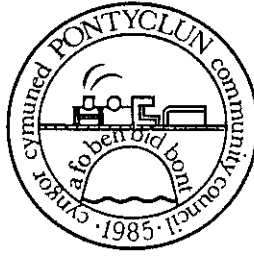


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
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"Mandalay"
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 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, 6 July, 1994

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mrs A Burton, Mr T J Burton, Mr J R Dilworth, Mr E V Griffith, Mr V P James, Mr G Moir, Mr R G Norman and Mrs O P Phillips

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Six members of the public for part of the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of the Chairperson, Councillor Cyril G Bendle and Professor Delme Bowen

2. Chairperson

In the absence of the Chairperson, Councillor Cyril G Bendle, the Vice Chairperson, Councillor John R Dilworth occupied the Chair.

3. Community Council's Essay Competition

(a) Standard of Entries

A discussion took place on the high standard of entries received from the pupils of the Pontyclun Primary School to the Community Council's Essay Competition to mark the centenary of the Local Government Act, 1894

RESOLVED: That, in addition to first and second prizes of book tokens to the value of £20.00 and £10.00, the Council also award a third prize of a £5.00 book token.

(b) Presentation of prizes

The Vice Chairperson, Councillor John R Dilworth, welcomed the headteacher of Pontyclun Primary School, Mr D Keith Davies, together with parents and children.

Councillor Dilworth stressed that 1994 marked an historic milestone for all parish, town and community councils and that he was very pleased that the staff and children of Pontyclun Primary School had entered into the spirit of the celebrations at a local level. The standard of entry to the Community Council's essay competition had been very high and Councillor Dilworth extended his congratulations to all entrants.

Councillor Dilworth presented book tokens to the winning entrants, namely:

Alex Corcoran	-	First Prize
Thomas Partridge	-	Second Prize
Emma Cooney	-	Third Prize

RESOLVED: That the Council meet the reasonable costs of the photographer.

4. Retirement of Handyman

The Vice Chairperson, Councillor John R Dilworth, expressed the gratitude of the Council to the retiring Handyman, Mr Derek Tookey, for the diligent and thoughtful way he had carried out his duties over the previous four and a half years. There was no doubt that Mr Tookey would be sorely missed because of his pleasant disposition and his thoroughness. The Vice Chairman congratulated Mr Tookey on his retirement and hoped that Mr Tookey's health would improve sufficiently to allow him a long and happy retirement. The Vice Chairman presented Mr Tookey with a small memento in appreciation of his services.

RESOLVED: That the Council meet the reasonable costs of the photographer.

5. Appointment to the vacancy of Handyman

The Council interviewed the 6 short-listed applicants for the vacant post of Handyman, namely:

Mr Martin Beames
Mr Ray E Giles
Mr Graham Hole
Mr Graham Smith
Mr David T Tookey
Mr Roger Udy

On completion of the interviews the Vice Chairperson reminded Members of the voting procedure contained in the Community Council's Standing Orders designed to ensure that a successful applicant needed to have an overall majority of votes.

On the matter being put to the vote it was found that one candidate, Mr David T Tookey, had obtained an overall majority of votes on the first round of voting.

RESOLVED: That Mr David T Tookey be offered appointment to the vacant post of Handyman.

6. Chairperson's business

The Vice Chairperson, Councillor John R Dilworth, informed the Council that the Local Government (Wales) Bill had completed its stages through Parliament and was likely to receive Royal Assent within the next few days. Soon after, Transition Committees would be established. The role of Transition Committees was to provide alternative courses of action for the Shadow Unitary Authorities. Elections to Shadow Unitary Authorities would take place in May, 1995, and the life of Transition Committees was likely to be short.

While members of principal councils would comprise most of the membership of Transition Committees, the Secretary of State for Wales had suggested a possible role on Transition Committees for members of community and town councils and voluntary bodies. While it was unclear at that time if community and town councils would have membership on Transition Committees, Councillor Dilworth pointed out that if membership became a reality the amount of personal commitment would be onerous and any member wishing to become involved should not underestimate the amount of work and time involved.

The matter was noted.

7. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 1 June, 1994

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 1 June, 1994, be approved as an accurate record.

8. Matters arising

- (a) Alleged undercharge for water consumption at the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

The Clerk reported that Mr Colin Miles of Welsh Water had regained full fitness following his car accident and had

planned to attend that evening's Community Council meeting. However, in view of the lengthy agenda, and the uncertainty over timing, the Clerk had asked Mr Miles if he would be prepared to postpone his presentation to the Council's grants meeting on 13 July, 1994. Mr Miles had agreed to the request.

The matter was noted.

(b) Purolite Standing Conference

The Clerk informed the Council that he had pursued the placement of questionnaires and boxes with the proprietor of the Pontyclun Post Office and the Practice Manager at the Old School Surgery. The former had declined to become involved in the exercise since he was already participating in a survey on customer views. The latter had agreed to place the request on the agenda for the next partners' meeting.

RESOLVED: That while the doctors' decision was awaited, the Clerk also make enquiries with the Librarian about the possibility of placing questionnaires and a box in the Pontyclun Library.

(c) Proposed asphalt plant at Gwaelod-y-Garth

The Council discussed the letter of 21 June, 1994 from the Director of Economic Development and Strategic Planning Services of South Glamorgan County Council in which it was stated that it was not practicable to photocopy the document extending to over 200 pages prepared on behalf of the Community Action Group in May, 1994.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to Mrs N Proctor of the Community Action Group at Wood Cottage, Georgetown, Gwaelod-y-Garth requesting a copy of the document.

9. Pavements in Pontyclun

Councillor Viv James drew the Council's attention to the shortcomings of the pavements in Pontyclun when considering the special needs of the disabled, the elderly and mothers of young children. Councillor James pointed out that there were numerous examples of hazardous pavements in Pontyclun. He quoted the "double



pavements" in Llantrisant Road. Councillor James urged the Council to support him in getting the County Council to make improvements to the pavements in order that they could be used safely by all residents.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the matter with the County Council

10. Clun Avenue, Pontyclun - Complaints about surface of highway and lack of parking facilities

Councillor Mrs Burton raised the concern of residents of Clun Avenue, Pontyclun about the deterioration in the surface of the highway and the grossly inadequate provision for residents to park their vehicles. Councillor Mrs Burton produced photographs to illustrate her points. Of additional concern were the Borough Council's plans to extend sports facilities on the Windsor Field. It was unclear whether the Borough Council would be providing extra parking places in parallel with the extension of sports facilities but if increased parking was not provided the position would become intolerable for residents of Clun Avenue.

RESOLVED: (i) That Councillor Norman obtain clarification from the Borough Council on whether the plans to extend sports facilities at the Windsor Field included provision for additional parking spaces in the vicinity.

(ii) That in view of the assurances given earlier by the County Council that finance would be allocated for improving traffic conditions in Clun Avenue, the Clerk contact the County Engineer and Surveyor to establish the present position.

(iii) That a copy of the Community Council's letter at (ii) above be forwarded to Councillor Delme Bowen for his information.

11. Approach to the Windsor Field from the direction of Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

The Vice Chairperson, Councillor John R Dilworth, reported that he had received a number of complaints about the unkempt state of the approach road to the Windsor Field from Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. Despite the partial improvement which had been effected by surfacing the lane running parallel to the railway line the area suffered badly from litter, weed infestation, broken glass and the poor appearance of buildings in the vicinity. Councillor Eric Griffith made the point that although he was no longer involved with the Pontyclun RFC he was aware that the rugby club arranged for the area around the rugby club to be swept once every week.



RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council, the owners of the Windsor Field, drawing attention to the problems and asking whether the Borough Council could assist in making the area more presentable.

12. Level of service from the Gilfach Goch Ambulance Station

The Council discussed the response from the Chief Executive to the Mid Glamorgan Ambulance NHS Trust about concerns over the deterioration of the level of service from the Gilfach Goch Ambulance Station.

It was noted that the reply concentrated upon national targets of emergency cover and compared Mid Glamorgan Ambulance Trust's performance against the national targets. The figures quoted appeared to reflect that Mid Glamorgan's performance was within national targets for 50% and 95% of emergency calls. The Council noted that nowhere in the reply was there any reference to the Gilfach Goch Ambulance Station - the subject of the Community Council's letter. The Community Council was very disappointed that the Mid Glamorgan Ambulance Trust had avoided a direct reply on the Council's concerns. The Council speculated on the Trust's motives for avoiding a direct reply.

RESOLVED: (i) That a copy of the Mid Glamorgan Ambulance Trust's letter, and the Community Council's initial letter, be sent to the Secretary of the Ambulance Trust's branch of UNISON for comment.

(ii) That a further letter be sent to the Chief Executive of the Mid Glamorgan Ambulance Trust requesting information on the circumstances which prevailed at the Gilfach Goch Ambulance Station on the nights of 23 February, 1994 and 3 March, 1994 which necessitated the crews being transferred to Porthcawl.

13. Strategic Development Scheme Bid

The Council discussed the reply of the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer about the Community Council's earlier request for improved access to the Ely Valley Industrial Area as part of the Borough Council's Strategic Development Scheme bid to the Welsh Office for 1995/96.

The Community Council was very encouraged to note that the Borough Council had supported its suggestions and had actively considered ways of making the proposals more likely to attract Welsh Office funding.

The Chief Planning Officer had advised that a report would be made to the Borough Council on 19 July, 1994 and he would write further to the Community Council when it was known whether the Borough Council would be supporting the bid for Welsh Office funding to improve access to the Ely Valley Industrial Estate.

The matter was noted.

14. Draft Taff Ely Local Plan

The Council discussed a letter received from the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer advising of the itinerary of the mobile exhibition van which would be publicising the recently published Draft Taff Ely Local Plan. The letter also offered the facility of a planning officer to attend a meeting of the Community Council between 17 July and 16 September, 1994 to discuss the Draft Plan.

RESOLVED: (i) That before finalising its comments on the document the Community Council take up the offer of a discussion on the Plan with a Borough Council planning officer.

(ii) That enquiries be made to establish whether the planning officer would be able to attend the Community Council's meeting on 13 July, 1994.

(iii) That all discussion on the document be deferred until the planning officer had completed his presentation.

(iv) That when the date of the planning officer's attendance had been confirmed an invitation to attend the meeting be sent to the Secretary of the Pontyclun Chamber of Trade.

15. Proposed residential development - Cefn-yr-Hendy, Pontyclun

The Council noted the reply of the reply of the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer in which he stated that he was aware of the enquiries to provide an alternative vehicular access from the proposed development to Pontyclun via the existing development. The Chief Planning Officer stated that he would not be prepared to support such a proposal and considered the currently proposed highway access arrangements into Cefn-yr-Hendy to be sufficient.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

16. National Rivers Authority -
Ely Catchment Plan Consultation Report

The Council received the reply of the National Rivers Authority on

the Community Council's earlier comments on the Ely Catchment Plan Consultation Report. The Council was pleased to learn that its comments would be incorporated into the final plan where necessary and that the National Rivers Authority was likely to contact the Council again over the issues which had been raised. The final plan was likely to be produced in early 1995 and a copy would be provided to the Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

17. Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

(a) Newsletter No. 2/94

RESOLVED: That the newsletter be noted.

(b) Eighteenth Annual Conference

The Council received details of the Association's Eighteenth Annual Conference due to be held in Aberystwyth on 8 October, 1994.

RESOLVED: That the Council be represented at the Conference by the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Clerk and that Members' attendance be designated an official duty.

(c) Submission of motions for debate

RESOLVED: That the Clerk submit a motion for debate calling for greater control for community and town councils in the placement of Tree Preservation Orders.

18. Application for an occasional permission

The Council received details of an application for an occasional permission to run a bar in conjunction with a Music Festival at the Windsor Park, Pontyclun on 6 August, 1994. The permission was sought as part of a fund raising scheme to assist Paul Flower who broke his neck in a recent rugby game.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Community Council support the application for an occasional permission.

(ii) That the Clerk make enquiries of the District Auditor to establish if the Community Council had powers to make a donation to the trust fund for Paul Flower.

19. Planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 3, 10, 17 and 24 June, 1994

(a) Application No. 94/0243/20

RESOLVED: That the Clerk obtain further details of the application from the Borough Council and convene a site meeting.

(b) Application No. 94/0419/10

RESOLVED: That the Clerk notify the Borough Council that while the Community Council had no objection to the proposed extension it would have serious misgivings if, as a result of the extension, a storage trailer would be parked in the lane adjacent to the premises.

(c) Application No. 94/0403/14

RESOLVED: That the Borough Council be urged to place a condition on any planning consent compelling any developer to observe any Tree Preservation Orders within the area of the consent.

20. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 12 to the Agenda.

21. Reports from Members

(a) East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

The Vice Chairperson, Councillor John R Dilworth, reported on his attendance at the annual general meeting of the Area Committee held on 6 June, 1994. In addition to reporting on the election of officers Councillor Dilworth also reported upon a number of other matters which were raised at the meeting.

He reported that there was still a large degree of scepticism over the Secretary of State's proposals for Area Committees for Powys following the reorganisation of local government on 1 April, 1996.

He reported the continuing concern of certain councils over their inability to obtain part of their precept from commercial premises within their areas.

Councillor Dilworth reported that as a result of matters of common concern to members of the National Association of Local Councils in Wales and the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils in connection with the reorganisation of local government in Wales, the possibility of forming a combined association had been raised.

The report was noted.

(b) Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Councillor Gordon Moir reported on his attendance at the last meeting of the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee on 15 June, 1994. It was reported at the meeting that the asphalt plant at the quarry had been recommissioned to provide asphalt for the dualling of the A4119 immediately south of the Tesco supermarket to the Llantrisant Business Park. Faced with complaints from Miskin residents Wimpey Hobbs had agreed to an analysis of smears emanating from the plant. It was understood that future meeting of the Committee would take place 6 monthly.

The report was noted.

(c) Redundancy, Superannuation and Payments in lieu of notice

Councillor Viv James reported that the Borough Council had recently received the government's draft proposals for dealing with redundancies consequent upon the reorganisation of local government on 1 April, 1996. A meeting of the Borough Council was to be held shortly when the Borough Council's comments on the draft proposals would be finalised. The comments would be forwarded to the government.

The report was noted.

(d) Taff Ely Police Liaison Committee

Councillor Tudor Burton reported that membership and attendance at the Committee had improved significantly in recent months. Current membership stood between 25 and 30 members. At the last meeting of the Liaison Committee considerable time was spent in explaining to members the financial dilemma currently facing the Police Authority. The Committee also discussed the reorganisation which had taken place within the Police Authority.

The report was noted.



(e) Conference of the National Institute of Housing

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that in his capacity as Chairperson of the Borough Council's Housing Committee he had recently attended the Annual Conference of the National Institute of Housing. The Conference had been held in Harrogate. Councillor Norman reported that central government pressures for compulsory competitive tendering continued to increase. The pressure did not help the debate or morale within the housing service.

The report was noted.

22. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) "Clutter" of signs at the Tesco roundabout, Talbot Green

Councillor Tudor Burton expressed his concern about the present "clutter" of signs at the roundabout near the Tesco supermarket in Talbot Green. He believed that there were too many signs, their display was haphazard, and he believed that there was a real risk of motorists being distracted.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk bring the matter to the attention of the County Engineer and Surveyor and the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer.

(b) Dumping of refuse in the river Ely

Councillor Mrs Anita Burton reported that there were large quantities of rubbish present in the river Ely to the west of Merthyr Street, Pontyclun. Mrs Burton pointed out that following the recent dry spell, the level of the Ely was low and an excellent opportunity existed for the rubbish to be removed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the matter with the National Rivers Authority.

(c) Dipali restaurant, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Mrs Anita Burton referred to the decision of the Borough Council to take enforcement action against the proprietor of the Dipali restaurant in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. It was understood that an appeal had been lodged against the enforcement order and Mrs Burton asked for the up to date position.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council to establish the current position.

(d) Annual Audit of Accounts

The Clerk reported that the annual audit of the Community Council's accounts had been completed by the District Auditor on 16 June, 1994. The District Auditor had issued a certificate to the effect that he had completed the audit of the authority's accounts for the year ended 31 March, 1994, in accordance with Part III of the Local Government Finance Act, 1982 and the Code of Audit Practice. In his opinion the accounts record fairly the transactions of the authority.

The matter was noted.

(e) Police matters

(i) Speeding vehicles, Miskin

Councillor Gordon Moir made a further request for the police to monitor the speed of vehicles in Miskin. In response, PC Keddle stated that the police radar team had made a number of visits to Miskin and would continue to monitor the position.

(ii) Parked vehicles in the vicinity of Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy

Councillor Tudor Burton drew the attention of the police to the practice of parking vehicles in the immediate vicinity of Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy. Councillor Burton pointed out that cars were to be regularly seen parked on the pavements and grass verges near the garage. While the parked vehicles frequently constituted a hazard to pedestrians, and in some cases was illegal, the vision of motorists was often impeded. PC Keddle noted Councillor Burton's comments.

(iii) Dipali restaurant, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Mrs Anita Burton reminded PC Keddle that the Dipali restaurant in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, continued to trade, apparently in contravention of conditions within the premises' planning consent. While it appeared that the Borough Council were taking action in the matter, Councillor Burton requested the police to ensure that no illegal parking took place outside the restaurant. The matter was noted by PC Keddle.

(iv) Speeding vehicles - generally

Councillor Gordon Norman supported the earlier comments of Councillor Gordon Moir about speeding vehicles in Miskin. Councillor Norman believed that there were other locations in the Community which were adversely affected by speeding vehicles. He quoted as examples:

Llantrisant Road, Groesfaen
Clun Avenue, Pontyclun
Llanharry Road, Brynsadler
Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun
Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Norman asked for police support in making representations to the Highway Authority for traffic calming measures. PC Keddle assured the Council that he would make reports conveying the Community Council's concern.

23. The meeting ended at 10.15 p.m.

