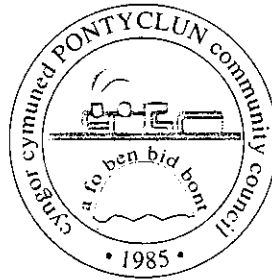


Cynghorwr Pontyclun

Cleric
J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A."Mand
Heol
Talyg
Pont
CF72Clerk to the Council
J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.
"Mandalay"
Cowbridge Road
Talygarn
Pontyclun
CF72 9BZ

Ffôn: 01443 227094

Tel/Fax: 01443 227094

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 6 October, 1999

PRESENT: Community Councillors C G Bendle, Mrs V A Cale, C Davies, J G Davies, J R Dilworth, R G Norman, M Rea, S Rogers and Mrs P Thomas

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

1. **Apologies for absence**

An apology for absence was received on behalf of the Chairperson, Councillor J V Huish

2. **Chairperson**

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

3. **Chairperson's business**

Road safety outside Y Pant Comprehensive School

Councillor Rea reported that strenuous efforts were being made to improve highway safety in the vicinity of Y Pant School, Pontyclun. While, technically, the school lay outside the Community Council's current boundaries, a considerable number of Community children attended the school, together with children from neighbouring communities.

There had been indications that funding for highway safety improvements in the vicinity of the school might be secured in two years' time under the Safe Routes to Schools Scheme but there remained a short term problem.

While it was very unlikely that the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council would be able to contribute any finance for short term safety improvements, it had been suggested that the Borough Council might be able to design a scheme with local community councils contributing some finance for short term safety measures.

RESOLVED: That the Council nominate the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to meet representatives of the Llantrisant Community Council to discuss the possibility of introducing short term safety measures in the vicinity of Y Pant School.

4. **Police matters**

(a) **Burglaries**

P C Keddle reported a number of "distraction" burglaries in the area where householders had been distracted by thieves under the pretext of checking on low water pressure. P C Keddle asked Members to urge members of the public to be vigilant in dealing with people claiming to represent the public utilities.

P C Keddle's report was noted.

(b) **Fire alarms**

P C Keddle reported instances of a person knocking on doors in the area and offering for sale fire alarms at grossly inflated sums. It was known that sum of the alarms had been offered for sale at £25.00 each when they could be obtained through other local sources for as little as £5.00 each. P C Keddle asked Members to assist in advising the public to be cautious in buying items from doorstep salesmen.

P C Keddle's report was noted.

(c) **Speed detector vehicle**

P C Keddle reported that the police speed detector vehicle had been operating in Miskin a week earlier. A total of 120 drivers had been reported for exceeding the speed limit.

RESOLVED: (i) that P C Keddle's report be noted

(ii) that the Clerk write to the Highway Authority asking that speed limit repeater signs be erected along the B4264 from Miskin to the Corner Park Garage.

(d) **Vendors of hot food**

Councillor Dilworth drew attention to the practice of a hot food vendor in parking his vehicle on the forecourt outside the public conveniences in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, for the purpose of selling food during the evenings. Councillor Dilworth asked P C Kettle whether the vendor required a licence for selling food. P C Kettle was of the view that a licence was not required but Councillor Dilworth believed that a licence may be required due to the proximity of the vendor to the public highway.

RESOLVED: That the Council obtain clarification on the matter from the Community Council's legal advisers.

(e) **Pontyclun Institute and Athletic Club**

Councillor Graham Davies advised P C Kettle of an incident of rowdyism at the Pontyclun Institute and Athletic Club approximately a week earlier. The incident appeared to have been contained and resolved and it was hoped that there would not be a recurrence.

The matter was noted by P C Kettle

(f) **Police Office - Pontyclun Community Centre**

Councillor Norman asked P C Kettle when the police office at the Pontyclun Community Centre was likely to be manned. P C Kettle responded that he could not be certain when the office would be manned. However, he was hopeful that with the possibility of the appointment of a probationer constable the office could be utilised at some time in the future.

RESOLVED: That P C Kettle's comments be noted.

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

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

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Partnership Council Nomination**

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Councillor Dilworth following his nomination by the Community Council

for the vacancy to represent the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils on the Partnership Council. Councillor Dilworth had stated that while he had not been successful in obtaining the Association's nomination, he was pleased to have been asked to be the Association's substitute representative in the event of the nominated representative being unable to attend any meetings of the Partnership Council. Councillor Dilworth had written to the Association's Director confirming his acceptance of the offer as substitute representative for the Association.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council extend its warmest congratulations to Councillor Dilworth on his achievement.

(b) **Proposed Millennium Street Plan**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had contacted the National Lotteries Charities Board about the possibility of securing a grant for the production of the proposed Millennium Street Plan. Initial reactions from the Board had been encouraging and an application form for a grant had been forwarded to the Community Council. It was necessary for the Council to indicate on the application form the amount of funding it would be prepared to earmark for the proposed street plan.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council earmark a sum of £500.00 as its contribution to the production of the Millennium Street Plan.

(c) **Proposed access for disabled persons to the Ivor Woods**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had contacted the National Charities Lotteries Board about the possibility of securing a grant towards the cost of the proposed access for disabled persons to the Ivor Woods, Brynsadler. Initial reactions from the Board had been positive and an application form had been received. It was necessary for the Community Council to indicate on the application form the amount of funding it would be prepared to earmark for the proposed scheme.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council earmark a sum of £2,000.00 as its contribution towards the proposed scheme.

(d) **Taff Ely Crime Prevention Panel**

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the police about Councillor Rea's earlier nomination to the Taff Ely Crime Prevention Panel. It appeared that the letter advising of Councillor Rea's nomination had not been received by Chief Inspector Kinrade. A further letter had been sent by the Clerk and Councillor Rea would be invited to future meetings of the Panel.

The matter was noted.

(e) **Proposed contribution towards the erection of a road sign**

A number of Members referred to the approach made by the Community Council, following its last meeting, to the Llantrisant Community Council to join the Pontyclun Community Council in making a contribution towards the cost of the erection of road signs facilitating better access by heavy goods vehicles to local industrial estates.

The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to the Llantrisant Community Council suggesting a joint approach to the Highway Authority. A reply had not yet been received but the Clerk reminded the Council that the Llantrisant Community Council normally met on the same evening as the Pontyclun Community Council and a decision was unlikely to be received for some days.

RESOLVED: That in the event of no reply being received from the Llantrisant Community Council by the date of the next meeting, the Pontyclun Community Council proceed with its plans to make a contribution to the cost of a sign on the Talbot Green By pass.

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, for the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information namely, an applicant for a service provided by the Council.

(b) **Application for financial assistance**

RESOLVED: That an award of £50.00 be made to the Pontyclun Darby and Joan Club.

In making this grant the Council was mindful of the advice given by the District Auditor about changes made to Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972, by Sections 36 to 38 of the Housing Act, 1989, where it was necessary for councils to document factors taken into account prior to a decision being taken. In particular, the Community Council took into account:

- (a) whether payment was of direct benefit
- (b) whether benefit is in proportion to the payment made
- (c) whether the organisation's own resources are sufficient and other potential income considered including other local councils'
- (d) whether the money was being used to circumvent any limitation on specific powers
- (e) whether the award of grants would result in a precedent leading to applications from other groups.

(c) **Provision of a hard surface play area**

Councillor Norman stated that he had asked for this matter to be placed on the agenda since he was concerned at the lack of progress in providing the facility.

The Clerk advised that although the Council had identified a number of possible sites for a hard surface play area, the major difficulty facing the Council was that none of the sites was in the ownership of the Community Council.

The Clerk reminded the Council that earlier in the year an approach had been made by Mr Andrew Wool, the owner of a plot of land between Glan yr Afon and the river Ely, who had offered the land for development as a hard surface play area. Before progressing the scheme the Council wished to carry out a survey of residents views on the proposal. Most of the residents strongly opposed the proposal but the Council did not decide to abandon the possibility of developing the plot of land offered by Mr Wool.



The Council subsequently carried out site meetings on a number of potentially suitable plots of land, in Borough Council ownership, in the vicinity of the Maesyfelin recreational areas. Enquiries of the Borough Council had revealed that there were no surplus plots of land in the Maesyfelin area which could be made available for a hard surface play area.

A long discussion ensued on the best way to progress the provision of a hard surface play area.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Council advise Mr Wool that it had abandoned the idea of providing the facility on his land due to the opposition of local residents.

(ii) That the Council obtain written confirmation from the Borough Council that there are no surplus plots of land in the Maesyfelin area which would be suitable for development as a hard surface play area.

(d) **Planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 27 August, 3, 10, 17 and 24 September and 1 October, 1999**

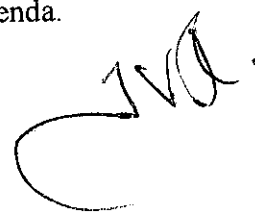
The Council discussed planning applications contained in the Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 27 August, 3, 10, 17 and 24 September and 1 October, 1999.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Council make no comment on the planning applications.

(ii) That the Council send a strong letter to the Borough Council stating that the method adopted to advise community councils in the Borough of planning applications was little more than a "maildrop" and seriously erodes the consultation process.

(e) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 3 to the Council's agenda.



8. Matters reported for information

(a) Proposed boundary alteration

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the meeting he, together with the Chairperson Councillor Huish, had attended the previous day with officers of the Local Government Boundary Commission. The meeting was the first of several meetings to be conducted with community councils within the area of the proposed alteration.

The Secretary of the Commission had stated that requests for a boundary review between the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council had originally come from residents in the Degar area of Llanharry and Pantaquesta, Pontyclun. The issue had been deferred pending completion of other reviews the Commission was undertaking at that time. The other reviews had been completed and the Commission now wished to look at the matter of the boundary between the two principal authorities.

It was proposed that the Commissioners would consult widely with affected bodies before publishing its draft report. The Commission would welcome written comments on the proposals for a re-alignment of the boundary from all affected sectors. It was likely that the Commission would respond positively to an invitation to meet the Community Council.

On the matter of timescale, if the initial proposals for a review of the boundary were accepted, it was likely that the review would be finalised in about a year. It was planned that the first formal stage would be the issue of letters to each council affected by the review and the letters would be despatched during November, 1999.

RESOLVED: That the Council take no action until the preliminary proposals from the Local Government Boundary Commission had been received.

(b) The Taff Ely Local Plan Inquiry

The Community Council received details of the Borough Council's response to the Community Council's objections to the proposed Mwyndy Industrial Access Road.

The Community Council, while accepting that a new access road was required, was disappointed to find that its suggestion for a northerly access road had been dismissed by the Borough Council and that the Inspector at the Inquiry was being recommended not to make any modification to the Draft Local Plan.

The matter was noted.

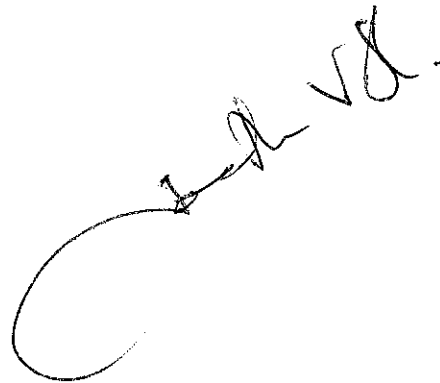
(c) **Access road to Ty Draw, Brynsadler**

The Council received copies of correspondence between the Council and the Highways Authority about responsibility for maintenance to the access road to Ty Draw, Brynsadler.

It was clear from the Highway Authority's letter that the access road had not been adopted and therefore remained in private ownership. Responsibility for the maintenance of the road lay with the owner of the land.

The matter was noted.

9. The meeting ended at 8.20 p.m.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. J. V. S.', is written over the bottom right portion of the page.