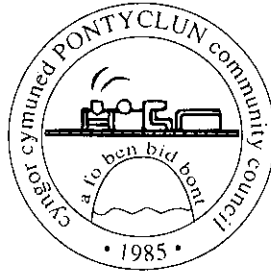


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Clerc i'r Cyngor
 J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.
 "Mandalay"
 Heol Bontfaen
 Talygarn
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**Pontyclun Community Council**

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

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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 March, 1998

PRESENT: Community Councillors C G Bendle, Mrs V A Cale, J G Davies, R-O Edwards, T Flood, Mrs M Griffiths, R G Norman and M Rea (Chairperson)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: W P C Hughes and seven members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors T J Burton and J V Huish

2. **Chairperson's business**

Pontyclun R F C and Sportsclub

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, advised Members that two representatives of the Pontyclun R F C and Sportsclub were in attendance and would like to make a preliminary proposal to the Council. Councillor Rea invited the representatives to make their presentation on the understanding that they would be allowed a limited amount of time to speak, would answer questions from Members, and would vacate the Chamber when the matter was later discussed by the Community Council.

Mr Tim Davies and Mr Stephen George, representatives of the Pontyclun R F C and Sportsclub, addressed the Council. They stated that they had become aware that the Council had been discussing the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road and whether the existing facility should be retained or replaced. In anticipation of any decision by the Community Council, the representatives of the RFC and

Sportsclub had drawn up proposals for improving access to their premises which would involve the demolition of the public conveniences, the erection of gates, the creation of three additional car parking spaces, an area reserved for the erection of a "superloo", and some landscaping. Photographs of the area, together with a copy of a plan were shown to the Council.

Messrs Davies and George answered a number of questions from Members on the proposals. The Council thanked the representatives for their presentation but emphasised that no decision had been taken on the future of the existing facilities.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the Council discuss the matter of the public conveniences at its next meeting.
- (ii) That the plan put forward by the Pontyclun RFC and Sportsclub be discussed at the Council's next meeting.

3. **Police matters**

(a) **Abandoned car**

Councillor Norman drew the attention of P C Hughes to an abandoned car which had been parked in Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun, for some time. The car had been parked in a position where it caused a hazard to vehicles accessing and leaving the Pontyclun Primary School.

P C Hughes responded that action had already been taken by the police and a notice had been placed on the vehicle requiring its removal within a period of 7 days from Saturday, 28 February, 1998. In the event that the vehicle had not been removed within the 7 day period the police would arrange for it to be towed away.

(b) **Inconsiderate behaviour**

Councillor Davies reported a recent incident where he and the Chairperson had cause to speak to the driver of an articulated vehicle who had parked his vehicle inconsiderately in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. The vehicle had been parked causing traffic congestion, with its engine running, while the driver called for fish and chips. When approached, the driver appeared oblivious to the problems he had caused.



(c) **Near accident**

Councillor Davies reported a recent incident where a child who had emerged from a lane was almost struck by a passing car. The child was extremely fortunate not to have been struck by the car. The incident was later reported to the police and a description of the car and the registration number provided.

(d) **Appreciation of services**

Councillor Flood wished to place on record his appreciation of the higher level police presence in Pontyclun of late.

(e) **Burglary in Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun**

Councillor Norman advised of a burglary at the home of a disabled couple in Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun. In addition, the couple's car had been damaged in the incident. While the incident had been reported to the police, and was currently being investigated, Councillor Norman hoped that the police would carry out their investigations in a sympathetic manner, given the couple's disabilities.

(f) **Cars parked in the vicinity of
Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy**

The Chairman, Councillor Rea, drew the attention of the police to the way in which the proprietor of the Corner Park Garage in Mwyndy was responsible for allowing vehicles to be parked on grass verges and pavements adjacent to the premises. The Chairperson had taken the matter up with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council who pointed out that while steps were being taken to prevent parking on grass verges in the vicinity, the enforcement of the law was a matter for the police.

(g) **Police presence in Groesfaen**

The Chairperson, while welcoming Councillor Flood's comments about a higher police profile in Pontyclun, reminded the police representative that a police presence in Groesfaen would also be welcomed.

(h) **The Brunel Arms, Pontyclun - Licensing appeal**

Councillor Bendle referred to the comments made by P C Keddle at the last meeting and reminded the police representative that if Councillor Bendle's presence was



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required at the licensing appeal to be heard shortly he would appreciate hearing officially.

(i) **Burglary in Lon yr Awel, Pontyclun**

P C Hughes advised the Council that a recent burglary in Lon yr Awel was being investigated. As an aid to crime prevention the police were considering holding a crime prevention panel in Pontyclun.

(j) **Speeding lorries in Pontyclun**

P C Hughes advised that as an aid to reducing the speed of vehicles passing through Pontyclun the police were currently considering the possibility of stopping speeding vehicles on the stretch of road between Brynsadler and Pontyclun.

(k) **Theft of bicycle**

Councillor Davies advised the police of a recent incident in the house next door to him in Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun, when a bicycle was stolen from an outhouse. The theft had not been reported to the police.

P C Hughes noted the information and advised Members that she could arrange the marking of all bicycles with an invisible marker.

4. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 February, 1998**

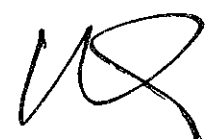
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 February, 1998, be approved as an accurate record.

5. **Matters arising**

(a) **Parked vehicles in the vicinity of Corner Park Garage**

The Council considered an extract from a report to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council's Highways, Transportation and Engineering Committee where Tarmac Quarry Products Ltd were seeking a licence to place to place boulders on a grass verge in School Road, Miskin, and thereafter to maintain the verge. It was likely that the Borough Council would grant the licence.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.



(b) **Late night problems with taxis in Pontyclun**

The Council received a letter from Inspector Evans at the Talbot Green Police Station about the problems experienced by residents as the result of the activities of late night taxis.

He stated that the police were aware of the complaints being made by residents in Pontyclun and extra police patrols had been provided, and would continue to be provided, as resources would allow, to ensure that taxi drivers obeyed the law.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

(c) **Public Right of Way, Footpath No. 314**

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the latest site meeting to view the arrangements made by Persimmon Homes to ensure that Public Right of Way Footpath No. 314 continued to be available for use by the public.

Members at the site meeting had been disappointed since the developer, in marking out the route of the footpath, had not followed the correct route and had made no attempt to reinstate the surface of the footpath. Both courses of action had been agreed with a representative of the developers at an earlier meeting.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk convey the Council's deep disappointment to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and request an urgent site meeting to decide what steps could be taken to ensure that the developer obeyed the law.

(ii) That the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council be asked to provide closer monitoring of all footpaths, and hedgerows, in the area where building work is taking place.

(iii) That a copy of the Community Council's letter be sent to Borough Councillor Jonathan Huish.

(d) **Public Right of Way, Footpath No. 345**

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the site meeting which had



taken place on the morning of Saturday, 21 February, 1998, to consider whether there was sufficient width in the Ivor Park footbridge across the river Ely to accommodate a wheelchair. Although detailed measurements were not taken, the views of Members attending the meeting was that there was sufficient width in the footbridge to accommodate a wheelchair. However, concrete ramps on either side of the footbridge would need to be constructed to enable wheelchairs to gain access to the footbridge. The ramps would need to incorporate a ribbed surface and allow for drainage.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That detailed measurements of the width of the bridge be taken.
- (ii) That, provided sufficient width existed, the Clerk arrange for a detailed specification of all the work required to be drawn up with a view to obtaining competitive tenders.

(e) **Skip placement service**

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council about the rumoured termination of the skip placement service in the Borough.

The Clerk had been told that it was only the former Taff Ely Borough Council, of the constituent authorities of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, which operated a skip placement service for its residents prior to the reorganisation of local government. The Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council had continued to operate the service after reorganisation, although severe doubts had been expressed about the legality of the service due to the lack of any control by the Borough Council on the items which were deposited in community skips

The Clerk had been informed that when the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council was looking to make economies, the skip placement service provided to only a limited number of its residents was an obvious candidate especially as doubts existed on the legality of the service.

It had been pointed out to the Clerk that while the service had been discontinued residents were entitled to use the community disposal facilities operated by the Borough Council at Dinas and near the Nantgwyddon landfill site at Gelli. In addition, the



Borough Council still operated its Special Collection service where residents wishing to dispose of bulky items of furniture could make an appointment for the items to be taken away.

A lengthy discussion took place and Members expressed their deep concern that the service had been taken away without any form consultation or explanation to the residents of Taff Ely. There was as a fear that discontinuation of the service would lead to an increase in fly tipping. Members were of the view that residents of the Community paid a disproportionately higher rate of Council Tax to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and received a lower level of service.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk send a strong letter of protest to the Chief Executive of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council at the discontinuation of the skip placement service without any form of consultation with residents of the former Taff Ely Borough Council.

(ii) That the Clerk write to the District Auditor drawing attention to the failure of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to make any form of contact with residents of the former Taff Ely Borough over the withdrawal of the skip placement service.

(f) **Proposal to install footpath lighting**

The Council received the responses to the consultation exercise carried out with residents over the proposal to install footpath lighting in the lane to the rear of Cerdin Avenue, Pontyclun.

Forty three householders had been contacted about the proposal and replies had been received from thirty five. Thirty two householders were in favour of the proposal to install footpath lighting while three against.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk arrange for the installation of footpath lighting in the lane.

(ii) That the Clerk write to the forty three householders contacted earlier to advise of the outcome of the consultation exercise.



- (iii) That the Clerk contact the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to establish whether the lane to the rear of Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun, would be suitable for the installation of footpath lighting.

(g) **Regular footpath walks**

The Council discussed the suggestion put forward at its last meeting by Councillor Davies that Members should participate in regular walks of footpaths in the Community.

There was general agreement that the idea of regular footpaths walks would better equip the Council to discharge its responsibilities for public footpaths. Councillor Edwards advised that he regularly walked footpaths. He extended an invitation to all Members to join him on his walks.

RESOLVED: That any Member wishing to participate in regular footpath walks contact Councillor Edwards.

(h) **Talgarn Forum**

Councillor Griffiths reported that the Bro Taf Health Authority intended carrying out a further consultation exercise over the future of the Talgarn Rehabilitation Centre. A consultation document was expected from Bro Taf during May and a period of three months would be allowed for the receipt of comments.

Councillor Griffiths also reported that a deputation from the Forum had been given the opportunity to present its case for the retention of rehabilitation facilities at Talgarn to the minister responsible for health in Wales, Win Griffiths, MP. The meeting with the minister would take place in London on 17 March, 1998. The delegation would be accompanied and supported by the MP for Pontypridd, Dr Kim Howells.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(i) **Proposed Footpaths Leaflet**

Councillor Griffiths referred to the earlier decision of the Community Council to produce a leaflet of local footpaths and the invitation extended to the secretary of the local branch of



the Ramblers' Association to join the Council in producing the leaflet. Councillor Griffiths proposed that the Council should proceed with its plans.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk convene a meeting of the Council to progress the matter.

6. **Minutes of the special sub committee of 10 February, 1998**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the special sub committee which met on 10 February, 1998 be approved as an accurate record.

7. **Matters arising**

(a) **Selection of sites**

Councillors Davies and Norman outlined for Members the thinking of the sub committee in identifying nine possible sites in Pontyclun which could be suitable for the installation of a hard surface play area.

(b) **Site visits**

Councillor Norman stated that he was enthusiastic about the proposal to install a hard surface play area and offered to accompany any Member to view the potential sites.

(c) **Hard surface play area at The Knapp, Barry**

Councillor Norman advised that he had contacted officers of the Vale Borough Council about the provision of the hard surface play area at The Knapp in Barry and was hopeful of receiving details of how that authority had progressed its scheme.

RESOLVED: That when the details became available they be provided for Members' information.

8. **Adoption of the sub committee's recommendations**

RESOLVED: That recommendation of the sub committee be adopted by the Council.



9. **Highway matters**

(a) **Proposed Speed Reduction Scheme in Groesfaen**

The Council welcomed the proposals put forward by consultants acting for the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council for a speed reduction scheme in Groesfaen.

The Community Council questioned why Groesfaen was singled out when it believed that there were other equally, if not more deserving, areas in the Community which needed traffic calming measures. In particular, the main thoroughfare in Pontyclun, with its relentless convoys of heavy lorries from quarries was an obvious case for traffic calming measures.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the Clerk contact the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to establish the reasons for the Groesfaen scheme proceeding in preference to a scheme for Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.
- (ii) That a copy of the map containing the consultants' proposals be placed on deposit in the Pontyclun Library.
- (iii) That a notice be placed in the Groesfaen Community Council noticeboard advising that a copy of the consultants' proposals was available for inspection at the Pontyclun Library.
- (iv) That additional copies of the proposals be made available for the Chairperson of the Community Council as local member for the Groesfaen Ward.

(b) **Village nameplate "Miskin"**

The Council received the reply of the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering in response to the Community Council's letter about the erection of the nameplate "Miskin" at the wrong location.

The Director stated that he would investigate the background to the original siting of the sign and arrange for its relocation to a more suitable location, if appropriate.

The matter was noted.



(c) **Parking in the vicinity of Pontyclun Primary School**

The Council discussed the reply on behalf of the Board of Governors in response to earlier Community Council concerns about the potentially dangerous practice of car parking on the access road to the Infant Department of the Pontyclun Primary School.

The Clerk to the Governing Body stated that she had passed the matter to the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering for comment.

RESOLVED: (i) That the letter from the Governing Body be noted.

- (ii) That a letter be forwarded to the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering suggesting that he give consideration to the introduction of "double yellow line" parking restrictions on the left hand side of the access road when viewed from Palalwyf Avenue.

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

The Council received the letter of 9 February, 1998, from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering and was pleased to hear that the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council intended replacing a section of the grass verge outside the Pontyclun Library with a new footway during the 1998/99 financial year.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

(e) **Overhanging branches and trees, Heol Miskin**

The Council received the letter of 9 February, 1998, from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering and was pleased to hear that the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council was looking into the Community Council's complaints about branches and trees overhanging the pavement in Heol Miskin.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.



(f) **Street lighting - approach to Pontyclun Community Centre**

The Council received the letter of 20 February, 1998, from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering about the defective lighting columns on the approach road to the Pontyclun Community Centre.

It appeared that the lighting columns had never been commissioned. Since receipt of the Community Council's letter the columns had been tested and inspected and instructions had been issued for remedial work to be carried out. The work was programmed for 16 February, 1998.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

10. **New Cefn yr Hendy residential development**

(a) **Proposed children's play area**


The Council discussed the reply from the Director of Leisure and Tourism about the lack of a children's play area on the new residential development at Cefn yr Hendy.

As the Director understood the position, Phase 2B(II) was now developed to a point where the construction of a play area should take place. However, the location of the play area meant that, for safety reasons, it would be more appropriate to construct it following the commencement of the construction of the next phase of development. The Director proposed contacting the Director of Planning "with a view to ascertaining the proposed timescale of the adjacent development and hence the timescale for the construction of the play area".

RESOLVED: That the Community Council express its concern to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council that no work had commenced on the construction of a children's play area since a significant amount of development had already taken place and there were a large number of children without any safe play area.

(b) **Proposed new school**

The Council discussed the reply of the Director of Education about the plans for the construction of a school on new residential development at Cefn yr Hendy.



The Director stated that a site had been reserved for a new primary school in order to cope with the future increase in demand for pupil places in schools in the locality. The Director was unable to give any indication on the timescale for the construction of the new school.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

11. **Police resources in the Community**

The Council received the letter of 4 February, 1998, from Divisional Commander D Jones, of the South Wales Police about police resources in the Community of Pontyclun.

Commander Jones was unable to comment on the case cited by the Community Council due to the imprecise information provided and to retrieve the information from the police archives would not be cost effective. Commander Jones accepted that due to the fluctuating demands on the police's operational resources, response to incidents may not be as prompt as the public would wish.

Commander Jones stated that he was aware of the problems experienced in Pontyclun, particularly with youngsters congregating outside the public houses on the weekends. Additionally, the increase in recent weeks in the number of thefts from motor vehicles and vandalism. Police officers were currently pursuing several initiatives to combat the situation. Steps were also being taken to supplement the number of officers available for duty in the Talbot Green Police Station.

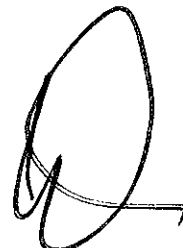
The Commander's thanks were extended to the Community Council for the opportunity to speak to a future meeting. He would ask his secretary to arrange a convenient date.

Members were appreciative of Commander Jones' letter and were agreed that there had been a noticeable increase in police presence in Pontyclun during recent weeks. The Council felt that the new Inspector at Talbot Green, Inspector Evans, had played a large part in ensuring increased resources for the Community.

RESOLVED: That when details of Commander Jones' visit were known, an invitation to attend the meeting also be extended to Inspector Evans.

12. **G T Clark Centenary Commemoration Committee**

The Council received a letter from Mr Derrick Kingham, Secretary to the G T Clark Centenary Commemoration Committee in which he stated that the



several events were scheduled for 1998 to mark the centenary of the death of George Thomas Clark of Talygarn.

Mr Kingham explained that G T Clark, the builder of Talygarn House, was an eminent historian and architect as well as being an ironmaster, a railway engineer, a surgeon and the author of several highly authoritative works on medieval military architecture and castles. Clark was also the author of a massive volume of genealogies, *Limbus Patrum*.

T G Clark's contribution to public life was enormous and a number of events were planned for Saturday, 23 May, 1998, when a commemoration service would be held in St Anne's Church, Talygarn, followed by a garden party in the grounds of Talygarn House. It was intended to involve the community in all the events and local organisations and schools had already been invited to take part in the celebrations.

Mr Kingham hoped that the Pontyclun Community Council would be able to give its support to the celebrations.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council support the celebrations by making a donation of £100.00 towards the cost of providing flowers for the flower festival. In addition, that Councillor Cale be sponsored to prepare a floral decoration on behalf of the Community Council to the value of £25.00

13. **Millennium celebrations**

The Council discussed the desirability of arranging local celebrations to mark the new Millennium. Information was received that monies had recently been earmarked from the Lottery Fund to enable local organisations throughout the United Kingdom to arrange celebrations.

RESOLVED: That discussion on Millennium celebrations in the Community be deferred pending receipt of information from the National Lottery Fund on the availability of grants and clarification from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council on the extent to which that authority would be organising Millennium celebrations in the County Borough.

14. **Problems caused by parked vehicles in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun**

A lengthy discussion took place on the problems caused by parked vehicles in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. Some Members were in favour of requesting the Borough Council to place parking restrictions on the whole length of Llantrisant Road to improve visibility for traffic emerging from side streets. Other Members felt that the effect of banning parking in Llantrisant Road would have the effect of speeding up traffic and making the road more



dangerous than it is at present. Another suggestion included the widening of pavements at selected places to create parking bays. Other views were that the problems in Llantrisant Road should not be looked at in isolation and that parking restrictions were also necessary in Heol Miskin from the junction with Llantrisant Road to the junction with Heol y Coed.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk write to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council requesting a site meeting to discuss the problems.

(ii) That the Council ask its Borough Councillor, Councillor Jonathan Huish to support the request.

15. **Items appearing in the last edition of "Bro"**

RESOLVED: That discussion under this item be deferred to the Council's next monthly meeting.

16. **Application for an off-licence at the Hendy Stores, Pontyclun**

A lengthy discussion took place on the application of the new proprietor of the Hendy Stores, Brynamlwg, Pontyclun, for an off licence.

It appeared strange to the Council the previous owner of the premises had seen fit to sell the off licence to a shop proprietor in Pontyclun. As a result of the Hendy Stores not being able to sell alcohol residents had commented on the decrease in anti social behaviour in the area.

RESOLVED: That the Council strongly oppose the application for the grant of a further off licence for the Hendy Stores on the grounds that:

(i) the Council believes that the law is being manipulated for commercial gain.

(ii) a grant of a further licence would lead to an increase in anti social behaviour for local residents.

17. **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 17 to the Council's Agenda.



18. **Planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 6, 13, 20 and 27 February, 1998**

RESOLVED: That the following comments be made to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council:

Application No. T98/2039/09

That the Clerk obtain further details on the application from the Borough Council.

Application No. T98/2085/10

(Councillor Flood declared an interest in this application and took no part in the Council's deliberations)

That while the Community Council does not object to the proposal it would urge the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to place a condition on any consent to ensure that the development is carried out in brickwork to match the surrounding buildings.

Application No. T98/2093/10

That the Council is opposed to the application on the grounds that the proposal is out of keeping in a Conservation Area.

Application No. T98/2113/10

That while the Community Council does not object to the proposal it would urge the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to place a condition on any consent to ensure that the development is carried out in brickwork to match the main house.

19. **Reports from Members**

(a) **Garages at Lon yr Awel, Pontyclun**

Councillor Bendle drew the Council's attention to disused garages at Lon yr Awel, Pontyclun, and informed Members that one of the garages had recently been set on fire. There was concern among local residents that the garages were being used for a variety of purposes other than garaging vehicles and there were fears about the sort of materials being stored.

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



(b) **Pavement at Lon yr Awel, Pontyclun**

Councillor Bendle highlighted the poor state of the pavement outside the houses of the odd numbers in Lon yr Awel, Pontyclun. In many cases the steps giving access to the pavement were also in need of attention.

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

(c) **The ABC of Chairmanship**

Councillor Edwards stated that he would not in any way wish to appear critical of the way in which the Council was Chaired but recommended that each Chairperson of the Community Council be given the opportunity to read a publication entitled "The ABC of Chairmanship" by Sir Walter Citrine KCB. The book was a well written publication designed to equip all chairpersons with expertise to meet every situation they were likely to encounter.

RESOLVED: That authority be given for the Clerk to purchase a copy of the book for the Community Council and for the book to be made available to all future chairpersons of the Council.

(d) **Useful police telephone numbers**

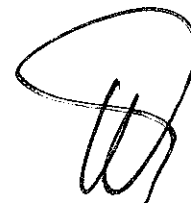
Councillor Davies suggested that it would be a good idea for the Community Council to display a list of useful police telephone numbers in the Community Council's noticeboards.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the police to establish whether such a list is already available.

(e) **Litter in Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun**

Councillor Cale drew the Council's attention to an abnormally high incidence of litter in Palalwyf Avenue of late. The Clerk pointed out that the collection and removal of litter was the responsibility of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council but the Council's Handyman assisted, occasionally, in the removal of litter from streets.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make appropriate arrangements with the Council's Handyman.



(f) **Traffic calming**

Councillor Flood referred to the traffic calming measures which had been promised for some considerable time by the Highway Authorities for Pontyclun.

Councillor Flood pointed out that a scheme for Pontyclun had been agreed in principle many years earlier but little or no progress appeared to have been made. Yet, a traffic calming scheme for Groesfaen, which appeared to have been relatively recent in origin, had been produced, agreed by the Highway Authority, and seemed well on the way to being implemented.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk seek clarification from the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council on why the Groesfaen traffic calming scheme had received priority over the proposed scheme for Pontyclun.

(g) **Boundary of property in Maelog Close, Pontyclun**

Councillor Flood referred to recent correspondence between the Community Council and the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council over the boundary of a property in Maelog Close, Pontyclun. The Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council had stated that, in deciding an application for planning consent, it had accepted the word of the applicant that he was the owner of the land for which consent was being sought.

Councillor Flood advised the Council that he had recently viewed the title deeds of his own property and a map attached to the deeds clearly defined not only his own boundary but also the boundary of the property which had been the subject of correspondence with the Borough Council.

Councillor Flood would produce the title deeds to his property in order that the Community Council could decide what action needed to be taken.

(h) **Traffic in Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Flood reported that present traffic movements in Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun, especially from parents leaving the Pontyclun Primary School, rendered a part of Llwynfen Road unsafe for residents and for children. Complaints from residents of Llwynfen Road likened the street to a "racing track"

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A scheme had been devised for making the street safer for both residents and children which involved the erection of bollards at the south western end of the street. A sketch of the proposal was tabled.

RESOLVED: That the matter be placed on the agenda for the next monthly meeting of the Community Council.

(i) **Litter bins**

Councillor Norman drew the Council's attention to the disappearance of a number of litter bins from Pontyclun. He pointed out that a litter bin had disappeared from a site near the Pontyclun Fire Station and a further bin from a site near the bus shelter in Heol Miskin. A bin near the war memorial in Cowbridge Road had been moved from one side of the road to the other side.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk raise the matter of the missing bins with the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

(ii) That the Clerk arrange for the Council's Handyman to return the litter bin near the war memorial to its proper site.

(j) **Disabled access to shops in Pontyclun**

Councillor Edwards reminded the Council that he had raised the matter of access to shops by people in wheelchairs at an earlier meeting of the Council but little progress seemed to have been made.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Pontyclun Chamber of Trade highlighting the problem of wheelchair access to some shops and asking whether shopkeepers would consider carrying out work to their shops to accommodate the needs of disabled people in wheelchairs.

(k) **Van's Bingo Hall, Pontyclun**

The Clerk reported that, after some difficulty, he had managed locate the solicitors who acted for the owners of Van's Bingo Hall, Pontyclun. The owners resided overseas.



The solicitors stated that they had not received any instructions from their clients regarding a sale of the premises but would convey the Community Council's interest to the owners.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

(l) **New Audit and Account Regulations**

The Clerk provided details of a follow up course organised by the Area Committee of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils on the new Audit and Account Regulations. An invitation was extended to the Community Council to nominate delegates to attend the course, in Cwmbran on Saturday, 28 April, 1998, at a cost of £7.00 per delegate.

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

(m) **Bank holiday refuse collection arrangements**

The Clerk reported that following the Community Council's representations to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council for 2 weeks' notice to advertise variations to Bank Holiday refuse collection arrangements, he had been provided with posters for the Easter Bank Holiday variations, six weeks in advance of the holidays.


RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(n) **Welsh Office Consultation Document -
Framework for the Organisation of Schools in Wales**

The Clerk advised of an important and urgent message he had received from the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils after the dispatch of the Council's agenda.

The message informed councils that the "consultation document proposes axing the statutory right of community and town councils from being directly represented on the governing bodies of junior schools in their respective areas. Despite vigorous representations to the contrary, it is clear that the Secretary of State is disposed to proceed with the proposal".

The Association strongly advised its members to write to the



Secretary of State opposing the proposals. It was also recommended that each council send a copy of their letter of opposition to their local M P.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the necessary action to send a letter opposing the proposals in the consultation document to the Secretary of State for Wales and the M P for Pontypridd, Dr Kim Howells.

20. The meeting ended at 9.55 p.m.

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