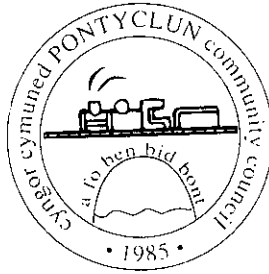


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

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Pontyclun Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held at the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 6 November, 2002.

PRESENT: Community Councillors C G Bendle, J G Davies, C Davies, J R Dilworth, J V Huish, M Rea, and Mrs P Thomas

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P C Steve Keddle for part of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors Mrs V A Cale, R G Norman, and S Rogers

2. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interests from Members.

3. **Chairperson's/Leader's business**

(i) **Chairperson**

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, reported on the Annual General Meeting of the Mwyndy Residents' Association.

Mr Gary Kiss, a Principal Officer of the Education and Children's Services Group of the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council gave an interesting presentation on the proposed new school at Cefn yr Hendy.

The report was noted.

(ii) **Leader**

The Leader, Councillor Huish, referred to the successful initiatives of the Community Council in previous years in organising Christmas painting competitions at Pontyclun Primary School and Y Pant Comprehensive School. He also referred to the well received scheme for the provision of Christmas trees to shopkeepers in the main thoroughfares in the Community.

Councillor Huish proposed that the Council follow its established practice again this Christmas and organise painting competitions at the local schools and provide Christmas trees for premises in the main thoroughfares.

RESOLVED: That the Council adopt the proposal on the same basis as in previous years

4. **Police matters**

(a) **Proposed waiting restrictions, Heol yr Orsaf, Pontyclun**

P C Keddle asked if there was any news on the proposed waiting restrictions for Heol yr Orsaf, Pontyclun.

The Clerk responded that he had followed the matter up with the Environmental Services Group of the Borough Council and been told that the order to paint the yellow lines had been passed to the Highways division of the Group. The introduction of the restrictions was imminent.

The report was noted.

(b) **Installation of CCTV**

P C Keddle asked if there was any news on the installation of the CCTV cameras for Pontyclun.

Councillor Huish responded that an order for the CCTV cameras had been placed and that delivery of the cameras and final connections into the network would hopefully be completed by the middle of December. If the December target was not met it was likely that the system would be fully operational early in the New Year.

RESOLVED:

That when the scheme is operational, the Clerk contact the Borough Council's publicity officer in order that widespread publicity be given to the installation.



(c) **Footpath adjacent to Heol Miskin, Pontyclun**

P C Keddle asked whether the status of the footpath had been clarified. He pointed out that some residents believed that the footpath should be for the exclusive use of pedestrians whereas others believed that it was in the public interest for the footpath to have limited use for vehicles.

Councillor Huish reminded the Council of the chequered history of the footpath and stated that the Borough Council was in the process of carrying out a survey of residents' wishes. Once the results of the survey were known it would help the Council come to a decision about its status.

The report was noted.

(d) **Community policing**

P C Keddle reported that the period since the last Community Council meeting had been one of relative quietness in the Community.

The only exception to this had been on the evening of the 31 October, 2002, when youths had indulged in egg and flour throwing along the highway in Pontyclun.

The report was noted.

(e) **Untaxed car in Heol y Coed, Pontyclun**

A Member drew attention to a car parked in Heol y Coed, Pontyclun which had been wheel clamped as a result of the failure by its owner to display his road fund licence.

It was understood that the owner of the vehicle had subsequently been fined £200.00. It was further understood that the car remained untaxed.

The matter was noted by P C Keddle.

(f) **New roundabout near the former police houses in Miskin**

Councillor Dilworth drew the Council's attention to the new roundabout near the former police houses in Miskin.

He expressed his concern that the that the roundabout was badly sited and badly designed and caused confusion for drivers negotiating the junction.



Councillor Huish advised that there were a number of problem roundabouts within the Borough and that officers were carrying out investigations to establish what action could be taken to alleviate the difficulties.

The report was noted.

(g) **Traffic warden**

Councillor Graham Davies stated that it was pleasing to see a traffic warden on duty in Pontyclun earlier that day. An occasional visit by the traffic warden ensured that the public paid due respect to the highway restrictions in the Community.

The report was noted.

(h) **Revised road layout at the Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy**

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, expressed his deep concern at the revised traffic layout at the junction of School road with the A4119 at the Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy.

He pointed out that the alteration now allowed drivers turning right from School Road towards the Castell Mynach Inn to use both lanes. Having joined the A4119, both lanes of traffic tended to join the inside lane on the dual carriageway. There had been a number of "near misses" at the junction.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk follow the matter up with the Highway Authority.

5. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 6 November, 2002**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 6 November, 2002, be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Proposed waiting restrictions, Heol yr Orsaf, Pontyclun**

RESOLVED: That as discussion under this heading had already taken place, there be no further discussion.

(b) **Proposed Christmas lights for Miskin and proposed ward illumination competitions**

The Clerk gave a verbal report to the Council on the steps which had been taken to erect Christmas lights on the mature tree on the green in Miskin. The Clerk stated that a further meeting would be



held shortly with a representative of Western Power Distribution and a further report would be made to the Council's meeting of 4 December, 2002.

Members also discussed the form of the Christmas illumination competition proposed at an earlier meeting.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the report on the Miskin lights be noted.
 - (ii) That the Clerk advertise details of a competition within each ward of the Council for the best illuminated house. The resident of the house judged to have the best Christmas illumination would be presented with a cheque for £25. Nominations for the best illuminated house to be made by respective ward members.

(c) **Installation of CCTV**

- RESOLVED:** That as discussion under this heading had already taken place, there be no further discussion.

(d) **Re-location of bus shelter**

The Council was advised that the Highway Authority was unlikely to grant consent for the re-location of the bus shelter formerly situated outside the Brynsadler Brewery to the site identified by the Council in Heol Miskin, Pontyclun.

- RESOLVED:** That as no alternative sites had been identified, the Clerk contact Redrow Homes to establish what assistance that company could offer towards erecting a building similar to the former bus shelter on the Council owned green at the entrance to The Hollies, Brynsadler.

7. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Community Council's Accounts for 2001/2002**

The Council received the accounts for 2001/2002 which had been audited in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations, 1996 by the Council's Internal Auditor, Mr Peter Morgan, I.P.F.A. The Council also received the Internal Auditor's report on the accounts.



- RESOLVED:** (i) That the Chairman be authorised to sign the accounts and that the Clerk forward them to the Council's External Auditor at the District Audit office in Cardiff.
- (ii) That in view of the Internal auditor's comments about the high level of bank charges imposed by Lloyds TSB, the Clerk write to the Bank raising the possibility of a reduction in bank charges.
- (iii) In the event of a negative reply from Lloyds TSB, the Clerk be authorised to make enquiries about alternative, less expensive, banking arrangements.

(b) **Freedom of Information Act, 2000**

The Council considered its new responsibility under the Freedom of Information Act, 2000, to produce a scheme of publication of information.

- RESOLVED:** That the Council opt for the Model Publication Scheme for Parish, Town and Community Councils and that the Clerk take the necessary action to implement the decision.

(c) **Diversion of Footpaths 315 and 354 in the Community**

The Council received details of the Order to divert Footpaths 315 and 354. Unfortunately the Community Council was not aware of the proposals to divert the Footpaths until the Order had been approved. This was contrary to the policy of the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council where proposals to divert footpaths were normally the subject of consultation with community councils before an Order was made.

Councillor Huish advised the Council that he had taken the matter up with Gethin Williams, Head of Legal Services at Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.

Councillor Huish had received an apology from Gethin Williams for the oversight of the Borough Council.

- RESOLVED:** That the matter be noted.

(d) **"Well Being in Wales"**



The Council received the Welsh Assembly consultation document entitled "Well Being in Wales"

RESOLVED: That the Council offer no comment on the document.

(e) **Application for financial assistance**

The Clerk reminded the Council that at its annual grants meeting in July applications for financial assistance were received from the Young at Heart Club (Monday), Young at Heart Club (Tuesday) and the Young at Heart Club (Thursday).

There was some doubt about whether these organisations were separate clubs. The applications were deferred pending clarification. The Clerk wrote to the secretaries of each club and asked for a copy of the club's constitution. All three constitutions had now been received.

RESOLVED: That each club be awarded a grant of £25.00

(f) **Award of grant – Change of purpose**

(Councillor Chris Davies declared an interest in this item of business and left the Council Chamber)

The Council discussed a letter from Mr F M Yates, Chairman/Secretary of the North Miskin Neighbourhood Watch. His organisation had been awarded a grant by the Council at the annual grants meeting.

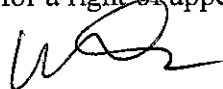
The intention was that the grant made from the Council would be used towards purchasing a photocopier. The Neighbourhood Watch had considered the issue again and decided that the grant would be more effectively spent in paying for photocopies at local shops rather than buying a photocopier.

The Watch sought the Community Council's permission to change the purpose of the grant from the purchase of a photocopier to paying for photocopying at local stores.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree to the request and that the Clerk compliment the Watch on its honesty.

(g) **Campaign for a third party right of appeal in planning matters**

The Council discussed the letter of 16 October from Friends of the Earth. The Council's support was sought to join a campaign for the introduction for a right of appeal for third parties in planning matters.



RESOLVED: That while the Council did not feel that it could support the campaign, it requested the Clerk to contact Friends of the Earth with a request to be kept informed of the progress of the campaign.

(h) **Application for financial assistance**

The Council received an application for financial assistance towards the cost of staging the 2003 Urdd National Eisteddfod.

RESOLVED: That the Council make a grant of £175.00.

(i) **Application for financial assistance**

The Council received an application for financial assistance towards the cost of the 2003 National Eisteddfod.

RESOLVED: That the Council make a grant of £100.00

(j) **Annual General Meeting of TEDS**

The Council received an invitation to send a representative to the Annual General Meeting of Taff Ely Drug Support.

RESOLVED: That the Council be represented at the meeting, depending on availability, by the Chairperson and Clerk or any Member of the Council plus the Clerk.

(k) **Planning applications**

The Council discussed planning application contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 20 & 27 September, 4, 11, & 18 October, 2002.

(Councillors Huish and Rea declared interests in application No.s 02/1479/10 and 02/1481/10 respectively and left the Council chamber while these applications were being considered)

RESOLVED: That the Council advise the Planning Authority that it is opposed to application No. 02/1477/10 on the grounds that the proposed access from the site on to the A4119 is dangerous. Furthermore, that any application to develop the site is premature given that the Borough Council intend to carry out improvement work to Mwyndy Lane

(l) **Payment of creditors**



RESOLVED: That payment be approved the creditors listed in Appendix 21 to the Agenda.

9. **Matters reported for decision since the despatch of Agendas**

(a) **Licensing**

The Clerk reported the receipt of details of an application for the Variation of a Justices License at The Windsor Hotel, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That no objection be offered to the application.

(b) **Remembrance Day**

The Clerk reported that he had purchased a poppy wreath for the Community Council to place on each of the two war memorials in the Community. The Council would need to decide who would be placing the poppy wreaths.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson, Councillor Rea, place a wreath on the Pontyclun War Memorial and Councillor Chris Davies place a wreath on the Miskin War Memorial.

10. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Members' Allowances**

Consultation on the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations, 2002

The Council received the consultation document on proposed changes to the current regulations on the payment of Members' Allowances.

RESOLVED: That the proposed amendments be noted.

(b) **Local Authorities Pay Award, 2002**

The Clerk reported that agreement had been reached on the wage award for local government employees for 2002.

The award was a two year award involving a 3% increase from 1 April, 2002, plus a further 1% from 1 October, 2002 and a 3.5% increase from 1 April, 2003.

RESOLVED: That the award be noted and implemented.

(b) **Request for the erection of a sign**



The Council noted the request made by the Clerk for the erection of a "NO FOULING" sign near Brynsadler Mill, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk request a further "NO FOULING" sign for the green in front of Llwynypennau Cottages, Groesfaen.

(d) **Community@News**

The Council received and noted the latest edition of Community@News.

(e) **South East Wales Regional Committee of the National Assembly for Wales**

The Council noted that the next meeting of the South East Wales Regional Committee of the National Assembly for Wales would take place at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, 22 November, 2002, at the Pontypridd Rugby Football Club, Sardis Road, Pontypridd.

11. The meeting ended at 8:35 p.m.

