The Clerk advised the Council of the receipt of a copy of the Ombudsman for Wales' Annual Report for 2006/07. Any Member wishing to see a copy of the Report should contact the Clerk.

The report was noted.

(d) **Taff Ely Ramblers**

The Clerk advised the Council of the receipt of the Taff Ely Ramblers' programme of walks for the period July, 2007 to December, 2007. Copies of the programme had been placed in each of the Community Council's noticeboards.

The report was noted.

(e) **"Rural Wales"**

The Clerk reported receipt of a copy of the Summer, 2007, edition of "Rural Wales" published by the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales. Any Member



wishing to see a copy of the publication should contact the Clerk.

The report was noted.

10. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the next item of business on the grounds that it involves legal proceeding or contemplated legal proceeding.

11. **Land at Brynsadler Mill**

The Council discussed a letter from Dr Brian Gibbon of the Welsh Assembly Government. The letter was in response to an earlier letter from the Community Council. The letter was addressed to the Assembly Member for Pontypridd, Ms Jane Davidson, AM, who had forwarded the letter to the Community Council.

The Community Council's earlier letter to the Welsh Assembly Government had asked whether benefit under the agricultural covenant, which had been placed by the former Welsh Development Agency on the land immediately adjacent to Community Council land, could be transferred to the Community Council.

The reply from Dr Gibbon seemed to indicate that the agricultural covenant on the adjacent land could not be transferred to benefit the Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the matter be referred to the Community Council's solicitor who handled the purchase of the land owned by the Community Council.

12. The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.

M Thomas