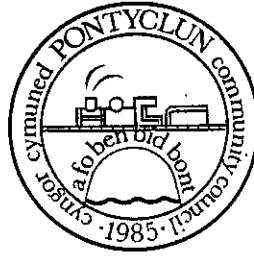


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
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"Mandalay"
 Cowbridge Road,
 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 July, 1995

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Three members of the public

1. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Chairperson's Business

Application for Off licence

The Chairperson advised Members that since the last meeting of the Council it had been necessary to give a response, on behalf of the Community Council, in connection with an application for an off licence. Councillor Bendle apologised to those Members of the Council he had contacted late at night for their views on the application.

The matter was noted.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 7 June, 1995

Councillor T J Burton moved that draft minute 16 (b) of the Council's meeting of 7 June, 1995, be amended to reflect that, in his view, only one Member of the Community Council had requested maps of the Community. An amendment to the motion, moved by Councillor R G Norman, proposed that the draft minutes be left unaltered and approved as an accurate record.

On the matter being put to the vote four Members voted for the motion and five Members voted for the amendment.

Those voting for the motion were Councillors T J Burton, Mrs A Cale, J G Davies and T J R Flood.

Those voting for the amendment were Councillors R G Norman, C G Bendle, R O Edwards, Mrs M M Griffiths and G M Moir

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 7 June, 1995, be approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

(a) District Auditor's ruling

The Clerk referred to minute 2 (iv) of the Council's meeting of 7 June, 1995, and reported receipt of a copy letter sent by the District Auditor to Mr Leonard Morgan of 27 Clun Avenue, Pontyclun. The District Auditor had upheld the advice given by the Clerk at the Council's Annual Meeting about the eligibility of the Chairperson to give an original and a casting vote. Copies of the District Auditor's letter were distributed to all Members for information.

The matter was noted.

(b) Appointment of a casual summer assistant

The Clerk reported that following the request of the Council at its last meeting he has engaged an unemployed student, Mr Matthew Rogers of 22 Cerdin Avenue, Pontyclun, to give assistance to the Council's Handyman during the summer months. Mr Rogers had been recruited through the local Jobcentre.

The matter was noted.

(c) Maps of the Community

Following the Council's request at its last meeting for maps of the Community, the Clerk distributed copies of :

- (i) Sheets ST 07 and 08 of the 1:25,000 Ordnance Survey Maps showing listed footpaths in the Community and adjacent communities.
- (ii) The Definitive Map Statement dated 14 September, 1954.
- (iii) An Ordnance Survey 6 inch to the mile map showing the Community boundaries.
- (iv) An Ordnance Survey 6 inch to the mile map showing the Community boundaries and public rights of way.



(d) Councillor G Moir

The Council discussed the letter of 23 June, 1995, from Mr Karl Davies, Chief Executive of Plaid Cymru, who had indicated that disciplinary matters such as the type complained of were a matter for the local Taf Ely Rhanbarth Committee. Mr Davies further advised that he had referred the Council's complaint to the local Rhanbarth.

Councillor T J Burton stated that he felt the matter should go no further. On behalf of the local branch of Plaid Cymru Councillor Burton said that he was prepared to make a full public apology to Councillor Moir for the distress which had been caused to Councillor Moir and his family.

Councillor Moir indicated his willingness to accept the apology.

(e) Annual Grants Meeting

The Clerk advised the Council that its Annual Grants Meeting would be held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 25 July, 1995.

The matter was noted.

(f) Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Councillor G Moir reported that he had contacted Mrs Nicholls, Secretary to the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee, about the confusion over the date of a recent Liaison Committee meeting. Mrs Nicholls had admitted that the confusion was caused by her and any implication that a member of the Community Council had been responsible for the misunderstanding was unfortunate and was regretted.

The matter was noted.

5. Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee of 29 June, 1995

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

6. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

7. Adoption of the Finance Committee's recommendation

RESOLVED: That the recommendation of the Finance Committee be approved.



8. Riding of horses on pavements

The Council discussed a letter from Mr L Bailey of Station Terrace, Pontyclun, who sought clarification on the right of horse riders to ride their horses on pavements in the Community. Mr Bailey's concern was twofold - the risk of injury to a member of the public and the deposition of horse manure on pavements.

The Council understood and sympathised with the concerns raised by Mr Bailey but Members believed it was important to bear in mind that in a semi-rural community it was inevitable that a significant number of residents would be involved with horses. The position in the Community of Pontyclun was aggravated by a severe shortage of bridlepaths where horses could be ridden in safety.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the Clerk write to the County Council to ascertain the legal position of horse riders using pavements in the Community.
 - (ii) That the Clerk advise Mr Bailey that information on his concerns was being sought from the County Council.

9. Proposal to erect a bus shelter in Groesfaen

The Council discussed the County Council's response to the Community Council's earlier suggestion to erect a bus shelter on the pavement outside Babel Chapel in Groesfaen. It was accepted by both councils that the proposed site was severely restricted and did not easily lend itself to the erection of a bus shelter. Nevertheless, it was believed that with careful selection of a suitable cantilever type bus shelter it would be possible to provide the much needed facility.

- RESOLVED: That the Clerk establish the range of cantilever type bus shelters on the market and convene a site meeting with representatives of the County Council to choose the one best suited for the site.

10. Application for an off licence for the sale of alcohol -29/30 Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

The Council noted the correspondence which had taken place over the application for an off licence for the sale of alcohol at 29/30 Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. In particular, the advice from the Clerk to the Justices that if the Community Council wished to oppose the application it would be necessary for a representative of the Community Council to attend the hearing scheduled for 7 July, 1995, at the Rhondda Magistrates' Court and outline the Community Council's objections from the witness box.

A long discussion took place on whether the Council should oppose the application. Some Members took the view that there were already sufficient



licensed premises in the Community and that a further outlet for the sale of alcohol would add to the anti social problems already being experienced in Pontyclun as the result of alcohol abuse.

The contrary view was that the Council should seek to be consistent and even handed in its consideration of applications for off licences. Furthermore, that the Community Council should be seen to be encouraging fair competition for all traders in Pontyclun. The Council should be careful in adopting an ad hoc approach to licensing applications because this could be interpreted as providing protectionism to those shopkeepers already in possession of off licences. It was not considered that the grant of a further off licence would have any additional effect on the anti social behaviour of a minority.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the Community Council oppose the application.
 - (ii) That Councillor T J Burton be nominated to attend the Court hearing on 7 July, 1995, to outline the Community Council's objections to the application.
 - (iii) That Councillor Burton's attendance at court be designated as an approved duty.

11. Proposal to re-site the wayside seat situated opposite Pontyclun Post Office

Councillor T J Burton advised the Council that he was concerned about the inappropriate siting of the wayside seat situated opposite the post office in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. Councillor Burton pointed out that anyone using the seat subjected to the unpleasantness of having heavy traffic pass a few feet away and, invariably when that heavy traffic halted at the junction with Cowbridge Road, being forced to breathe in exhaust fumes. Councillor Burton proposed that the Council consider re-siting the wayside seat to a location on the pavement in Cowbridge Road outside the former Midland Bank.

- RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Mid Glamorgan County Council to obtain that authority's observations before carrying out the re-siting.

12. Litter outside the Bute Arms, Pontyclun

The Chairperson, Councillor C G Bendle, drew the Council's attention to the amount of litter and broken glass which was regularly to be seen on the pavement and in the highway outside the Bute Arms in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, on Sunday mornings. Councillor Bendle thought it extremely unfair that the local authorities should have to bear the additional cost arising out of the thoughtlessness of the patrons of the Bute Arms. Councillor Bendle was of the view that as the premises was a profit making business there was an incumbent responsibility on the licensee to ensure that litter, and particularly broken glass, was left strewn over the pavements and highway outside his premises.



RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council seeking clarification on licensees' responsibilities and whether any action could be taken to alleviate the situation at the Bute Arms, Pontyclun.

13. Invitation to organise a sponsored walk in 1996

The Council discussed an invitation from the Kidney Research Unit Foundation for Wales to organise a further sponsored walk in 1996.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree in principle to organise a sponsored walk in the Community in 1996 for the purpose of raising funds for the Kidney Research Unit Foundation for Wales.

14. Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

(a) 1995 Annual Conference in Aberystwyth

RESOLVED: (i) That Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths represent the Council at the Annual Conference of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils in Aberystwyth on Saturday, 14 October, 1995.

(ii) That Councillor Mrs Griffiths' attendance be designated an official duty.

(b) Submission of motion to Conference

That before submitting a motion to Conference Councillor Norman make enquiries of the Borough Council to establish whether either of the licensees of the two public houses in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, were infringing the law in allowing their patrons to consume alcohol on the highway.

15. Planning

(a) Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 2, 9, 16 and 23 June, 1995

(The Chairperson, Councillor C G Bendle, declared an interest in Application No. 95/0375/05 and took no part in the Council's deliberations. The appropriate entry was made in the Register of Disclosures)

RESOLVED: That the applications be noted.

(b) Appeal to the Secretary of State

The Council received details of an appeal to the Secretary of

State for Wales against the refusal of the Planning Authority to award planning consent for development of land adjacent to 116 Hensol Road, Miskin.

RESOLVED: That the Council maintain its objections to the proposed development.

16. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix No. 14 to the Agenda.

17. Reports from Members

(a) Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Councillor Moir reported on his attendance at the Annual General Meeting of the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee. Councillor Delme Bowen was elected Chairman, a representative of Wimpey Hobbs as Vice Chairman and Mrs A Nicholls as Secretary. The meeting was told that there had been a change in the method of operation at the Quarry and that stone was being extracted by use of jack hammers instead of blasting. Concern was expressed at the meeting that as a result of local government reorganisation, and the consequent replacement of Mid Glamorgan County Council and the Taff Ely Borough Council by the Rhondda Cynon Taff Borough Council, there would be a loss of representation by the principal authorities on the Liaison Committee. The Secretary had been asked to write to the Rhondda Cynon Taff Shadow Authority to find out whether that authority would wish to nominate two members to attend future meetings of the Liaison Committee.

The report was noted.

(b) Borough Council/Community Councils' Joint Liaison Committee

Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths reported on her attendance at the last meeting of the Borough Council/ Community Councils' Joint Liaison Committee. Councillor Griffiths reported that most of the discussion centred around cemeteries and that the meeting had ended in 18 minutes.

The report was noted.

(c) Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant

Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths reported that she had been

unable to attend the recent meeting of the governing body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant.

The report was noted.

(d) Possibility of employing a traffic warden

Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths drew the Council's attention to the need for traffic regulations to be enforced in Pontyclun. Councillor Mrs Griffiths suggested that the Council might wish to consider the possibility of employing a traffic warden.

RESOLVED: That any further discussion about the possibility of employing a traffic warden be deferred pending the results from the expected increase in police presence in Pontyclun following the opening of the police office at the new day centre.

(e) Traffic and parking problems in Pontyclun

Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths referred to the discussions which had taken place at recent Community Council meetings about parking problems and suggested that it would be useful to have a presentation at a future Council meeting from a traffic engineer to outline alternatives in the creation of additional parking places in the Community.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make arrangements for a traffic engineer to attend a future meeting of the Community Council to discuss alternatives for improving parking facilities in the Community.

(f) Talygarn Cricket Field

Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths referred to the interest which the Borough Council had shown in taking over the cricket field in Talygarn. Councillor Griffiths was aware that the Borough Council's initiative had been unsuccessful but she wondered whether it might be opportune to raise the matter again with the Borough Council.

Councillor R G Norman responded that he had fully supported the Borough Council's initiative. However, to be able to spend money on the field the Borough would expect to negotiate a lease with the landowner, the Mid Glamorgan Health Authority, for at least 21 years. The landowner was only prepared to enter a lease of two years' duration.

The matter was noted.



(g) Talygarn Lake

Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths referred to the plans of the Welsh Water Authority and local farmers, some 10 years earlier, to improve the quality of the water in Talygarn Lake. Councillor Griffiths asked whether Welsh Water, or the National River Authority, were still interested in implementing a scheme to improve water quality in the Lake.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk establish whether Welsh Water or the National Rivers Authority had any current interest, or plans, to improve water quality in the Lake.

(h) Footpath lighting

Councillor G Davies advised the Council that there had been requests for the Community Council to instal footpath lighting on the footpath connecting The Hollies with High Street, Brynsadler.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for a feasibility study to be carried out with an estimate of likely costs.

(i) Traffic calming

Councillor G Davies advised that there was need for a traffic calming measure in the lane parallel with Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, and the Pontyclun Primary School.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the matter with the Highway Authority.

(j) Football Field Fence

Councillor G Davies informed the Council that the Pontyclun Football Club was currently planning to re-new the fence around its field and to provide a new gate. The cost had been estimated at around £1,500. Councillor Davies wondered whether the Community Council might consider making the Pontyclun Football Club a grant towards the cost of the proposed work.

Councillor R G Norman advised that the Borough Council had already been approached about a grant towards the planned expenditure and the matter was due to be determined by the Borough council that week.

The position was noted.



(k) Condition of pavements in the Community

Councillor G Davies advised of considerable concern among residents about the state of pavements in the Community. It appeared that the County Council only undertook small areas of replacement work while considerable lengths of pavement were in need of repair. Councillor Davies invited each Member of the Council to carry out a survey of the condition of the pavements in his, or her, ward and report the findings back to a future meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk produce copies of the questionnaire drafted by Councillor Davies for distribution at the Council's meeting on 25 July, 1995.

18. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Reports to the police

Councillor T J Burton emphasised to Members the importance of reporting matters promptly to the police. He gave an example of a matter which had occurred on the previous Saturday evening which, unfortunately, he had not been able to report to the police until the following Tuesday evening. Late reporting gave the police little chance of taking effective action against offenders.

The matter was noted.

(b) Straying Animals Working Party

Councillor T J Burton gave notice that he would be unable to attend the next meeting of the Borough Council's Straying Animals Working Party.

The matter was noted.

(c) Taff Ely Police Liaison Committee

Councillor T J Burton advised that at the last meeting of the Taff Ely Police Liaison Committee copies of the Taff Ely Division Annual Plan for 1995/96 had been circulated and members of the committee had been asked to bring their comments on the document to the next meeting of the committee. Councillor Burton tabled his copy of the Plan and asked that it be circulated to all Members of the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk photocopy and circulate the Plan to all Members with a request that comments be brought to the special Council meeting for the award of grants which had been scheduled for Tuesday, 25 July, 1995.

(d) Age Concern

Councillor T J Burton reported on his attendance at the last meeting of Age Concern where a woman police constable had given a talk on the importance of "not trusting". A query had been raised at the meeting about the regulations governing the parking of caravans.

(e) Overhanging hedge, Miskin

Councillor T J Burton advised the Council that he had received complaints about the inability of the public to use part of a pavement in Miskin due to an overhanging hedge. Councillor Burton had passed the complaints to the Clerk who had contacted the landowner, the Land Authority for Wales.

The matter was noted.

(f) Groesfaen playground

Councillor R G Norman reported that the Borough Council intended to upgrade the children's playground in Groesfaen during 1995. The upgraded playground would cater for children of all ages.

The report was noted.

(g) Possible creation of play area, Miskin

Councillor R G Norman reported that the Borough Council had identified a plot of land in Miskin which would be suitable for a children's play area. However, the proposed scheme would require a compulsory purchase order and doubts had been expressed whether the usually protracted procedure for the making of compulsory purchase orders would be finalised before the Borough Council went out of existence at 31 March, 1996.

The matter was noted.

(h) Miskin Cricket Club

Councillor R G Norman reported that the Borough Council had acceded to a request for financial assistance from the Miskin Cricket Club and that a grant of £11,000 would be made.

The matter was noted.



(l) Unstable land, Cefn yr Hendy

Councillor R G Norman reported that following reports from structural engineers a plot of land at Cefn yr Hendy, Pontyclun, had been shored up.

The report was noted.

(j) Clun Avenue, Pontyclun

Councillor R G Norman, on behalf of Councillor Delme Bowen, reported that the long promised re-surfacing of the pavement in Clun Avenue, Pontyclun, had been completed.

The matter was noted.

(k) Pontyclun Community/Day Centre

Councillor R G Norman reported that that work on the new Pontyclun Day Centre was virtually complete. The car park alongside the new Centre would be completed very shortly and, as a result of maximising the use of available land it had been possible to provide 81 parking places. The spaces would be available to members of the public in addition to Centre users.

The report was noted.

(l) Closed circuit television

Councillor R G Norman reported that the Taff Ely Borough Council had allocated £75,000 for the installation of closed circuit television in Pontyclun. It was understood that the system would function in a way similar to the system installed in Pontypridd.

The report was noted.

(m) Hot food vendor

Councillor G Moir reported that a hot food vendor had been operating his business from a caravan parked on land owned by the Community Council outside the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That as the Community Council would not wish a business of this description operating from its land, the Clerk be instructed to ask the vendor not to operate his business from the land owned by the Community Council.



(n) Increased car parking facilities

Councillor R G Norman reminded the Council that a year earlier the Council had received criticism from the Pontyclun Chamber of Trade for not doing sufficient to increase the number of car parking facilities in Pontyclun. In the last year a considerable increase in car parking facilities had been made available. He invited the Council to write to the Chamber of Trade drawing attention to the major increase in car parking facilities in the last year.

(Councillor T R J Flood declared his interest in the matter and took no part in the Council's deliberations. The appropriate entry was made in the Register of Disclosures)

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the Clerk write to the Chamber of Trade drawing attention to the new car parking facilities in Pontyclun and requesting traders' cooperation in encouraging their customers to use the new facilities.
 - (ii) That a copy of the letter be placed in the Community Council's noticeboards.

(o) Matters affecting the police

The following matters were brought to the attention of the police:

(i) Vehicle testing station, Mwyndy

Councillor Gordon Moir drew attention to the very long queues of traffic which built up in Miskin while checks were being carried out at the vehicle testing station at Mwyndy. It appeared that no one had given any thought to the regular users of School Road, Miskin, attempting to access the A4119 and the M4.

(ii) Vehicular accidents in Pontyclun

Arising out of the recent fatal road accident in Pontyclun the Council asked the police representative if figures could be provided of vehicular accidents in Pontyclun.

(iii) Parking in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

Councillor T R J Flood drew attention to the practice of certain vehicle drivers of double

parking in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. The area from "Keencost" to "Dave's Pantry" was particularly prone to double parking and, despite the presence of police officers on some occasions, little or no action appeared to have been taken against offenders.

(iv) Police presence in Pontyclun

Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths welcomed the anticipated increase in police presence in Pontyclun and asked whether there would be a permanent police presence in the village and whether it would be possible for the Community Council to request a change of shift. P C Keddle responded that he understood that a police officer would report to the Pontyclun office subject to demands at Talbot Green. He believed that there may be a possibility of changing shift duties, at the request of the community Council, on occasion.

(v) Infringement of parking restrictions

Councillor T J Burton quoted a recent case of the infringement of parking restrictions near the junction of Merthyr Street and Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. He had reported the matter to the police and his action had resulted in the offending driver being issued with a penalty. Councillor Burton emphasised the importance of bringing infringements of parking restrictions to the attention of the police.

(p) Mid Glamorgan Bulletin No 7

The Clerk distributed copies of Mid Glamorgan Bulletin No 7 to all Members present.

(q) Heritage Lottery Fund

The Clerk distributed information on the Heritage Lottery Fund and how bodies could make application for funds.

RESOLVED: That the matter be deferred to the September meeting of the Community Council.

(r) Donation of small plot of land - The Hollies

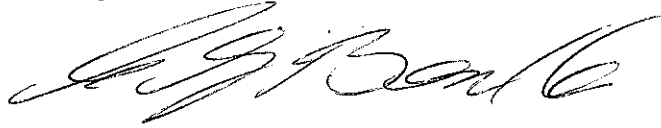
The Clerk reported that the District Valuer had advised,

verbally, that he knew of no problems with the small plot of land at the entrance to The Hollies, Brynsadler, which would cause him to advise refusing acceptance of the transfer of ownership of the land to the Community Council. The District Valuer had pointed out that it was always possible to undertake a series of trial boreholes but that this course of action would be expensive and not necessary for land which was to be kept as an open area.

RESOLVED: That the Council accept the donation of the plot of land from Ideal Homes subject to all costs being borne by Ideal Homes.

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19. The meeting ended at 10.20 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. G. Bond', is written over the text of item 19.