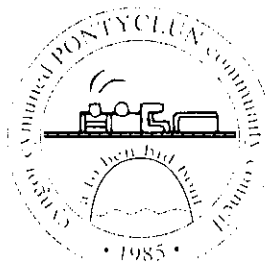


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

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, 5 January, 2000

PRESENT: Community Councillors C G Bendle, J G Davies, J R Dilworth, R G Norman and M Rea

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P C Steve Keddle, for part of the meeting, and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of the Councillors Mrs V A Cale, C Davies, J V Huish and Mrs P Thomas

2. **Chairperson**

In the absence of the Chairperson, Councillor Huish, the Chair was occupied by the Vice Chairperson, Councillor Rea.

3. **Chairperson's business**

There were no items of Chairperson's business

4. **Police matters**

(i) **Speed detection – Heol Miskin, Miskin**

P C Keddle tabled a letter from the Traffic Management Section of the South Wales Police relating to speed detection in Heol Miskin, Miskin.

The letter stated that since traffic travelling from Miskin towards Pontyclun

“is mainly held up by oncoming vehicles which are negotiating parked vehicles, and are slowing down to negotiate junctions, it has been preferred to set up the new video equipment in the centre of the village, in a location along Heol Miskin where vehicles speeds are greater, but the safety aspect is still of importance due to the residential properties which are set back off the roadway. It can be argued that the newer preferred area is not giving the motorist a fair chance, and the camera should be used in the heavily congested area, but the entire section of the road is subject to a 30 m.p.h. speed limit, and the preferred area has a greater impact on offenders, who will hopefully slow down when entering the more congested area on the western end. Miskin Road is a justified speed complaint area, and will continue to be visited by the Speed Detection Officer, commensurate with his other duties.”

A lengthy discussion by took place by Members on the merits of the 30 m.p.h. speed restriction between Pontyclun and Miskin. Some Members were in favour of making representations to lift the speed restriction to 40 m.p.h. while other Members were in favour of leaving the current restriction in place.

The discussion concluded with the Council deciding not to make any representations for the raising of the speed limit in Heol Miskin.

(ii) **Speeding vehicles between Brynsadler and Llanharry**

Councillor Dilworth asked P C Keddle he could receive a copy of the report following the recent monitoring by the police of the speed of vehicles on the road between Brynsadler and Llanharry.

P C Keddle responded that he would obtain a copy of the report and forward I to the Clerk for information.

(iii) **Mobile hot food vendor**

Councillor Dilworth advised the Council of his concern at the appearance of a mobile hot food vendor in a lay-by alongside the A4222 in Cowbridge Road near the junction with Y Pant Comprehensive School.



Councillor Dilworth was concerned that the hot food vendor would encourage pupils from the nearby school to cross the busy A4222 to buy food during the lunch hour. Councillor Dilworth reminded the Council that the stretch of road had been highlighted as being dangerous to pupils even before the arrival of the mobile hot food vendor.

A further reason for concern was that the mobile hot food vendor's caravan was positioned in the middle of a large pool of stagnant water. Serious doubts existed on whether an infringement of food hygiene regulations had taken place.

RESOLVED:(i) That Councillor Rea raise the Community Council's concerns at the next meeting of the Governing Body of Y Pant Comprehensive School.

(ii) That the Clerk contact the Highway Authority on the Community Council's safety concerns over children being encouraged to cross the busy A4222.

(iii) That the Clerk contact the Environmental Services Department of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to establish whether any infringement of hygiene regulations had taken place by the sale of food from a caravan situated in a pool of stagnant water.

5. **Minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 1 December, 1999**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Pontyclun Community Council's meeting of 1 December, 1999, be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Erection of Christmas trees in Pontyclun**

The Clerk gave a report on the exercise to erect Christmas trees in Pontyclun.

The Clerk also advised on how a trader's set of traffic lights had been damaged during the exercise and how it had become necessary to replace the lights.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the Clerk's report be noted.
- (ii) That the Clerk's action in arranging for the replacement of the damaged set of Christmas lights be approved.

(b) **Proposed boundary change between Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council**

The Council received and discussed a copy of a letter from Mrs Margaret Griffiths of Lake View, Talygarn, which had been sent to the Boundary Commission for Wales.

Mrs Griffiths gave in detail her reasons why she believed that Talygarn should remain within the borough of Rhondda Cynon Taff and not transferred into the borough of the Vale of Glamorgan.

RESOLVED: That Mrs Griffiths' letter be noted.

(c) **Request for a boundary review**

The Council discussed copies of correspondence which had been forwarded by Mr R Fairlamb of 12 Y Parc, Groesfaen, Pontyclun.

Mr Fairlamb had earlier written to the Secretary of the Boundary Commission for Wales asking that a review of boundaries be carried out with the objective of transferring Groesfaen from the area of Rhondda Cynon Taff to the City and County of Cardiff. In support of his request Mr Fairlamb had suggested that the former ecclesiastic boundaries which linked Groesfaen with Creigiau should be re-instated.

In his reply to Mr Fairlamb, the Secretary had outlined the procedures leading to the Commission carrying out a review. He had also stated that it was unlikely that any work on Mr Fairlamb's request would be carried out before the financial year commencing in April, 2000.

RESOLVED:(i) That the correspondence between Mr Fairlamb and the Boundary Commission be noted.

(ii) That copies of Mr Fairlamb's correspondence be forwarded to Mr Malcolm Cook, Secretary to the Groesfaen Residents' Association.

(d) **Request for the removal of a wayside seat**

Councillor Graham Davies reported that following the Council's request at its last meeting he had carried out a survey of residents views about the possibility of moving the wayside seat in Heol y Felin from its existing site.

Councillor Davies had found that the overwhelming number of people he had spoken to had said that they would prefer the wayside seat to remain at its existing location.

RESOLVED: That the Council take no action on the request to remove the wayside seat.

(e) **Encroachments on to the Maesyfelin Rugby Field**

Councillor Graham Davies referred to the concerns expressed by the Council for some time over the encroachments by certain residents of Tegfan, Pontyclun, on to the Maesyfelin Rugby Field.

There was a strong feeling that if the encroachments went unchallenged there was a possibility that the certain parts of the Maesyfelin Rugby Field would cease to be available to the general public. Additionally, inaction by the owners of the Field, the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, might encourage other residents to behave in a similar way.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and advise that the occupiers of No.s 23 and 25 Tegfan, Pontyclun, appeared to be responsible for the encroachments taking place and request that action be taken to end the encroachments.

(f) **Retendering of local bus service contracts**

The Clerk read out a letter from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, which had been received too late for inclusion on the Council's agenda, about the retendering of



local bus service contracts. The Council was invited to make comments on the routes and times of bus services in its area.

RESOLVED: That the following comments be made:

- (i) The Council would welcome integration of bus services and rail services at Pontyclun Station.
- (ii) The Council would urge the Borough Council to support the introduction of a half hourly bus service from Pontyclun to Bridgend via Llanharry.
- (iii) The Council would urge the Borough Council to support the introduction of an hourly bus service from Pontyclun to Cowbridge.
- (iv) The Council would urge the Borough Council to support the introduction of a shoppers circular service linking villages in the Community with Tesco's stores in Talbot Green.
- (v) The Council would urge the Borough Council to support the introduction of a weekly bus service linking the Community with the retail shopping complex at Culverhouse Cross, Cardiff.
- (vi) The Council would urge the Borough Council to support the introduction of a weekly bus service linking the Community with the retail shopping complex at Litchard, Bridgend.
- (vii) The Council would urge the Borough Council to carry out a survey of public transport needs consequent upon the opening of the new Royal Glamorgan Hospital at Ynysyplwm.
- (viii) The Council would urge the Borough Council to impress upon bus service contractors the need to give evening commuters out of Cardiff a better service.



7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **The installation of CCTV in Pontyclun**

Councillor Rea referred to the enquiries he had made about the scheme to install CCTV in Pontyclun.

The scheme had been the subject of two site visits and had resulted in a quote from a company for the installation of a system for Pontyclun. Councillor Rea stated that his consultations had also involved the police who had stated that they would be prepared to arrange monitoring of CCTV recordings at their monitoring station. Councillor Rea stated that an invitation had been received from the police to attend the monitoring station in Taffs Well. Councillor Rea pointed out that significant expenditure was proposed and he sought the Council's views on progressing the scheme.

There was general agreement from the Council that there was need for a CCTV system in Pontyclun but it was important to progress the scheme in accordance with written undertakings and the Council's Standing Orders. In particular, it was essential that a written commitment be received in advance from the monitoring organisation that monitoring could be carried out with an indication of the ongoing cost to the Community Council.

Having finalised potential monitoring arrangements it would be necessary to produce a technical specification and invite tenders from three approved CCTV installers. The sealed tenders would be opened by the Council.

RESOLVED: That the proposed CCTV scheme be progressed in accordance with the principles outlined above.

(b) **Proposed hard surface play area**

The Council received the letter of 6 December, 1999, from the Director of Property Services of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council in which he stated that while he appreciated the need for a hard surface play area in Pontyclun, there was no Borough Council owned land in the Maesyfelin area available.

The Council was deeply disappointed at the news since it believed that the Maesyfelin area was probably the most central location for a hard surface play area.

Councillor Norman suggested that the Council might wish to look at other potential sites in the Community. He advised that there was a possibility of land being available near the residential development currently taking place at Cefn yr Hendy. He offered to bring plans of the area to the Council in an attempt to identify a suitable plot of land

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for the proposal for a hard play surface play area be included on the Council's February agenda.

(c) **Training opportunities for Councillors and Clerks**

The Council discussed a training programme on matters of importance in local government which had been organised by the Centre for Welsh Legal Affairs of the University of Wales at Aberystwyth.

RESOLVED: That Members contact the Clerk to advise of the courses in which they required training.

(d) **Application for Transfer of Licence**

The Council received details of an application for a transfer of the Justices' Licence at the Miskin Arms, Miskin, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the application be noted.

(e) **Neighbourhood Watch Conference, 2000**

The Council received details of the Neighbourhood Watch Conference to be held at the Llantrisant Leisure Centre on the evening of Thursday, 17 February, 2000.

RESOLVED: That Councillors Rea and Graham Davies be nominated to attend the Conference on behalf of the Council.

(f) **Application for financial assistance**

The Council discussed an application from the Ogmere Centre Trust for a contribution towards the cost of repairing the fabric of the Centre.

RESOLVED: That a contribution of £50.00 be made towards the Centre's funds.

(g) **Planning matters contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ended 3 & 10 December, 1999**

The Council discussed the planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ended 3 & 10 December, 1999.

RESOLVED: That the Council oppose application No. T/99/2892/10 on the grounds that the development would constitute a further intrusion into the countryside and there appeared to be no evidence that an environmental impact assessment had been made.

(h) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 9 (a) to the Council's agenda.

8. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Audit of Accounts for 1998/99**

The Council received the certificate of the District Auditor in which he stated that in his opinion the statement of accounts presents fairly the position of Pontyclun Community Council at 31 March, 1999, and its income and expenditure for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations, 1966, and the CIPFA Accounting Guidance Notes for Local Councils.

The Council discussed in detail each of the District Auditor's comments in his letter dated 30 November, 1999.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the letter be noted.

(b) **Budgetary Information for 2000/2001**

The Council received the letter of the Director of Finance and I. T. of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, dated 8 December, 1999, in which it was stated that the Council Tax Base for 2000-2001 was £2,311.23

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(c) **Old Sewage Works, Llanharry**

In response to the Community Council's earlier concerns about uncontrolled tipping on the site of the former sewage works at Llanharry, the Council noted that the landowner had been advised of the need to obtain planning consent and that the landowner's agent was currently preparing a planning application. The Director of Planning has received an assurance



that the application would be submitted before the week ending 17 December, 1999.

RESOLVED: That the position be noted and that a copy of the Director's letter be forwarded to Mr R C Kennard of Ty'r Ffynnon, Castell y Mwnws.

(d) **Llandough Hospital, Cardiff**

The Council received proposals for the transfer of thoracic surgery from Llandough Hospital, Cardiff, to the University of Wales Hospital, Cardiff. The Council was given an opportunity to comment on the proposals.

RESOLVED: That the Council decline to comment on the proposals.

(e) **Talygarn Rehabilitation Centre, Talygarn**

Members were deeply disappointed to hear that the minister with responsibility for health matters in Wales at the Welsh Assembly had ruled in favour of the proposals to transfer rehabilitation facilities from the Talygarn Rehabilitation Centre to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital in Talbot Green.

The decision came as a shock since it had been widely believed that the Talygarn Forum, and other sources in favour of the retention of facilities at Talygarn, had promoted an extremely effective case.

RESOLVED:(i) That the Clerk send a letter to Jane Hutt at the Welsh Assembly conveying the Community Council's dismay at the decision to transfer rehabilitation facilities to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital

(ii) That the Clerk establish from Jane Hutt what plans existed for the retention of the Grade 2 listed building at Talygarn and its surrounding grounds.

9. The meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.

