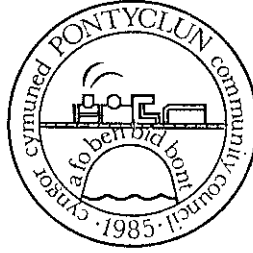


## CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council  
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 Talygarn, Pontyclun,  
 Mid Glamorgan CF7 9BZ

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 5 January, 1994

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle, Mr J R Dilworth, Mr E V Griffith (Chairperson), Mr G M Moir,

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Four members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mr T J Burton, Mrs A Burton, Professor I D Bowen, Mr V P James, R G Norman and Mrs O P Phillips.

2. Chairperson's business

There were no items of Chairperson's business.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 1 December, 1993

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 1 December, 1993, be approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

(a) Planning Applications

(i) No. 93/0774/10

RESOLVED: That the application be noted.

(ii) No. 93/0804/10

RESOLVED: That the application be noted.

(b) Dipali restaurant, Pontyclun

The Council considered the letter dated 29 November, 1993, from Superintendent Sullivan at the Divisional Police Office in Pontypridd. While the police maintained

*E. V. Griffith*

that there had never been a suggestion that the proprietor of the Dipali restaurant had served alcohol outside of normal permitted hours of his restaurant, the Council held reservations on the matter.

RESOLVED: That copies of the Superintendent's letter be sent to residents living in the vicinity of the Dipali restaurant.

(c) Proposed Community Centre/Day Centre

The Council discussed the revised drawings submitted by the Borough Council's Chief Leisure Services Officer for the replacement of the Pontyclun Community Centre and the provision of a Day Centre.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That, in the interests of security, the Borough Council be asked to delete provision for windows in the Community Council's external store.
  - (ii) That the Borough Council be asked to make arrangements for the memorial plaque in the present Centre to be erected in the new Centre.
  - (iii) That the Borough Council be asked to treat sympathetically the request of the family of Dr J M L Jones, 4 Maesyfelin Crescent, Pontyclun, who wished to contribute in some material way such as donating a decorative tree to enhance the surroundings of the new Centre, in recognition of the family's long association with the existing Centre.

(d) Site meeting in the Ivor Woods

A report was received following the site meeting in the Ivor Woods on the morning of 4 December, 1993. The site meeting had been convened because the Council, as owner of the Ivor Woods, was concerned that some residents of The Hollies had constructed rear entrances in to the Woods.

RESOLVED: That "the Clerk write to residents of The Hollies Estate who have made rear garden entrances onto the Ivor Woods, Brynsadler. That

he inform those residents that the Council are dismayed that certain residents have taken unauthorised action to make rear garden entrances into the Woods. Moreover while the Council reserves its right to take action it only wishes to point out to those residents its statement of concern"

(e) Former Brofiscin Quarry, Groesfaen

The Council discussed the Borough Council's letter of 10 December, 1993, in which the Chief Environmental Services Officer stated that he had contacted the Chief Fire Officer about the incident at the former Brofiscin Quarry when fire fighters had complained suffering from nausea following the extraction of water from the disused quarry.

The Chief Fire Officer had responded to the effect that there was no record of any incidents occurring at the site and that the Fire Service had standing instructions that they were not to use water from the quarry.

RESOLVED: That no further action be taken by the Community Council.

(f) Extraordinary charge for water by Welsh Water

The Clerk reported he was still awaiting a reply from Welsh Water about the extraordinary demand for water charges at the public conveniences in Pontyclun. The Clerk had requested that any recovery action by Welsh Water be suspended until the dispute had been resolved. In the meantime, a further invoice for water charges had been received for the period outside the period under dispute. No payment had been made pending clarification from Welsh Water on the total amount due.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's report be noted.

(g) Kidney Research Unit Foundation for Wales

The Council noted correspondence from the Chairman of K.R.U.F. in which it was stated that it was the intention to apply for a licence to enable a house to house collection to take place at the same time as the annual sponsored walk.

(h) Purolite Joint Liaison Committee

Councillor John Dilworth reported that he had contacted the Clerk to the Llantrisant Community Council who had informed him that the next meeting of the Liaison Committee was likely to be during the third or fourth week of the month.

The report was noted.

(i) Miskin War Memorial

Councillor John Dilworth referred to the possibility of the Community Council undertaking further work in the vicinity of the Miskin War Memorial. He reminded the Council that Miskin Square had an unique character and that any developments should be complimentary to the Square's character.

RESOLVED: That Council note Councillor Dilworth's comments.

(j) Blasting at Hendy Quarry, Miskin

Councillor Gordon Moir reported that on 20 December, 1993, two females, who were believed to be from the Taff Ely Borough Council, arrived near his home at around midday with monitoring equipment. It was understood that they intended to monitor vibrations from the blasting which was due to take place at the Hendy Quarry.

In the event it appeared that blasting was delayed and the two females dismantled their equipment and departed without having monitored any blasting. Shortly after their departure blasting took place. Councillor Moir wished to record his deep disquiet at the assurances earlier given by the Borough Council that they would monitor blasting. The assurances were worthless unless staff of the Borough Council were prepared to carry out their duties in a professional manner.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk convey the Community Council's grave concern to the Borough Council over the incident and request that when further monitoring is carried out competent staff be sent to conduct the exercise.

5. Council Tax Base for 1994/95

The Council received the Borough Treasurer's letter of 22 December,

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1993, which set out details of the calculation of the 1994/95 council tax base for the Community.

RESOLVED: That the correspondence be referred to the next meeting of the Council's Finance Committee.

6. Precept Instalments and Revenue Support Grant for 1994/95

The Council received the Borough Council's letter of 22 December, 1993, giving details of the payment of precept instalments and Revenue Support Grant Settlement for 1994/95.

RESOLVED: That the correspondence be referred to the next meeting of the Council's Finance Committee.

7. Future of Llantrisant Magistrates' Court

The Council discussed a letter from Mr B Gordon Miles, J.P. who was seeking the support of the Community Council in opposing the likely plans for the closure of the Llantrisant Magistrates' Court in Talbot Green. While no firm plans for the closure of the Court had been made public it was strongly believed that a rationalisation would shortly be announced. The effect of this would be to leave two magistrates courts to serve the area. One court would be in Pontypridd while the other would be at Llwynypia.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Clerk to the Magistrates seeking an assurance that in the event of a rationalisation taking place within the Magistrates' Court organisation the Court at Talbot Green would not be closed.

8. Rumoured closure Wella/Ondawel factory

Councillor John Dilworth informed the Council that there were very strong rumours circulating in the Community about the possible closure of the Wella/Ondawel factory in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. The Taff Ely Borough Council and the MP for Pontypridd had each sought assurances on the plant's future from management. Councillor Dilworth recognised that the factory was located outside the boundary of the Pontyclun Community Council but pointed out that the factory provided a considerable amount of employment for Community residents.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the plant's managing director, Mr Gary Weare, seeking an assurance that there were no plans to close the factory.

9. Dumping of garden refuse, Miskin

The Council discussed a letter from the Chief Planning Officer of the Borough Council which sought the Community Council's cooperation in discouraging members of the public from dumping garden refuse in woodland adjacent to Heol Miskin, Miskin.

RESOLVED: That members, wherever possible, discourage the public from dumping refuse in the woodland and that the Clerk write to the Chairman of the Miskin Community Watch in Miskin seeking his cooperation in bringing the concern of the Chief Planning Officer to the attention of Watch members.

10. Commemorative Tree and Bench Scheme

The Council discussed details of the recently introduced scheme by the Borough Council for the opportunity to purchase a commemorative tree or memorial bench as a gift to, or in memory of, a loved one.

RESOLVED: (i) That the letter of the Borough Council's Chief Leisure Services Officer outlining the scheme be displayed in each of the Community Council's noticeboards.

(ii) That the Clerk contact the Chief Leisure Services Officer with a view to planting an ornamental tree in the triangular grassed area at the junction of Heol Miskin and Clun Avenue in Pontyclun.

11. Salaries Agreement for Clerks, 1993

The Council received details of the Salaries Agreement for Clerks for 1993.

RESOLVED: That consideration of the agreement and its implications be referred to the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

12. Parliament for Wales Campaign

The Council discussed an invitation from Mr D V Ing to affiliate to the Parliament for Wales Campaign. Mr Ing stated that in his view democracy was being dismantled in Wales as more and more power was vested in the Secretary of State for Wales, the Welsh Office and the ever growing number of "quangos". Mr Ing was of the view that as public accountability became less, there was an increasing need for an elected body in Wales to reflect public views. A Parliament for Wales would perform this role.

RESOLVED: That the Council affiliate to the Campaign.

13. Application for financial assistance

The Council considered an application for financial assistance towards staging the Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales on its return to the Neath & District during July and August, 1994.

RESOLVED: That the application be referred to the Finance Committee.

14. Application for the transfer of a Justices' Licence

The Council considered details of an application for the transfer of a Justices' Licence for the Windsor Hotel, Pontyclun. The Clerk reported that the solicitors acting in the application had reported that application was now to be made in joint names.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk advise the magistrates that while the Council did not have any objections to the application it was appropriate to draw attention to the history of problems associated with the premises.

15. Planning

(a) IDO permission - Hendy Quarry

The Community Council discussed the letter of the County Planning Officer following the application for the determination of conditions relating to I.D.O. permission by Wimpey Hobbs for the Hendy Quarry, Miskin.

RESOLVED: That the following comments be made to the County Council on the proposed conditions:

1. There is a contradiction in time limits. The Mid Glamorgan Local Plan foresees working at the quarry for a period of 20 years. The IDO permission purports to give permission for working for 50 years.
2. Condition 5 provides for the restriction of noise, dust, vibration and fumes to "an acceptable minimum". It is not clear who will decide on what is an acceptable minimum. This needs to be clarified for Miskin residents.
3. It is unsatisfactory to allow blasting to take place on Saturdays, Sundays and

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Statutory Public/Bank Holidays on the justification that there is an emergency. The proposed condition allows the quarry operator to blast outside weekdays and, if subsequently challenged, to plead that there was an emergency. The condition should be quite clear that blasting is only permitted during weekdays.

4. In earlier correspondence, Mr Forrester suggested that an acceptable level of PPV would be between 4mm and 9.5mm. At 12mm the proposed level is significantly higher than previously suggested. Furthermore, the Community Council is firmly of the view that the level should apply to 100% of blasts and not 95%. Anything short of 100% will always allow the operator to claim that any violations fall within the allowable 5%
5. The provision for a 6 month delay from the date of an approval of the application to the date of submission for a scheme for the monitoring of blasting operations effectively awards the operator up to six months of an "open season" in which there would be no monitoring of blasting. The scheme for monitoring should be required from the operator immediately after approval is granted.
6. The provision that the operator "shall make efforts" to reduce the effects of air over pressure is seen to be particularly weak. There should be a firm obligation placed on the operator to reduce the effects of over air pressure from blasting. The words "make efforts" should be deleted.

(b) Appeal against the refusal to award planning permission

(Councillor Gordon Moir declared an interest in this item and took no part in the Council's deliberations)

RESOLVED: That the details of the appeal be noted.



(c) Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending  
26 November, 3, 10, and 17 December, 1993

RESOLVED: That the following comments be made to the  
Borough Council:

Application No. 93/0887/16

That the Council maintain its opposition to the development of this land for the same reasons given when the previous application was refused by the planning authority.

Application No. 93/0897/13

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

That while the Council was not opposed to the application for development prudent safeguards should be placed on any consent to protect the interests of residents living in the vicinity. In particular, restrictions should be placed on contractors' hours of work to ensure that building work does not take place on weekends or on public holidays. In addition, traffic calming measures, the cost of which should be borne by the developers, should be introduced at the earliest opportunity.

Application No. 93/0912/13

That while the Council was not opposed to the development, the Council believed that the density of the proposed development to be too high and that a more realistic figure would be 10 units including the disabled unit.

Application No. 93/0901/10

The Council is opposed to the proposed development on the grounds that residents have already endured considerable nuisance as a result of tipping operations in recent years. The erection of a gas abstraction plant would lead to a further loss of amenity for residents.



Application No. 93/0920/10

That while the Council is not opposed to the proposed development, the Council would urge the Borough Council to place stringent conditions on any consent to ensure that the development does not lead to residential development at the site.

Application No. 93/0923/10

The Council is opposed to the proposed development since it is within the safety zone of the Hendy Quarry. Furthermore development is likely to effect the adjacent public right of way.

16. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix No.32 to the Agenda.

17. Reports from Members

Wales Association of Community and Town Councils -  
East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee

Councillor John Dilworth gave a report on the discussions which took place at the last meeting of the Area Committee on the evening of Tuesday, 7 December, 1993.

The guest speaker was Mr Alan Twelvetrees, Manager of the Community Development Foundation in Wales. Mr Twelvetrees explained that the CDF was a quango working under the aegis of the Welsh Office. The objectives of the CDF were to establish a community's needs and, with trained assistance, to enable that community to achieve its objectives. A community's needs were ascertained by devising, distributing, and studying the responses to a comprehensive questionnaire. Generally, the CDF worked in disadvantaged communities. Mr Twelvetrees quoted Bettws, Bridgend, where the CDF had been able to make a significant contribution towards the improvement of community life. It was hoped that the work of the CDF could be expanded in the New Year through the application of increased resources.

It was reported that as a result of the government's proposals for the reorganisation of local government, and

the year's delay in the implementation of reorganisation, the next elections to community councils in Wales would take place in April, 1995, and not in May, 1996, as originally envisaged.

Councillor Colin Mann, a delegate to the Area Committee, gave a verbal report on his attendance at a recent conference in Ebbw Vale on Community Revival Strategies. Essentially, the schemes were designed to tackle social deprivation with the Welsh Office prepared to contribute up to 75% of approved expenditure with the appropriate local authority contributing the remaining 25%

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

18. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Windsor Rugby Field, Pontyclun

Councillor Cyril Bendle expressed his concern at the state of the Windsor Rugby Field, Pontyclun. He pointed out that following a recent period of prolonged heavy rain, when most rugby games in the locality had been cancelled, the Pontyclun RFC had decided to use the Windsor Field. The result had been that the Field had been badly cut up. It would take many weeks for the playing surface to recover.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the secretary of the Pontyclun RFC asking for the Club's cooperation in cancelling fixtures where there was a risk of causing long term damage to the Field's playing surface.

(b) Cefn-yr-Hendy development

Councillor Gordon Moir drew the Council's attention to the recent erection of signs on land at Cefn-yr-Hendy to advertise the building of residential properties by Ideal Homes. Councillor Moir reminded the Council that the building land in question was known to be undermined by abandoned iron ore and lead workings and that the Council had fought a long battle against the proposed development.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to Ideal Homes and ask if that company would be prepared to indemnify house purchasers in the event of their properties being effected by subsidence.

(c) Condition of pavements - Maesyfelin Estate

The Chairperson, Councillor Eric Griffith, again drew attention to the state of disrepair of some of the pavements on the Maesyfelin Estate. The pavement from the Library into the Estate was in need of urgent attention.

RESOLVED: That the matter be referred to County Councillor Delme Bowen.

(d) Traffic congestion outside Leekes store

The Chairperson raised the matter of traffic congestion outside Leekes store in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. It was agreed that the parking restrictions in the area were being disregarded by motorists, particularly at weekends and public holidays, and that enforcement of the restrictions was a matter of priority.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the police requesting the enforcement of restrictions.

(e) Pedestrian crossing, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

The Chairperson highlighted two problem areas connected with the pedestrian crossing in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. He pointed out that there was an absence of concrete bollards in the lay-by on the eastern side of Cowbridge Road. The result was that vehicle drivers frequently infringed the zig zag parking restrictions on the approach to the crossing. He also drew attention to the poor illumination of the crossing at night and feared that pedestrians using the crossing might not be seen by motorists.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue both matters with the County Council.

19. The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

*Eric V. Griffith*