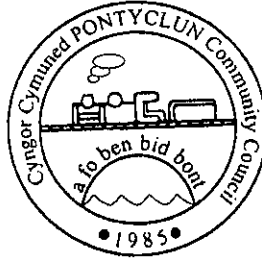


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Pontyclun Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, on Wednesday, 5 April, 2006, at 7.00 p.m.

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

Also in attendance: Police Community Support Officers Chris Martin and Matthew Tame together with Mr Adrian Evans, Coordinator for Area 10 Regeneration Committee plus 10 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors D Henderson and M Rea.

2. **Declarations of interest**

RESOLVED: No disclosures were made.

3. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 8 March, 2006**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 8 March, 2006, be approved as an accurate record.

4. **Matters arising**

(a) **Land at Brynsadler Mill**

(i) **Execution of Transfer Deed**

RESOLVED: That the Deed be executed on behalf of the Council by the Chairperson and

Councillor Lane with the Clerk acting as a witness.

(ii) **Letter and petition from residents**

The Council discussed a letter and accompanying petition from residents of Millfield and River's Edge about the possibility of a stile being erected in Millfield to give public access to the new River Walk. The letter from residents and verbal contributions from residents at the meeting detailed reasons why residents believed such an access point would be unsuitable.

The residents present at the meeting were told that the Community Council had no plans to erect a stile in Millfield. The footpath over the newly acquired land would follow a circular route with the long-term possibility of a connection to other footpaths in the vicinity. The residents were assured that any proposals which may affect them would be the subject of full consultation.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That written confirmation of the Community Council's intentions be provided to Mr K Penhallurick on behalf of residents.
 - (ii) That the Clerk obtains clarification from the Welsh Development Authority on responsibility for maintaining the boundary fence between the Community Council owned land and the land of the adjacent landowner.

(iii) **Freedom of Information Act**

The Clerk referred to the request by Mr David Summers for full disclosure of all minutes, notes, e-mails, reports and all other correspondence in connection with the Council's purchase of land in Brynsadler.

All information had been provided to Mr Summers within the statutory deadline. Provision of this information had involved additional cost to the Community Council which the Clerk estimated to be in the region of £135.00.

The Freedom of Information Act allowed bodies subject to a request under the Act to make a reasonable charge for the costs incurred in providing the information.

RESOLVED: That the applicant for information be charged £50.

(b) **Traffic calming in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Lane reported that he had met Police Community Support Officer Chris Martin and an officer from the Highway Authority, Mr Tony Pearce, in Pontyclun to discuss a number of traffic-related issues of concern in Pontyclun. Mr Pearce had agreed that he would discuss the issues raised in the meeting with his manager, Mr Dean Smith.

RESOLVED: That the issue of traffic calming in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, be placed on the next agenda of the Community Council in order that the Council can give consideration to the various issues and draft a series of priorities for the Borough Council.

(c) **Green Pontyclun**

(i) **Planters**

The Clerk reported that both sets of planters which the Council had ordered in readiness for the summer had been delivered to the sites earlier chosen by the Council.

Despite having provided the respective landowners with a copy of the planters' specifications in advance of the sitings, the Council's Handyman had been told by a number of landowners that the planters were larger than expected and dominated the sites. The Clerk suggested that the Council might wish to consider moving the planters to alternative sites.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Council proceed with its plans and fill the planters with suitable soil and compost and, if necessary, space out the planters rather than group them.

(ii) That, in filling the planters with compost and soil, consideration be given to utilising the compost and soil produced by a local company based in Coed Cae Lane, Pontyclun.

(ii) **Lighting columns for hanging baskets**

The Members for the Cefn yr Hendy Ward passed the Clerk a list of the numbed lighting columns in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, which they had identified as being suitable for the erection of hanging baskets in the summer months.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk checks with the highway authority that there was no objection to the erection of hanging baskets at these locations.

(d) **Photography Competition**

The Clerk advised that arrangements had been finalised for the display of entries to the Community Council's 2005 Photography Competition in the Pontyclun Library. The entries would be on display for five weeks from 24 April, 2006 to 26 May, 2006.

Arrangements had been made for the Competition entries to be judged and it was hoped that the judging would be carried out during the first or second weeks of the exhibition.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That posters advertising the exhibition be displayed in the Community Council's noticeboards.
- (ii) That letters be sent to each competition entrant advising of the arrangements for the exhibition in the Pontyclun Library
- (iii) That each entrant be given an entry form for the Community Council's 2006 Competition.

(e) **Review of Community Boundaries**

The Clerk reported on a meeting he had been invited to attend with the Borough Council's Principal Electoral Officer where he had been briefed on the terms of reference and timetable for the forthcoming review of community boundaries in the Borough.

The review would seek to address some of the anomalies between existing communities' boundaries and take account of the imbalance in the number of electors per councillor. It was intended that the review would be completed in time for the local government elections in May, 2008.

In due course an opportunity would be given for all community councils and residents to give their views of the proposals for

review. In the short term, an informal invitation had been extended to all Members of the Community Council to visit the Principal Electoral Officer's office to gain a wider appreciation of the problems faced in carrying out the review.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make arrangements for an informal visit by Council Members.

(f) **Welsh Calor Village of the Year**

The Clerk reported that he had now received a pack giving details of the Welsh Calor Village of the Year Competition. The Council accepted that any entry needed to be planned and that it was not possible to enter the competition for 2006.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk circulate the details contained in the pack to all Members in order that consideration could be given to planning a possible entry into the competition for 2007

(g) **Parking restrictions, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

The Council received an address from Mr Gareth Summers of 71 Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, who sought the support of the Community Council in removing the parking restrictions which existed on the highway outside his home.

Mr Summers pointed out that the highway outside his home was very wide and there did not appear to be any reason for traffic restrictions at this location. Mr Summers pointed out that there were several other locations in the vicinity where there were real traffic problems with parked cars yet there were no restrictions. There appeared to be no consistency in the way the highway authority introduced traffic restrictions.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk write to the highway authority asking for a review of the parking restrictions in force in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun from a point with the junction with Palalwyf Avenue to the junction with Heol y Felin.

(ii) In support of the request for a review the Clerk quote examples of other locations in Pontyclun where parking was more problematical yet no restrictions existed.

5. **Minutes of the Council's Meeting of 7 December, 2006**

Councillor Lane advised the Council that he wished to withdraw this item from the agenda.

RESOLVED: That the item be withdrawn from the agenda.

6. **Police matters**

(a) **PACT Police and Communities Together**

PCSO Chris Martin advised the Council that the police had been considering ways of improving its dialogue with residents. He referred to the recent introduction of police surgeries where members could attend and discuss matters giving rise to personal complaints.

It was also believed that a public forum was necessary where matters of a more general nature could be discussed with police representatives. As a result, a forum to be known as PACT (Police and Communities Together) had been formed. The first Pontyclun PACT meeting was scheduled to be held in the Pontyclun Community Centre at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 12 April, 2006. As a result of the formation of this new forum, the police would no longer be in regular attendance at Community Council meetings.

Again as part of the process of improving dialogue with the public, PCSO Martin informed the Council that he would be promoting and encouraging the formation of local Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

RESOLVED: (i) That the report be noted.

(ii) That the Community Council be represented at the first PACT meeting by Councillors Norman and Thomas.

(b) **Traffic congestion in Station Terrace, Pontyclun**

PCSO Martin reported that, in an attempt to lessen the traffic congestion problems being experienced in Station Terrace, Pontyclun, he had been encouraging motorists not to park their vehicles in the Terrace all day. Instead he had been suggesting to motorists that they use the public parking facilities in Pontyclun.

The report was noted.

(c) **Proposed Youth Shelter**

PCSO Martin reported that he had spoken to a number of youths in Pontyclun about the possibility of the erection of a youth shelter. He had also discussed with them likely sites for the erection of a youth shelter. Experience had shown that the site of a youth shelter was significant in the shelter's success.

The youths had suggested a number of different sites but the one favoured by the police is in the car park adjacent to the Pontyclun Community Centre. Another possibility would be in the field next to Maesyfelin Crescent. This latter site was in the ownership of the Borough Council, and currently in use by the Pontyclun Primary School. Councillor Norman offered to raise the possibility of utilising the site at the next meeting of the Pontyclun Primary School Board of Governors.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That Councillor Norman raises the matter at the next meeting of the Board of Governors.
 - (ii) That PCSO be thanked for pursuing the proposal in Pontyclun
 - (iii) That written confirmation of the Community Council's thanks for PCSO's contribution be sent to the inspector at Talbot Green Police Station.

(d) **Parking on pavement in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

A Member drew attention to the practice of the owner of a sports car of parking his vehicle on the pavement adjacent to Kudos hairdresser in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. The Member asked whether the practice was legal.

PCSO Martin responded that while, generally, it was illegal to park a vehicle on a pavement, there were instances where this practice was allowable. PCSO said that he would make enquiries into the matter.

(e) **Pedestrian crossing, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

A Member reported yet another "near miss" with a pedestrian using the pedestrian crossing in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

There was an overwhelming feeling in the Council that the crossing was poorly illuminated and badly sited and the latest incident was one more in a long line of "near misses"

RESOLVED: That the Clerk report this latest "near miss" to the Highway Authority, urging that action be taken to remedy the crossing's deficiencies before a serious accident takes place.

(f) **Traffic congestion, Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun**

The Council discussed complaints from residents of Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun, of traffic congestion in the street. Congestion was made worse as the result of parents using the street for parking to drop off and collect their children from the nearby school. The recent roadworks in the street had aggravated congestion still further. It was hoped that the roadworks would be completed shortly.

RESOLVED: That a letter of thanks be sent from the Community Council to the managements committee of the Pontyclun Institute and Athletic Club for allowing the Club's car park to be used to alleviate the congestion in Palalwyf Avenue.

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Community Council's Newsletter**

The Council considered a draft of the Community Council's next newsletter.

RESOLVED: (i) That any comments on the draft be forwarded to the Clerk by 12 April, 2006.

(ii) That, in view of threatened legal action over the Council's purchase of land in Brynsadler, a legal view be obtained on the content of the newsletter.

(b) **Planning applications**

The Council discussed planning applications contained in the latest weekly notifications.

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

Application No. 06/0401/10

That the Community Council welcomes the proposed development but is concerned that the proposal will lead to further traffic congestion in the vicinity.

Application No. 06/0111/10

That the Community Council is of the view that the proposed development should be carried out in materials which are sympathetic to a Conservation Area.

(c) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 6 to the Council's agenda.

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

Ely Valley Industrial Estate

Councillor Lane asked whether the Clerk had any information on whether the application for planning consent for the lifting of restrictions on industrial units at the Estate being brought into use had been lifted.

The Clerk responded that he had raised the matter with the Planning Authority but had not received a reply.

Councillor Lane said that he had discovered that a further industrial unit was being erected at the Estate. He asked whether this development had received planning consent.

The Clerk responded that he would raise the matter with the Planning Authority.

9. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Local Government Ombudsman**

The Council received the Ombudsman's letter saying that from 1 April, 2006, the Commission for Local Administration in Wales would cease to exist. The former Commissioner's role would be subsumed into the new role of Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(b) **Local Government Pay Awards, 2006/2007**

The Clerk reported that the local government pay awards for 2006/2007 provided for an increase of 2.95% to staff.

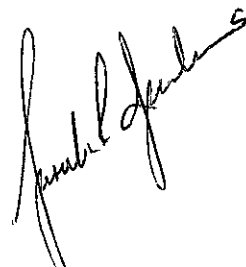
RESOLVED: That, as an employer employing staff on National Terms and Conditions, the increase be implemented.

(c) **Tree felling**

A number of Members spoke of their concerns about large scale tree felling on land adjacent to the A4119 at Mwyndy and also on land adjacent to the A473 between the former Permutit plant and the McDonald's roundabout.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Borough Council's Arboriculture Officer for information.

10. The meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, located in the bottom right corner of the page. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Paul Jenkins'.