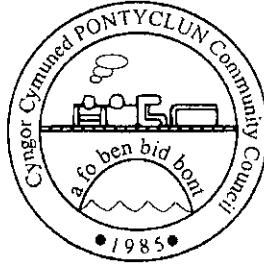


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun**Pontyclun Community Council**

Clerc i'r Cyngor:
JHG Lewis ACIS DMA
Mandalay
Heol Bontfaen
Talgarn
Pontyclun CF72 9BZ



Clerk to the Council:
JHG Lewis ACIS DMA
Mandalay
Cowbridge Road
Talgarn
Pontyclun CF72 9BZ

Ffôn: 01443 227094
Ffacs: 01443 238500
E-bost: greglewis@pontycluncc.org.uk
Wefan: <http://pontycluncc.org.uk>

Tel: 01443 227094
Fax: 01443 238500
Email: greglewis@pontycluncc.org.uk
Web: <http://pontycluncc.org.uk>

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held on
7 December, 2005, at 7.00 p.m. in the Pontyclun Community Centre.

PRESENT: Community Councillors C Davies, P Griffiths, D Henderson,
Ms S Jenkins, A R Lane, R G Norman

Also in attendance: P S Steve Keddle of the South Wales Constabulary and
one member of the public for part of the meeting

1. **Apologies for absence**

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Community
Councillors Ms V A Cale, D Clayton-Jones, M Rea and Ms P Thomas

2. **Declarations of interest**

RESOLVED: That the declarations of interest be recorded in the
Register of Members' Interests

3. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 9 November, 2005**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of
9 November, 2005, be approved as an accurate
record subject to additions to show that Councillor Dan
Clayton Jones declared an interest in planning
application No. 05/1644/10 and Councillors Davies and
Norman declared interests in application No.
05/1804/10. In all cases Members withdrew from the
meeting when the applications were being discussed.

4. **Matters arising**

(a) **Actions arising out of Vision Day**

(i) **Newsletter**

It was reported that the Council's first newsletter was ready to be printed. A draft copy of the newsletter was discussed at the meeting. The Chairperson had received quotes for printing of 2,000 copies. It was planned to deliver a copy to each home in the Community. It was also planned that future issues of the newsletter would appear on a regular basis.

A discussion took place on the method of delivery of the newsletters.

RESOLVED: That the order for printing newsletters be increased to 3,000 copies and that provision be made for the payment of £300 in printing costs. Further, that an additional sum of £100 plus VAT be made available for delivering the newsletters by a delivery company.

(ii) **Footpaths leaflet**

Councillor Griffiths reported that the first leaflets in a series on local footpaths was nearing completion. The leaflets would be in full colour. The cheapest quote for printing 3,000 copies was £350.00. It was intended to place leaflets in local places of prominence, for example, shops, offices, clubs and with the children in the local primary school. Copies would also be made available through the local branch of The Ramblers' Association and to the public through the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That an order for printing 3,000 copies of full colour footpaths leaflets be placed in the sum of £350.00.

(b) **Training Days**

The Council discussed the notes which had been tabled earlier in the year by the Chairperson and Councillor Henderson following their attendance at One Voice Wales training days for councillors.

Councillor Griffiths stated that the sense of doing business had been lost in the last year. The Council had set itself half a dozen objectives and a strategy for achieving those objectives. A budget had been constructed to deliver the objectives but progress had been limited.

The Clerk agreed that a strategy had been designed for achieving additional objectives but wondered whether sufficient consideration had been given to resourcing the strategy. He

pointed out that the Council's administrative function was carried out by one part time employee who, prior to the Council's adoption of additional objectives, was already working his contracted hours per week in supporting the Council and in meeting the Council's statutory responsibilities. In practice, daily, weekly, monthly, six monthly and annual routines were necessary and already in place for the efficient and effective functioning of the Council. Work on the Council's additional objectives was accommodated outside existing routines.

RESOLVED: That a sub committee comprising Councillors Davies, Griffiths, Jenkins and Norman meet in the New Year with a remit to consider resources available to the Council in delivering its services.

(c) **Progress on the Council's key objectives**

The Clerk circulated a paper outlining progress on the Council's nine key objectives.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That action planned for each of the nine objectives for the period January, 2006, to March, 2006 be referred to the January meeting of the Community Council.
- (ii) That the Clerk remind Councillor Rea that the Council had not yet received a copy of the documentation he agreed to produce at the September meeting where the Borough Council had requested the owners of the former Park Hall cinema to take action.

(d) **Industrial Units at the Ely Valley Industrial Estate - Planning application No. 05/1892**

The Clerk reported that he had made enquiries about the current status of the application to remove one of the conditions requiring the developer not to bring units into beneficial occupation until the road system serving the development had been determined.

The Clerk had been told by the officer handling the application that the proposal formed part of his caseload but that it did not have a high priority at that time as he had more pressing applications to progress. Furthermore, that any comment the Community Council wished to make would be taken into account at the appropriate time despite the original deadline for the receipt of comments having expired.



- RESOLVED:** (i) That the Clerk write to the Borough Council opposing the application for the reasons put forward by the Council at its last meeting. Meeting.
- (ii) That copies of the Council's letters opposing earlier planning application 05/1743 and latterly 05/1892 be forwarded to Councillor Lane for his information.

(e) **CCTV coverage**

The Council discussed the response from the Borough Council over the Community Council's concerns that the CCTV cameras in Pontyclun had failed to record any of the activity connected with the break-in at the Southgate Garage in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

The Borough Council's response was that the camera at the junction of Palalwyf Avenue and Cowbridge Road was positioned to monitor Cowbridge Road in the direction of the Windsor Hotel. On the occasions when the camera was turned towards the Southgate Garage only part of the forecourt could be observed. Garage buildings to the rear of the forecourt were out of view. The Borough Council's records showed that no one had made any enquiries about the availability of CCTV footage after the break-in at the Garage.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council drawing attention to the public's perception in Pontyclun that, as the cameras rarely moved, the system was of very limited use. Further, that the Community Council request that the camera operatives be asked to regularly move the cameras to restore public confidence in the Pontyclun CCTV system. In particular, that the cameras monitor the Christmas trees in the village to deter acts of vandalism.

(f) **Site meeting at Ynysddu**

The Clerk reported on a site meeting which had taken place on the afternoon of Friday, 2 December, 2005, with a representative of the Environment Agency, Councillor Thomas and himself.

In the course of the meeting Councillor Thomas identified a collapsed bank alongside the river Ely, a blocked surface water

outlet from the Pantydderwen Estate and a number of large rocks which appeared to have been left in the river Ely following recent dredging work. The issues had given rise to concern among residents.

The Environment Agency representative was unable to give a definitive view on the collapsed bank since the water level in the river was high following recent heavy rain. He agreed to return to site when the water level had dropped. He pointed out that the surface water outlet from the Pantydderwen Estate, although in need of clearance, was not the responsibility of the Environment Agency and enquiries needed to be made to establish who had responsibility for the maintenance of the outlet. The large rocks in the middle of the Ely had not been left after dredging operations. They had been intentionally placed in river by the Environment Agency to create areas of calm water to assist migratory fish in making their way upstream. The rocks were checked periodically to ensure that they did not cause debris to accumulate and increase the risk on flooding on the adjacent Ynysddu Estate.

The report was noted.

5. **Police matters**

(a) **Police Website**

P C Keddle reported that the police website was not fully developed at this time. Although the local police could be contacted at Pontypridd via the Internet, he advised against using this method of contact for the time being. Instead, he advised that if members of the public needed to contact the police on-line contact should be made through the police headquarters website.

The report was noted.

(b) **Youth annoyance – Ynysddu Estate**

P C Keddle reported that in response to residents' concerns about youth annoyance on the Ynysddu Estate he had visited the Estate and spoken to a number of residents. Unfortunately, he had not been able to obtain the names and addresses of the youths who were responsible for the problems.

The public's concerns about anti-social behaviour in the lane between Station Terrace and Stuart Street were well known to the police and regular patrols of the area took place.

The report was noted.



(c) **Crime figures**

P C Keddle advised that he had not brought with him the latest available crime figures for the area. He would arrange for two months' figures to be reported to the January meeting of the Community Council.

The report was noted.

(d) **Force intelligence**

P C Keddle reported that a series of complaints had been received from across the Force's areas about distraction burglaries which had occurred, either at the time, or sometime after minor building work had been carried out at homes.

Prominent in this area appeared to be gangs of Cardiff-based contractors who advertised their services for relaying drives, paths and patios where initial contact with householders was made through fliers dropped through letterboxes.

P C Keddle urged anyone engaging the services of such a gang to contact the police.

The report was noted.

(e) **Mobile phones**

P C Keddle advised that community officers would, in future, be issued with mobile phones. Initially, contact with a community officer would only be available to local councillors.

The report was noted.

(f) **Congregating youths**

Councillor Norman referred to the report made earlier by P C Keddle on youth annoyance and wished to bring to the police's attention that youths regularly congregated on the new access road to the Pontyclun Primary School.

Over recent months the School had suffered increasing vandalism with damage to a parapet and brickwork. Often the School had needed to engage tradesmen to carry out avoidable repair work. Money spent on repair work meant less money being spent on educating for children.

The report was noted by P C Keddle

(g) **Youth annoyance – Neighbourhood Watch**

Councillor Lane referred to the earlier report made by P C Keddle on the practice of the police in carrying out patrols in the lane between Station Terrace and Stuart Street. Councillor Lane asked whether the formation of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the area might assist in preventing anti-social behaviour in the lane.

P C Keddle advised that a Neighbourhood Watch scheme might be of help but urged caution since Neighbourhood Watch schemes were only as good as the people taking part.

The advice was noted.

(h) **CCTV coverage in Pontyclun**

Councillor Henderson referred to the earlier discussion on CCTV coverage in Pontyclun and in particular to the Borough Council's assertion that no one had made enquiries of the CCTV Control Centre about the availability of CCTV footage following the break-in at the Southgate Garage.

Councillor Henderson asked P C Keddle whether the police had made enquiries about the availability of CCTV footage. P C Keddle responded that he would make enquiries and report back to the next meeting of the Community Council.

The matter was noted.

6. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Exclusion of press and public**

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended, for the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, namely, term or terms proposed by or to the Council in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property, goods or services.

(b) **Land at Brynsadler Mill, Pontyclun**

The Council discussed a letter from the Welsh Development Agency outlining a number of options for the acquisition of land at Brynsadler Mill, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk confirm the Community Council's interest in the land to the Welsh Development Agency as soon as possible by e-mail and stating that, before proceeding, the Community Council would need to take appropriate professional advice.

Note: Councillor Norman wished the minutes of the Council to reflect that he was against the Community Council becoming involved in the acquisition of the land.

(c) **Green Pontyclun Action Group**

The Council discussed in detail the proposals of the Green Pontyclun Action Group for 2006/07 attached as Appendix 6 to the Council's agenda.

RESOLVED: (i) That an order for the three planters for which consents had already been obtained be placed and that delivery be arranged for the first week in April.

(ii) That an order for three further planters, of varying height, be placed as soon as a suitable site and appropriate consents had been obtained. Members were requested to report back with suitable sites to the Council's January monthly meeting.

(iii) That an additional 9 pairs of hanging baskets supports for Pontyclun and 12 pairs of hanging basket supports for other areas in the Community be purchased locally to the pattern of the second delivery of 2005 hanging basket supports. Members were asked to report back with suitable sites to the Council's January monthly meeting.

(iv) That enquiries be made with local nurseries for about the supply of rich, colourful and long lasting plants for hanging baskets for the summer of 2006.

(v) That enquiries be made about the production of a plan for the development of a memorial garden to the sides and to the rear of the Pontyclun War Memorial.

(vi) That enquiries be made about the inscription of further names on the Pontyclun War Memorial.

(vii) That other sites in the Community be identified for the purpose of creating new flowerbeds. Members were asked to report back with one suitable site from their wards to the Council's January monthly meeting.

(viii) That the staffing implications of the Council's additional summer work programme be considered at the Council's next monthly meeting.

(d) **Remembrance Day**

The Council was impressed with the organisation and public support for the annual Remembrance Day service in Pontyclun and Miskin.

RESOLVED: That a letter of thanks be sent to all the organisations involved in making Remembrance Day in the Community a memorable event.

(e) **Expenditure monitoring, 2005/06**

The Council received details of its expenditure to 30 November, 2005 against its 2005/06 budget.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(f) **Annual Photographic Competition**

The Council examined the photographs submitted to its Annual Photography Competition. The Council was impressed with the very high standard of entry.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk discuss with the librarian of the Pontyclun Library the possibility of an exhibition of all entries being staged in the library.

(ii) That the Clerk arrange, wherever possible, for all entries to be digitally printed by Impressions, Pontyclun.

(iii) That the Clerk contact Mr Dick Kennard of Castell y Mwnws about the possibility of mounting the entries in a consistent manner.

(iv) That the Clerk arrange for the photographer of the Pontypridd Observer, Mr Richard Williams, to judge the entries.

(vi) That the title for next year's photographic competition be "Pontyclun through the seasons" and that consideration be given to producing a calendar for 2007 in support of a charity.

(g) **Request for financial assistance**

The Council considered a request for financial assistance towards the cost of staging the 2006 National Eisteddfod.

RESOLVED: That the Council donate a sum of £50.00

(h) **Appointment of school governor**

Councillor Norman drew attention to the need to gain clarity on the position of Councillor Davies' position as a governor on the Board of Governors to Pontyclun Primary School. It had been customary in previous years for the clerk to the governing body to contact a community council several weeks in advance of the expiry of a nomination. This procedure had not been followed of late and clarification on Councillor Davies' eligibility to sit on the Board of Governors of Pontyclun Primary School was needed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk obtains clarification of the position from the Group Director for Education.

(i) **Planning**

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

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

Application No. 05/1983/10

That while the Community Council is not opposed to the application, given that the development is to take place in a Conservation Area, the material for the development should be timber rather than

PVCu and Victorian in design.

Application No. 05/2066/10

That while the Community Council is not opposed to the application, given that the development is to take place in a Conservation Area, the material for the development should be timber rather than PVCu and Victorian in design.

(j) **Payment of creditors**

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

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

Elected Members' Development Programme

The Clerk reported a wide range of training courses being held by the Borough Council designed to meet the needs of councillors.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Clerk establish the cost of the courses being run by the Borough Council.
- (ii) That the Clerk make enquiries about any other training courses which may be available and designed to meet the needs of community councillors rather than councillors of principal authorities.

8. **Matters reported for information**

Three-Year Revenue and Capital Settlements for Local Authorities in Wales

The Council received details of a Consultation Paper from the Local Government Finance Division of the Welsh Assembly Government on Three Year Revenue and Capital Settlements for Local Authorities in Wales.

RESOLVED: That the document be noted.

9. The meeting ended at 9.23 p.m.

