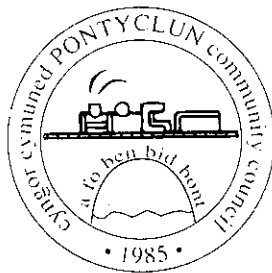


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

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APPENDIX No. 1
Pontyclun Community Council

Clerk to the Council
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Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held at the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 6 July, 2005.

PRESENT: Councillors Ms V A Cale, M P Griffiths, D G Henderson, Ms S R Jenkins, D Clayton-Jones, A R Lane and R G Norman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Matt Ball and companion Danielle

1. **Apology for absence**

Apologies absence were received on behalf of Councillors C Davies, M Rea and P Thomas

2. **Declarations of interest**

Declarations of interest were invited from Members.

RESOLVED: That any disclosures be included in the Register of Disclosures.

3. **Minutes of the Council's Annual Meeting of 8 June, 2005**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's Annual Meeting of 8 June, 2005, be approved as an accurate record.

4. **Matters arising**

(a) **Hanging baskets**

The Council reviewed its experience in the erection of hanging baskets in Pontyclun.

Several Members commented that the erection of hanging baskets had been well received by the public. However, it seemed that some members of the public did not realise that

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. H. G. Lewis', is located at the bottom right of the page.

that the hanging baskets had been erected by the Community Council. Instead, they assumed that the baskets had been erected by the Borough Council.

The Council believed that arrangements for watering the limited number of baskets, while satisfactory, needed to be improved if the Council intended erecting more hanging baskets in the summer of 2006. The Clerk advised that it may be possible to arrange for the Borough Council's water bowser to be used in preference to the current arrangements.

The Council considered that there were a number of other suitable locations for the erection of hanging baskets in 2006. Early identification of these sites should be made to allow for consent by the highway authority, the manufacture and delivery of brackets and watering arrangements.

The Council was very pleased with the way its Handyman, Mr Derek Oram, had managed the erection of brackets, selection and tending of bedding plants. However the Council recognised that these duties were particularly demanding of Mr Oram's time and other aspects of his duties had fallen behind as a result.. The Council believed that the Mr Oram's time could be used more effectively in future years by buying- in prepared hanging baskets from local nurseries.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council record its pleasure of its highly successful hanging baskets initiative.
- (ii) That every opportunity be taken to let residents know that the hanging baskets were erected by the Pontyclun Community Council.
- (iii) That Members identify other locations in the Community suitable for the erection of hanging baskets in the summer of 2006.
- (iv) That the Clerk make enquiries of the Borough Council about the availability of a water bowser to assist in the watering of hanging baskets.
- (v) That the Clerk invite tenders from local nurseries for the supply of prepared hanging baskets for 2006.
- (vi) That the Clerk convey the Council's appreciation to the Handyman of his first class work in the summer of 2005.

(b) **Planters**

The Council discussed its earlier proposal for the purchase of three planters to be located on a wide section of the footway on the western side of Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

Despite a considerable amount of work having been undertaken to gain the necessary consents it was found out at a late stage that there were significant hidden costs in the type of planter chosen as well as long delivery dates.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That an order for 3 Swithland type circular planters, 1.5metres in diameter, 800 mm high, finished in softwood, be placed.
 - (ii) That the Clerk compile a schedule of expenditure incurred under the heading Green Pontyclun.
 - (iii) That Councillors Henderson and Clayton-Jones bring back a costed plan to the Council of keeping the planters in use throughout the year.

(c) **Proposed erection of a shed**

The Council discussed the proposal raised at the last meeting to erect a shed adjacent to the Pontyclun Community Centre for the purpose of "bringing on" half hardy bedding plants for planting throughout the Community. A sketch of the proposed shed facilitated the discussion. The Clerk advised that he had made preliminary enquiries with the Borough Council and it appeared that while planning consent was unlikely to be required for the shed, it was likely that planning consent would be required for the surrounding fence.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That as the Council planned to buy in its plants for 2006, there would be no requirement to purchase and erect a shed.
 - (ii) That the Clerk arrange for the Handyman to attend the September monthly meeting to discuss plans for the summer of 2006.
 - (iii) That the Council express its appreciation to the Handyman for submitting the sketch to assist its deliberations.

(d) **Station Terrace, Pontyclun**

- (i) **Report from site meeting**



The Council received a report on the site meeting which took place between representatives of residents of Station Terrace, the Borough Council and the Community Council on 13 June, 2005.

The meeting had been very well attended and considerably more people were in attendance than had been envisaged. Industrialists from the Ely Valley Industrial Estate were also present. The industrialist expressed some concern that they had not been invited to the meeting.

The Council was very pleased to hear that the Borough Council representatives believed that there was scope for improving parking facilities for residents of Station Terrace by introducing residents only parking and restricting parking for non-residents. Consideration would also be given to urging SEWTRA to re-introduce plans for a park and ride facility near the west-bound platform of Pontyclun railway station.

Councillor Hanagan, the Borough Council Cabinet Member with responsibility for Highways, promised to write to the Community Council to state what options the Borough Council could put forward to improve parking facilities in Station Terrace.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Community Council await the proposals of the Borough Council.
 - (ii) That a letter be written to the industrialists of the Ely Valley Industrial Estate to clarify that the meeting on 13 June, 2005, had been arranged as a result of approaches made to the Community Council by residents of Station Terrace. It was open to the industrialists to approach the Community Council in the same way.
- (ii) **Park and Ride facility**

The Council discussed the original plan for a Phase 2 development at the Pontyclun railway station. The plan had provided for a park and ride facility near the west bound platform. It appeared from the information now available that the original plan had never come to fruition because of complications surrounding the



ownership of land. It was noted that if the west-bound parking facility is to be resurrected it was likely that it would be included SEWTRA's 2009 – 2018 plan.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council drawing attention to a plot of disused land adjacent to the existing car park near the east-bound platform at the station. The Community Council was of the view that an extension to the existing car park could be carried out quickly and at minimal cost. The extension would lead to a reduction of pressure on parking facilities in Station Terrace.

5. **Police matters**

As there was no representative from the police present at the meeting there was no discussion under this item of business.

6. **Improving youth facilities in the Community**

The Council received a presentation from Matt Ball, a trained youth worker from Miskin, and his companion, Danielle.

Matt Ball and Danielle spoke with feeling about the plight faced by a section of the Community's youth who were bored and had nothing to occupy them during the evenings. The result was that they tended to form themselves into rival gangs and hang around Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. Often the youngsters were experiencing domestic difficulties at home.

Research had shown that the youngsters' ages was usually between 14 and 16. Their main requirement is a place of their own where they can socialise, watch films and listen to music. Some of the youngsters had expressed a wish for a skateboard park. Unfortunately, land in the area is at a premium and there are no redundant premises which can be adapted for the youngsters' needs. Further research had shown that the youngsters did not want to use premises associated with religion.

Matt Ball believed that the way forward was for local organisations to form a partnership to provide resources, premises and facilities. Several initiatives by parents and local people had been unsuccessful.

Members agreed that the way forward was to form a partnership with its initial target to provide premises. The possibility of involving local sports organisations in building new changing rooms and



incorporating a dedicated area for the youth of the Community was put forward as a suggestion.

RESOLVED: (i) That Matt Ball and Danielle report back to the youngsters with whom they were in touch to say that the Community Council recognises the shortage of facilities for the youth of the area and is keen to become involved in providing facilities.

(ii) That the Community Council consider further the feasibility of providing combined facilities on the Maesyfelin Fields.

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Vision Day**

Reports from Members, and feedback from the public, showed that the Community Council's Vision Day on 25 June, 2005, had been a resounding success.

The Community Council had been overwhelmed with suggestions for improving the quality of life in the Community. In total, around 200 suggestions had been received and the task of creating a database had begun. Broadly, the suggestions fell into three categories – those which were achievable by the Community Council, those which could be achieved by the Borough Council and those which could be achieved in partnership between the Community Council and Borough Council.

RESOLVED: (i) That a bulletin/newsletter be drafted to thank residents for their participation in the Vision Day and, in particular, for residents' for improving life in the Community.

(ii) That residents be reminded of their rights to attend meetings of the Community Council to hear matters of local interest being discussed.

(iii) That arrangements be made to cut back the overgrowth along the footpath connecting Pontyclun with Tylagarw.

(iv) That the Clerk contact the Llanharan Community Council to ask that the ruts in the footpath connecting Ynysddu Farm

Estate with Station Approach, Pontyclun be filled in with stone chippings.

(v) That the Council place on record its appreciation of the hard work undertaken by the Chairperson, Councillor Sarah Jenkins, in organising the Vision Day.

(b) **Police presence in the Community**

Following the representation made to the Council by Mr Mike Saunders of Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun, the Council discussed what action it could take to secure a more visible police presence in Pontyclun.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the Clerk write to the local police inspector asking for an increased police presence in the Community.

(ii) That the Clerk write to the Chief Constable of the South Wales Constabulary asking for an increased police presence in the Community.

(iii) That formal invitations to attend the Community Council's September meeting be extended to P C Tony Parker, P C Steve Keddle and the local Police Community Support Officer.

(c) **Audit of Accounts**

(i) **Report of the District Auditor on the Community Council's accounts for the year 2003/2004**

The Clerk reported that the District Auditor had issued a certificate to the effect that, with the exception of the late approval of the accounts by the Community Council, on the basis of his review, in his opinion the information contained in the Annual Return is in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements and no matters have come to his attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the District Auditor's certification be noted.

(ii) That to meet the District Auditor's comments about the late



approval of the accounts for 2003/2004, the practices of neighbouring community councils be established.

(ii) **Audit of accounts for 2004/2005**

The Clerk reported that he had received notification from the District Auditor that the date for the audit of the Community Council's accounts for 2004/2005 had been fixed for 26 September, 2005. The date was four months earlier than the date for the previous year's audit.

The Clerk advised that while the date given by the District Auditor was achievable, it would necessitate priority being given to the completion of the Receipts and Payments Account, the conversion of the account into an Income and Expenditure Account with Balance Sheet, arrangements for, and completion, of an internal audit, and the formal approval of the accounts by the Council. Time was limited since there would be work generated by the Council's Annual Grants Meeting and, during August, the Clerk had booked his annual fortnight's annual leave.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the challenges brought about by an early audit by the District Auditor be noted.

(ii) That the Clerk be authorised to give priority to the completion of all work necessary to meet the District Auditor's deadline.

(iii) That the Clerk make enquiries of neighbouring Council to establish what measures they were adopting to ensure their compliance with the District Auditor's deadline.

(d) **Licensing**

The Council received details of an application for the Grant of an Occasional Public Entertainment Licence at The Barn, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the application be noted.

(e) **Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales**

The Council discussed the invitation to renew it's membership of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales.

RESOLVED: That the Council's membership be renewed.

(f) **Planning applications**

The Council discussed the planning applications contained in the latest Weekly Notifications from the Planning Authority.

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

Application No. 05/1053/13

That while the Council is not opposed to the application, it urges the Planning Authority to ensure that development does not take place beyond the building line.

Application No. 05/1055/10

That the Council is opposed to the proposal on the grounds that:

- (i) It constitutes a commercial development within a residential area.
- (ii) It would lead to a significant loss of off street parking in Cerdin Avenue.

(g) **Payment of creditors**

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

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

No matters were reported.

9. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Footpaths leaflets**

Councillor Griffiths reported that he had succeeded in the leaflets designed free of charge. The sum of £300, which had earlier been allocated by the Council for design costs, would no longer be required for this purpose.

Councillor Griffiths stated that he would shortly be approaching the landlords of local public houses for sponsorship to print the leaflets. He estimated that the cost of producing 3,000 leaflets would cost around £300. If he was unsuccessful in his approaches, the Council might wish to consider using the savings arising from design costs.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Griffiths be congratulated on his hard work on the production of footpaths leaflets.

(b) **Proposed highway improvements in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Lane referred to information which had been circulated by the Highway Authority some months earlier to residents in the vicinity of Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, stating that road improvement works in Cowbridge Road were imminent. Despite the information, no work had been carried out.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk establish the current position with the Borough Council.

(c) **Improvement Plan, 2005**

Councillor Lane referred to enquiries he had made about the Borough Council's Improvement Plan for 2005. He said that arrangements had been made to forward the Clerk a copy of the Plan.

The matter was noted.

(d) **Pontyclun Community Council's Allotments Competition, 2005**

Councillor Norman reported that judging of the Community Council's Allotments Competition for 2005 would take place shortly. Presentations to winning plot holders was scheduled for August.

RESOLVED: That the Council re-affirm its earlier decision to award prize money to the value of £200 and meet the judging fees which would be a further £25.

10. The meeting ended at 9.55 p.m.

