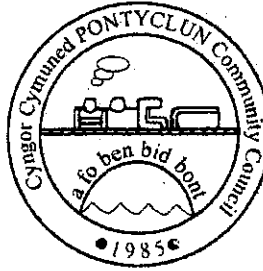


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun**Pontyclun Community Council**

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

PRESENT: Community Councillors Ms V A Cale, D Clayton-Jones, C Davies, P Griffiths, S Jenkins, A R Lane and R G Norman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO Chris Martin for part of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors M Rea and Ms P Thomas

2. **Declaration of Interest**

No declarations were received.

3. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 6 September, 2006**

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as an accurate record.

4. **Matters arising**

(a) **Casual Vacancy**

The Clerk reported that as a result of the publicity given to the casual vacancy on the Community Council a member of the public, Ms Dawn Hayes, had expressed an interest in being co-opted on to the Council. Ms Hayes had intended to come along to the meeting this evening but due to childcare problem which had arisen at the last moment she found herself unable to attend.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and that Ms Haynes be invited to attend the November meeting of the Council.

(b) **Proposed Pontyclun Community Council Spirit Award in memory of Trevor Rees**

The Council noted details of the proposal contained in Appendix 2 of the agenda.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Council agree in principle to work in partnership with the local rotary club to annually identify a local person who had made a significant contribution to the Community.
 - (ii) That a feature on the new award be included in the next edition of the Community Council's newsletter.
 - (iii) That nominations for the award be sought from members of the public with the successful nominee being issued with a certificate
 - (iv) That an edition of the next newsletter be published before Christmas, 2006.
 - (v) That Councillors Jenkins, Norman and Davies seek a joint meeting with the rotary club to progress the proposal and to discuss the possibility of match funding.

(c) **The Beecham Report**

Councillor Jenkins reported verbally on a meeting she had attended at City Hall, Cardiff, on 21 September, 2006, to discuss the reactions of public bodies to the publication of the Beecham Report.

Councillor Jenkins reported that there were around 200 representatives at the meeting from many branches of the public sector in Wales. Each branch of the public sector was keen to know how Beecham's proposals would affect them. It was clear that Beecham did not envisage a restructure of local government, rather a greater degree of co-operation in delivering public services across existing boundaries. It appeared that there was nothing specific for community

councils. Local government across Wales would have a better idea of the implications of Beecham once the response of the Welsh Assembly Government had been announced.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(d) **Christmas Festive decorations in Pontyclun**

The Council discussed the quotation received from Floodlighting and Electrical Services Ltd. The Council also discussed the unavailability of the site at The Bridge, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, for the erection of a Christmas tree.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Council accept the quotation of Floodlighting and Electrical Services for the supply of eight equally spaced festive decorations to be attached to lighting columns in Pontyclun.
 - (ii) That the Clerk discuss the possibility with Floodlighting and Electrical Services of increasing the number of festive decorations from eight to ten at no extra cost to the Council.
 - (iii) That Councillor Lane discuss with the owners of The Bridge the possibility of an alternative site being made available for the erection of a Christmas tree.

(e) **Access to the New Riverside Walk**

The Clerk reported on the site meeting which had taken place with a highways officer of the Borough Council to discuss the proposed site for creating an access to the New Riverside Walk. It had been later confirmed in writing by the highways officer that, subject to conditions, the Borough Council did not have any objections to the proposed access site. It was drawn to the Council's attention that there may be a separate requirement for planning consent.

Councillor Jenkins reported that she had made contact with the agents who had handled the sale of the land at Brynsadler Mill. Councillor Jenkins had established that the new owners of the land were Esterkin Properties. The company is registered at Companies House.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk instruct Mr Harold Tiltman of Edward T Davies, Solicitors, to write to Esterkin Properties seeking the company's consent for the creation of an access to the right of way on the Community Council's land.

5. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Request for a pedestrian controlled crossing**

Councillor Jenkins reported that at a recent PACT meeting a petition containing 272 signatures was presented calling for the installation of a pedestrian controlled crossing in Llantrisant Road or Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. Residents had asked for the Community Council's help and support in seeking a response from the Borough Council.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Community Council supports the petition.
 - (ii) That the petition be sent to the Mayor's office at the Pavilions in Clydach Vale with a further copy to Councillor Eudine Hanagan, the Cabinet member with responsibility for highways matters.
 - (iii) That the Borough Council's attention be drawn to the very poor illumination and road markings of the existing pedestrian crossing in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

(b) **Applications for financial assistance**

(i) **Urdd Gobaith Cymru**

RESOLVED: That the Council make a donation of £100.00.

(ii) **British Red Cross**

RESOLVED: That the Council make a donation of £100.00.

(c) **National Training Strategy**

The Council discussed the National Training Strategy produced by One Voice Wales. The Council had been given the opportunity to comment on the strategy.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the National Strategy for training in Wales is to be welcomed.
 - (ii) That the Community Council is of the view that project based training would be beneficial since it would give community councils the opportunity to learn from other community councils and other members where successes had been achieved. Project based training is seen to be more beneficial and relevant since it is more practical.
 - (iii) The Council decided that if individual Members had any further comments to make on the Strategy they should be passed to the Clerk within 14 days.

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

The Community Council discussed an invitation from the Head of Planning & Transportation at the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council for representatives of the Community Council to attend a Sustainability Appraisal Workshop as part of that council's progression of its Local Development Plan.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That Councillors Dan Clayton-Jones, Chris Davies and Gordon Norman be nominated to represent the Community Council at the Workshop on 11 October, 2006.
 - (ii) That the issues which the Community Council regards as important in its dealings with the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council are matters related to Junction 34 of the M4 at Misken and Talygarn Lake.

(e) **Fundraising by the Mayor of
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council**

The Council discussed an invitation from the Mayor of the Borough Council to support the two charities she had chosen to raise funds for during her term of office.

The Chairperson, Councillor Jenkins, informed the Council that she would make a donation from her Chairperson's Allowance to the Mayor's fundraising activities.

(f) **Active Lifestyles Community Capital Programme**

The Council received details from the Welsh Assembly Government of the Active Lifestyles Community Capital Programme.

Members noted that grant money was available for capital expenditure only and that bids needed to be made through the Sports Council for Wales by 13 October, 2006.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Community Council make a bid for grant money.
 - (ii) That the Council identify the publication of footpaths leaflets and other capital expenditure designed to encourage the public to make greater use of footpaths in the Community.

(g) **Planning notifications**

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

- RESOLVED:** That the following comments be made to the Planning Authority:

Application No. 06/1299/10

That the Council is concerned that the proposed development is an over development of the plot of land and will result in a loss of amenity to neighbours.

Application No. 06/1540/10

That while the Council is not opposed to the application, it urges the Borough Council to ensure that the appropriate health and safety requirements are rigidly enforced given the number of schoolchildren passing

the premises to access the nearby Pontyclun Primary School.

Application No. 06/1422/10

The Council is concerned at the potential loss of off-street parking resulting in more on-street parking. The Council urges the Planning Authority to carry out a site visit before determining the application.

(h) **Maesyfelin Fields – Boundary Fence**

The Council expressed its concern about the lack of progress by the Borough Council in resolving the issues which prevented proper maintenance of the boundary fence of the Borough Council owned land.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Clerk write again to the Borough Council offering the help of the Community Council to resolve the issues.
 - (ii) That the Borough Council be urged to convene a meeting of all the interested parties to promote a dialogue.
 - (iii) That in any meetings with the Borough Council Councillor Dan Clayton-Jones be one of the Community Council's representatives.

(i) **Payment of creditors**

- RESOLVED:** That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 12 to the Council's agenda.

6. **Matters reported for information since the despatch of agendas**

(a) **Pontyclun Railway Station**

The Clerk reported receipt of an e-mail from Geraint Morgan of Network Rail bringing to the Community Council's attention a scheme where community councils "adopted" their local railway stations and worked in partnership with Network Rail to improve the immediate environment of their

railway stations. Representatives of Network Rail were available to discuss the scheme in greater detail.

RESOLVED: That an invitation be extended to representatives of Network Rail to attend the next meeting of the Community Council to discuss the proposal.

(b) **RCT Crossroads – Caring for Carers**

The Clerk reported that an invitation had been received from RCT Crossroads -Caring for the Carers to attend the organisation's annual general meeting.

RESOLVED: That, subject to their availability, Councillors Cale and Thomas be nominated to attend the meeting.

7. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **"The Voice"**

The Clerk reported receipt of two copies of the latest edition of "The Voice", the newsletter of One Voice Wales.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That receipt of the newsletter be noted.
 - (ii) That, for future editions, One Voice Wales be asked to provide 11 copies of newsletter to the Council in order that a copy is available for each Member.

(b) **Society of Local Councils' One Day Conference**

The Clerk reported on his attendance at the One Day Conference of the Society of Local Council Clerks. Where the guest speakers were Sue Essex, A.M., John Palmer, Head of Local Government Policy at the Welsh Assembly and Simon White of One Voice Wales.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(c) **Local Government Partnership Scheme Report for 2005/06**

The Clerk reported receipt of the report.

RESOLVED: That any Member wishing to read the Report contact the Clerk.

(d) **Annual General Meeting of One Voice Wales**

The Council received a list of motions which were due for debate at the Annual General Meeting of One Voice Wales.

RESOLVED: That the motions be noted.

(e) **Temporary prohibition of vehicles on the M4 motorway**

The Council received details of an Order which is necessary to safeguard the public while re-surfacing is carried out to the eastbound exit slip road at Junction 34 of the M4 motorway at Miskin.

RESOLVED: That the Order be noted.

(f) **Adjudication Panel for Wales**

The Council received written details of a decision of the Adjudication Panel for Wales following a referral from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.

The case centred around allegations that a member of the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council had breached that Authority's Code of Conduct. During the investigation the Ombudsman became aware of further allegations against the Member being investigated. The Case Tribunal found by unanimous decision that the Member had failed to comply with paragraph 4(a) of the relevant authorities' Codes of Conduct. The Case Tribunal decided that the Member should be suspended from the Borough Council and the Llantrisant Community Council for a period of two months.

RESOLVED: That the decision be noted.

8. **Police matters**

(a) **Report by PCSO Chris Martin**

Chris Martin reported on the PACT meeting earlier that evening. Those attending the meeting prioritised the installation of a pedestrian controlled crossing, speeding vehicles and the operation of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes as being the major issues of concern. There was also a feeling at the PACT meeting that the Community Council should provide a skateboard park for youngsters similar to the one provided the Llanharan Community

Council. Chris Martin also advised the Council that in recent weeks he had been involved in giving talks to children at local schools about the dangers of drug taking.

Chris Martin also advised that there were some uncertainties about the police personnel who would be providing cover for Pontyclun. Chris Martin's colleague, Matt, had been transferred out of Pontyclun and there was a likelihood of a full time officer being allocated to the area.

RESOLVED: (i) That a letter be sent to the inspector of police at Talbot Green police station complimenting the police on the first class service given to Pontyclun by Chris Martin and emphasising the importance of continuity in dealing with local policing problems.

(ii) That a site meeting be convened with representatives of the Borough Council in order that progress can be made with long outstanding plans for the provision of a skateboard park in Pontyclun.

(iii) That an invitation to attend the meeting be given to Chris Martin.

(b) **Night shooting in the Miskin/Mwyndy areas**

Councillor Dan Clayton-Jones reported instances of late night shooting in the Miskin /Mwyndy areas of the Community by groups of men using dogs and lights.

Chris Martin stated that he would take advice on the matter from his colleague, Mike Perry, and report back.

9. The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.