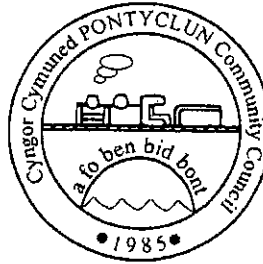


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Pontyclun Community Council

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Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 6 September, 2006.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Ms V A Cale, C Davies, P Griffiths, R G Norman and P Thomas

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Two members of the public for part of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors D Clayton-Jones, S Jenkins, A R Lane and M Rea

2. **Declaration of Interest**

No declarations were received.

3. **Bereavement**

The Council stood and observed a minute's silence following the recent news of the bereavement of Councillor Dan Clayton-Jones's brother.

4. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 July, 2006**

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

5. **Matters arising**

(a) **Green Pontyclun**

(i) **Hanging baskets**

The Clerk reported that numerous compliments had been received about the colourful displays in the Community Council's hanging baskets. He reported that while the end result was very satisfying, many challenges had been

overcome. In particular, the receipt of hanging basket brackets which did not fit, the receipt of flowering baskets in advance of the availability of brackets and the breakdown of the newly purchased water bowser necessitating the watering of all 61 baskets 6 planters, daily, by hand.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Council seek a cash reimbursement from the company which had not supplied brackets to specification.
 - (ii) That the Council recruit a person to water its hanging baskets during the hours from 6.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. in 2007.
 - (iii) That the Council decide at its January, 2007, meeting whether to continue to use hanging baskets for its floral displays or whether to use a trough type container requiring water one every two days.
 - (iv) That the Council thank its Handyman for his ingenuity and improvisation in overcoming the challenges of the 2006 summer.

(ii) **Planters**

The Council discussed a request to site a planter in Miskin from Mrs Ann Tingay of Beechlee Close, Miskin.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Clerk make arrangements for a site meeting and that a decision on purchase be taken at a subsequent meeting of the Council.
 - (ii) That the Clerk arrange for the purchase of winter/spring flowering plants and bulbs for existing planters and verges

(b) **New Riverside Walk**

The Council discussed the letter of 30 August, 2006, and enclosures from its solicitors about the boundaries of the newly purchased land.

The Clerk informed the Council of the steps he had taken to gain advice and guidance from the Borough Council on the steps necessary to create an access to the public right of way adjacent to the newly purchased land alongside the river Ely in Brynsadler. The Clerk had requested a site meeting between members of the Community Council and the Borough Council. When the Clerk followed up the apparent lack of response he discovered that the Highway Authority had already visited site and taken photographs. The Clerk had been told verbally that there would be no objections from the Highway Authority to creating a point of access from the footway in Cowbridge Road provided a widening of the hedge took place at the point of access and a grab-rail was erected at the same point to prevent children from wandering on to the highway from the access point.

The Clerk had insisted on the site meeting taking place to avoid any misunderstandings on the point of access. The meeting had been arranged for 4.30 p.m. on Monday, 11 September, 2006, in the lay-by alongside Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the solicitors be asked to provide a map to the Community Council showing the right of way and the boundary of the land extending to the median point of the river Ely.
 - (ii) That the Clerk arrange payment of the Local Authority search fee to the solicitors.

6. **Casual Vacancy**

The Council received notification from the Borough Council that no nominations had been made for the election for the vacancy in the Maesyfelin Ward of the Community Council. As a result, it was open to the Community Council to fill the vacancy by co-option.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That a notice be issued inviting interest from members of the public in being co-opted on to the Community Council.
 - (ii) That persons interest in co-option be invited to attend a selection process at the Community Council's monthly meeting on 4 October, 2006.

7. **Minutes of the Community Council's Annual Grants meeting of 19 July, 2006**

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

8. **Matters arising**

Late applications for grant

(a) **Pontyclun Football Club**

RESOLVED: That the Council make a grant of £200

(b) **Miskin & Mwyndy W.I.**

RESOLVED: That the Council make a grant of £100

9. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Council budget and expenditure for 2006/07**

The Council considered its expenditure to 31 August, 2006, against its budget for 2006/07.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the information be noted.
 - (ii) That the Clerk report back the balance carried forward from 2005/06 when the Council's year end accounts for 2005/2006 had been finalised.
 - (iii) That the next comparison of expenditure against budget for 2006/2007 be made to the Council's December monthly meeting.

(b) **To consider a request for assistance to oppose the "threat" of a Tesco store coming to Pontyclun**

The Clerk reported that he had received a telephone call from Mr Richard Cotter of the Spar Store, Pontyclun, seeking the Community Council's support in opposing the "threat" of a Tesco store being built on the site of the dilapidated cinema in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

A discussion followed at which it was agreed that it was premature to form any conclusions following the sale of the cinema site. Despite many enquiries it had not been possible to establish the identity of the purchaser. Any development proposed for the site would require the consent of the

Planning Authority. At this time, the full intentions of the developer would become known and appropriate comments could be made to the Planning Authority.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Community Council retain a neutral stance at this time.

(ii) That enquiries be made in an attempt to establish the identity of the new owner.

(c) **Community Spirit Award**

RESOLVED: That discussion of this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

(d) **Request to install a cycle stand**

The Council discussed a request from Mr Ray Anderson of Talygarn for the installation of a secure cycle stand in Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree in principle to the request and that Mr Anderson be asked to identify a suitable site in order that the Council could enter into discussions with the landowner and the Highway Authority.

(e) **Draft regulations dealing with older people in Wales**

The Council received copies of draft regulations on The Commissioner for Older People in Wales, 2007, and the Commissioner for Older People in Wales (Appointment) Regulations, 2007. The Council was asked if it wished to make any comment on the draft regulations.

RESOLVED: That the Council decline to comment on the draft regulations.

(f) **The Beecham Report**

The Council received an invitation to nominate up to two representatives to attend a regional event to hear a presentation, and have the facility to ask questions, on the recently published report "Beyond Boundaries" dealing with the delivery of services in local government.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson and Clerk be nominated to attend the presentation.

At this point in the meeting Councillor Griffiths advised the Chairperson that he would have to leave as the result of a domestic emergency.

(g) **Christmas decoration arrangements**

The Clerk reported that he had met with a representative of Floodlighting and Electrical Services, Coedcae Lane, Pontyclun, to discuss plans to erect rope lights in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

The representative stated that while it was possible to erect rope lighting, it was not an arrangement he would recommend for a variety of reasons. He suggested that a more suitable option would be the erection of decorative lights on a number of lamp posts with an electricity supply being obtained directly from the lighting column.

The representative had agreed to provide an estimate of costs in writing. The estimate had not been received at the time of the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk follow up the provision of the estimate and report back to the next meeting of the Council.

(h) **Annual Memorial Service**

The Council discussed a letter from the Vicar of Pontyclun with Talygarn advising of the Annual Memorial Service in St Anne's Church, Talygarn, on 10 September, 2006. The service was intended for residents of the Community who had been bereaved.

RESOLVED: (i) That the information be noted.
(ii) That the Vicar be thanked for his letter

(i) **National Conference of the Society of Local Council Clerks**

The Council received details of the Annual Conference of the Society of Local Council Clerks to be held on 21 October, 2006.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be nominated to attend the Conference.

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

The Council was invited to re-new its membership of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales.

RESOLVED: That the Council re-new its membership at a cost of £20.00 without any additional donation.

(k) **Planning Applications**

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

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

Application No. 06/1284/10

That while the Community Council does not have any objection in principle to the application, it does have concerns that the proposal would result in more on-street parking.

Application No. 06/1414/13

The Council would have no objection to the site being developed for residential purposes provided that the height of any structure was limited to one storey.

The council is also of the view that given that the highway in High Street, Brynsadler, is very narrow, any development should provide parking spaces within the cartilage of the development.

Application No. 06/1254/10

The Council firmly believes that this application should be refused as it constitutes development in open countryside. Previous applications on this land have been refused and the Council believes that enforcement action should be taken against the individual who has caused development to take place.

Application No. 06/0529/10

That while the Council does not have any objection in principle to the proposal, it has concerns about safe access to the busy highway.

The Council is also of the view that if consent for development is awarded any building should be constructed in materials similar to surrounding properties.

Application No. 06/1220/15

The Council is opposed to this application on the grounds that conditions in the existing consent have not been complied with, the removal of a condition would result in an unprecedented increase in vehicles accessing the site from a difficult junction on the A4119, and the proposed development would result in damage to the environment.

(i) **Application to develop land at Gwaun Elai, Llantrisant**

The Council had been asked by the Planning Authority if it wished to comment on an application for consent to develop land outside the Community of Pontyclun at Gwaun Elai, Llantrisant.

RESOLVED: That while the Council has no objection in principle to the development of this land, given the very significant traffic congestion in the area, the Council urges the Planning Authority to undertake a full traffic impact study before determining the application.

(d) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 13 to the agenda.

(n) **Community Council's Allotments Competition**

Councillor Norman referred to the Community Council's Allotments Competition some weeks earlier and offered his apologies for not having involved Councillor Dan Clayton-Jones in the judging of exhibits. Councillor Norman stated that a shortage of time had led to the Competition being judged without Councillor Clayton-Jones being present.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

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

(a) **Public Conveniences**

The Clerk reported that it had been brought to his attention that the Council-owned public conveniences did not meet the

requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act, in that people in wheelchairs were unable to use the facilities. The Clerk advised that many public authorities were upgrading their conveniences to make them usable by people using wheelchairs.

The Council discussed the need to carry out a survey of the premises to establish the extent of the work required and what interim arrangements could be made.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk arrange for a survey of the premises to be undertaken to identify the work, and likely costs, necessary to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.

(ii) That, as an interim measure, enquiries be made of the Borough Council to find out whether wheelchair users needing toilet facilities could use the facilities available at the Day Centre in Pontyclun.

(b) **Ambulance services**

The Clerk read out a letter inviting the Council to make comments to an inquiry which was shortly to be held into the running of the ambulance service in South Wales.

RESOLVED: That the Council comment to the effect that an improvement to the service could be achieved by separating that part of the service which routinely collected and delivered patients to and from hospital from that part of the service which covered emergencies.

11. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Review of community councils' boundaries**

The Council received the note from the Borough Council's Principal Electoral Officer which gave his view on the effective date for the review.

RESOLVED: That the view be noted.

(b) **External Audit of the Community Council's accounts**

The Clerk reported that the date for the external audit of the Community Council's accounts for 2005/06 had been arranged for 23 October, 2006.

The Clerk advised that his work in hand was considerable and his priorities for the coming month would be governed by the need to provide all the necessary documentation to the external auditor to meet the deadline. Specifically, this would mean that the Receipts and Payments account for 2005/06 would be need to be balanced, bank balances reconciled, conversion of the Receipts and Payments Account to an Income and Expenditure Account, provision of a Balance Sheet and Supporting Statement, and make arrangements for an internal audit. In addition, it would be necessary to complete the VAT claim for the first half year of 2006/07, run the Council's weekly and monthly payrolls, pay creditors, arrange float reimbursements and bank transfers, prepare weekly work lists, write up minutes, attend to correspondence, prepare the agenda for the meeting of 4 October, as well as dealing with daily queries from the public.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk prioritise the Council's work as he sees fit.

(c) **Local Development Plan – Delivery Agreement**

The Council received a letter from the Director of Development and Regeneration of the Borough Council reporting that the Delivery Agreement for the preparation of the plan, including a timetable and the community involvement scheme, had been approved by the Borough Council and agreed by the Welsh Assembly Government.

The approved Delivery Agreement and its report of public consultation are available on the Borough Council's website. Hard copies can be made available on request.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(d) **Community Council's Allotments' Competition**

The Council received a schedule of prize-winners of the 2006 Community Council's Allotments Competition.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(e) **Providing indemnities to members and officers of relevant authorities**

Members received copies of the Final Guidance on Providing indemnities to members and officers of relevant authorities produced by the Welsh Assembly Government.

RESOLVED: That the provisions of the Final Guidance be noted.

(f) **Refusal of planning consent**

The Council received a copy of the notice refusing full planning permission for a retrospective application for extension and conversion of electricity sub station to funeral directors and chapel of rest and erection of 1.8m boundary fence along Clun Avenue, and side access lane.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(g) **Model Code of Conduct for Councillors**

The Clerk reminded the Council that he had been requested to obtain a copy of the presentation given to community councils by Mr Paul Lucas, Monitoring Officer, Rhondda Cynon Taf. A copy of Mr Lucas's Powerpoint presentation was included as Appendix 16(a) to the Council's agenda.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the presentation be noted.

(h) **Annual Report of the Adjudication Panel for Wales, 2005/06**

The Clerk advised the Council of the receipt of the 2005/06 Annual Report of the Adjudication Panel for Wales.

RESOLVED: That any Member wishing to read the Report contact the Clerk.

12. The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.

