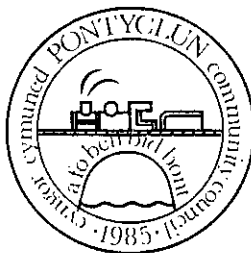


## CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council  
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"Mandalay"  
 Cowbridge Road,  
 Talygarn, Pontyclun,  
 Mid Glamorgan CF7 9BZ

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 7 July, 1993

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle, Professor I D Bowen, Mrs A Burton, Mr J R Dilworth, Mr E V Griffith, Mr V P James, Mr G Moir and Mr R G Norman and Mrs O P Phillips

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Five members of the public.

1. Apology for absence

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Community Councillor Mr T J Burton

2. Chairperson's business

There were no items of Chairperson's business.

3. Presentation on the quality of drinking water in the Community of Pontyclun

The Council received a presentation from Mr Tony Luxton of Dwr Cymru/ Welsh Water on the quality of drinking water in the Community of Pontyclun. Mr Luxton gave a very interesting address in which he highlighted the increased investment directed towards the improvement of water quality, and water supplies, in the area in recent years. He confidently predicted that the days of water shortage during the summer months in South East Wales were over. He pointed out that schemes for the transfer of large volumes of water were now in place and that at times of peak demand supplies were available from West Glamorgan to supplement supplies from traditional sources, that is, the Taff Fechan reservoirs. Further improvements to supplies to South East Wales would take place shortly when the Wye transfer scheme was completed.

In addition to improvements in water supplies Welsh Water was actively improving the quality of drinking water in order to comply with EEC directives. Mr Luxton described some of the tests which were regularly carried out to ensure compliance with drinking water regulations.

There followed a question and answer session in which Mr Luxton responded to several questions from Members. Mr Luxton ended his presentation by extending an invitation to the Council to visit one of Welsh Water's recently commissioned water treatment works.

*J. H. G. Lewis*

A vote of thanks was proposed for Mr Luxton's most informative and interesting presentation. Members expressed their interest in visiting a water treatment plant at some time in the future.

4. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 2 June, 1993

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 2 June, 1993 be approved as an accurate record.

5. Matters arising

(a) Former school, Miskin

The Clerk informed the Council that he had made further enquiries with the Director of Land and Buildings of the Mid Glamorgan County Council about the proposed sale of the former school in Miskin. He had been told that the former school, and accompanying school house, had recently been sold as two separate lots. The sales had generated considerable interest and the total sum realised had been in the region of £140,000. It was understood that the properties had been sold with the benefit of existing planning consents.

The report was noted.

(b) Dipali restaurant, Pontyclun

The Clerk reported that an officer from the Borough Council's Environmental Health Department had taken immediate action on the matter of the discarded chicken carcasses and the skip in question had been removed within half an hour of the request. The officer had also reported that he was satisfied that the premises' opening hours were in breach of those permitted in the license. He intended reporting the breaches to the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer.

It was also reported that, as a result of the complaints about vehicles parking dangerously on the forecourt and footway immediately outside the premises, a site meeting by members of the County Council's Highways and Transportation Committee would be held shortly.

The reports were noted.

(c) Proposed cricket wicket, Windsor Field, Pontyclun

The Council discussed the response of the Borough Council's Chief Leisure Services Officer.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk reply that three local organisations had shown interest in having the facility of a artificial wicket on the Windsor Field. While the interest was only tentative it would be useful to establish whether the Borough Council would be agreeable to the suggestion in principle and, if so, to have an idea of likely costs.

(d) Off street lighting at River's Edge, Pontyclun

The Council discussed the letter of 29 June, 1993 from the County Engineer and Surveyor and noted that as the road and associated off street lighting at River's Edge was in private ownership he could not agree to the County Council undertaking payment for street lighting energy charges.

RESOLVED: That a copy of the County Engineer and Surveyor's letter be sent to Mr R C Evans of 3 River's Edge for the information of River's Edge residents.

(e) Outstanding County Council site meetings

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that of recent there had been a backlog of County Council site meetings on matters affecting Community residents. Councillor Bowen was pleased to be able to report that progress was being made and that a schedule of local site meetings had been planned by the County Council. Of particular interest was the undertaking to look again at the proposal to close the section of Miskin Road from the proposed new roundabout in Miskin to the junction with the A4119 at Mwyndy. In addition, at a site meeting held in Brynsadler concern was expressed about the inadequacy of the width of the recently constructed access road from The Hollies into the Ivor Arms car park. A watching brief would also be kept on overspill car parking into The Hollies by patrons of the Ivor Arms.

The report was noted.

(f) Tipping on land at the junction of Tirafon Court and Llwynfen Road, Pontyclun

The Council discussed the correspondence which had been received from the County Council's Planning Officer and the Borough Council's Chief Environmental Health Officer.

RESOLVED: That as the matter was now being handled by the Borough Council in conjunction with the landowner and the National Rivers Authority, no further action be taken by the Community Council for the time being.

(g) Back lane improvement programme

Councillor John Dilworth reported that he was aware that a problem over an easement had arisen at the planning stage for the improvement of one of the Community's back lanes. The full extent of the problem was unclear but Councillor Dilworth was hopeful that the difficulty would be overcome without causing delay to the back lane improvement programme.

The report was noted.

(h) Speeding vehicles in Brynsadler

Mr Ron Roberts, a retired police officer of the Metropolitan Police Force, and a resident of Brynsadler, addressed the Community Council about the dangers to residents from speeding traffic in Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler.

Mr Roberts stated that he had considerable experience in traffic matters and he was very concerned about the excessive speed of some vehicles passing through Brynsadler. The situation was exacerbated because there were a number of elderly folk living in the village most of whom needed to cross the very busy highway. Mr Roberts asked the Community Council to support his request for the police authority to control the speed of through traffic with a view to making the village safer for residents.

A general discussion took place on Mr Roberts' representation. P C Kettle agreed to submit a request for the police radar team to carry out a monitoring exercise in Brynsadler, although he advised that there were considerable demands on the team's resources.

In response to a question about the likely date for the start of the planned Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler, road widening scheme, Councillor Delme Bowen advised that that the scheme was likely to be started in about three to four years' time. In the meantime the County Council planned to carry out a minor improvement at the junction of High Street and Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler.

6. Minutes of the Finance Committee's meeting of 16 June, 1993

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance Committee's meeting of 16 June, 1993 be approved as an accurate record.

7. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

8. Adoption of Finance Committee's recommendation

RESOLVED: That the Council adopt the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

9. Notice of Motion - "To discuss the consumption of alcohol outside licensed premises in Pontyclun" - Councillor John Dilworth

Councillor John Dilworth told the Council that he continued to receive complaints from members of the public about the practice of patrons of certain licensed premises in drinking alcohol outside the licensed premises. Frequently members of the public felt threatened and intimidated when it was necessary to walk past premises where there were gatherings of patrons. There was a consensus of opinion that licensees showed a lack of sensitivity to the wishes of the general public. There was, too, a strong belief that the actions of some patrons led to an increase in vandalism and violence and a lack of social responsibility.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk send a letter to each of the licensees in Pontyclun asking for their cooperation in encouraging their patrons to be more socially responsive in their actions. In particular, that landlords insist on their patrons using the toilet facilities on their premises and to refrain from breaking glasses where injury could be caused to members of the public.

10. Community initiatives on Purolite

Councillor John Dilworth presented a comprehensive report to the Council on the current position on community initiatives to deal with environmental problems associated with Purolite. Councillor Dilworth reported that two separate bodies had been established locally to progress matters. Councillor Dilworth reported separately on both organisations.

(a) Standing Conference

Several meetings of the Conference had taken place and the subject of emissions and the noise and effect of

plant on local residents had been matters of primary concern. The findings of a questionnaire which had been distributed to residents in the vicinity of Purolite emphasised the importance of registering complaints with the Borough Council since it was that authority which had begun enforcement action.

Recent changes in legislation had resulted in a requirement for the chemical processes at Purolite to be registered with H M Inspector of Pollution. It was unclear whether registration had taken place and how effective it would prove to be in the long term.

A disappointing aspect of the Conference's meetings had been the absence of both the local M.P. and M.E.P. It was hoped that they would be present at the next meeting which was scheduled for 8 September, 1993. Councillor Dilworth urged the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to attend the next meeting of the Conference.

(b) Borough Purolite Liaison Committee

The Committee had met once since its inauguration and had discussed complaints of smells, waste disposal, the storage of chemicals, landscaping, the Borough Council questionnaire and the Environmental Protection Act, 1990.

The committee comprised five Borough Council members and while the interests of Talbot Green and Llantrisant were represented it was to be regretted that Pontyclun was not represented on the Committee.

A great deal was expected of the Committee since the Borough Council, unlike the Standing Conference, had statutory powers to bring about change. It was hoped that progress would be made at the second meeting of the Committee due to be held shortly.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Dilworth be commended for the detailed report presented to the Council.

11. Strategic Development Scheme Bids for 1994/95

The Council discussed the letter of 22 June, 1993, received from the Borough Council, on Strategic Development Scheme Bids for 1994/95. The Strategic Development Scheme is the new title for the former Urban Programme and Rural Initiative schemes. It was noted that preliminary consideration of submissions would begin as early as 28 June, 1993.

- RESOLVED: (i) That in view of the extremely tight deadline for the receipt of schemes no submission be made for 1994/95
- (ii) That a small working group, comprising the Chairperson, Councillor Eric Griffith, together with Councillors Delme Bowen, Viv James and Gordon Norman be formed to consider the possibility of a submission for 1995/96.

12. Public Footpaths in Talygarn

Mr Derek Kingham of Talygarn addressed the Council and amplified the points he made in his letter of 28 June, 1993.

Mr Kingham drew attention to the Mid Glamorgan Health Authority's decision to close Talygarn Lake to the Llantrisant and District Anglers Association. In addition the Health Authority had padlocked the kissing gate at the southern end of the Lake and erected "No trespassing" signs on the footpaths around the Lake. The footpath on the northern side of the Lake was known to be a public right of way. The footpath at the southern side, although not designated as a public right of way, was known to have been continuously used by the public for a period in excess of 20 years.

Mr Kingham sought the support of the Community Council in getting the Mid Glamorgan Health Authority to remove the signs and to re-open the kissing gate on the southern side of the Lake.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to:

- (a) The Mid Glamorgan County Council's Footpaths Officer to complain about the erection of no trespassing signs on the northern shore of the Lake and asking for their removal.
- (b) The South Glamorgan County Council's Footpaths Officer to complain about the padlocking of the kissing gate and the erection of no trespassing signs on the southern shore of the Lake and asking for the removal of the padlock and signs.
- (c) The Mid Glamorgan Health Authority asking for that authority's cooperation in re-opening the footpaths and enclosing copies of the letters to the Footpaths Officers of the Mid and South Glamorgan County Councils.

13. Facilities for D.I.A.L. at the proposed new Pontyclun Community Centre

The Council discussed the letter of 14 June, 1993, from

Mrs D. M. Rees, Chairperson of D.I.A.L. Llantrisant, in which were outlined the facilities which D.I.A.L. would like to see made available in the replacement community centre in Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the list be forwarded to the Chief Leisure Services Officer of the Taff Ely Borough Council.

14. Taff Ely (Communities) Order, 1984

The Council discussed the letter of 16 June, 1993, from the Llantrisant Community Council in which it was stated that the Llantrisant Community Council intended applying to the Boundary Commission for a revocation of Article 17 of the Taff Ely (Communities) Order, 1984.

Article 17 gave residents of the former Llantrisant Community Council, in this case the residents of the Community of Pontyclun, the right, for a period of 25 years from 1 April, 1985, to enjoy the same burial fees as residents of the present Community of Llantrisant.

If Article 17 were revoked residents of the Community of Pontyclun would no longer have benefit of the capital spend on cemeteries which Pontyclun residents had contributed to while ratepayers of the former Llantrisant Community Council. The Council believed it was for this reason that Parliament had deemed it appropriate to provide protection for former residents of the former Llantrisant Community Council for 25 years. The Council believed that it would be failing in its duty towards the residents of Pontyclun if it did not oppose the plans of the Llantrisant Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the Council oppose the application by the Llantrisant Community Council for the revocation of Article 17 of the Taff Ely (Communities) Order, 1984, and that the Clerk notify this decision to the Llantrisant Community Council, the Boundary Commission and the Taff Ely Borough Council.

15. Proposed Bus Users' Consultative Committee

The Council received correspondence from the Pontypridd Town Council and Jones Motors of Ynysybwl enquiring whether the Community Council would be prepared to participate in a Bus Users' Consultative Committee and, if so, to nominate a Member to sit upon that committee. The role of the proposed committee would be to maintain and enhance essential bus services within the Borough of Taff Ely.



RESOLVED: (i) That the Council support the initiative to form a Bus Users' Consultative Committee in Taff Ely.

(ii) That the Council's representative to sit upon the Committee be Councillor Mrs Pam Phillips

16. Annual Conference of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

The Council considered the invitation to nominate representatives and to submit motions for debate to the Annual Conference of the Wales Association of Community and Town Councils due to be held in Aberystwyth on Saturday, 9 October, 1993.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Council be represented at Annual Conference by the Vice Chairperson, Councillor Cyril Bendle together with Councillors John Dilworth and Gordon Norman.

(ii) That Members' attendance at the Conference be designated an approved duty.

(iii) That the Clerk, together with Councillors Dilworth and Norman, be authorised to draft a motion for debate calling upon the Secretary of State for Wales to strengthen community councils' role in the planning process in any reorganisation of local government.

17. Welfare Rights for Community Councillors

The Council received details of a half day course being run for community councillors wishing to be better equipped for dealing with constituents' queries about welfare rights.

RESOLVED: That no nominations be made to the half day school.

18. Planning

(a) Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 7 and 14 June, 1993

The Council discussed planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ending 7 and 14 June, 1993

RESOLVED: That the following comments be made to the Borough Council:



Application No. 93/0395/10

The Council is surprised at the apparent development since it is understood that planning permission has not been awarded.

(b) Appeal against the refusal of planning permission

The Council discussed a letter from Mr R D Lewis BSc(Hons), MRTPI, an Inspector at the Planning Division of the Welsh Office who had been appointed to conduct an appeal by the Land Authority for Wales into a refusal by the Taff Ely Borough Council to grant planning permission for residential development on a plot of land at Heol-y-Coed, Pontyclun. Mr Lewis' had found in favour of the appellant.

RESOLVED: (i) That the information be noted

(ii) That a copy of the Inspector's determination be sent to Mr Dave Allen of 74 Heol-y-Coed, Pontyclun, for his information.

19. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 17 to the Agenda.

20. Reports from Members

(a) Pontyclun Station

Councillor Delme Bowen reported on his efforts to get a firm undertaking from the County Council that work at the Pontyclun station would be completed soon. He had been told that, originally, it had been hoped to meet expenditure out of underspendings on the PRNI approval for Phase 2 of the Rail Development Strategy. Underspendings had not materialised. In the circumstances, any additional expenditure would have to be met from the Highways and Transportation Committee's budget. As a result of substantial reductions in the Highways and Transportation Committee's budget earlier in the year the proposed expenditure had been deleted from the Committee's budget. It was still hoped to proceed with land acquisition at the Station and the provision of access for the disabled during the current financial year, but the wider scheme to provide park and ride facilities would not take place until funding was available.

The report was noted.

(b) Modification to zebra crossing  
in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Delme Bowen reported that he had raised with the County Engineer and Surveyor the ambiguous position where laybys in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, ostensibly for the use of shoppers, had, near the zebra crossing, zig zag lines indicating that drivers should not park on that part of the lay by. The County Engineer and Surveyor had responded that the anomaly had been brought to his attention from many sources, including the Chief Constable. To remove any ambiguity the County Engineer and Surveyor had issued instructions for temporary concrete blocks to be installed over the length of the zig zag lines thus preventing the use of the laybys near the zebra crossing.

The report was noted.

(c) Parking facilities in Lewis Street, Pontyclun

Councillor Delme Bowen informed the Council that he had been making strenuous efforts towards improving parking facilities in Lewis Street, Pontyclun. He had pursued the matter with the Borough Council and County Council. In a recent letter from County Engineer and Surveyor Councillor Bowen had been advised that information received from the Borough Council indicated that the project had been listed for consideration but that further progress would depend upon finances being available and the priorities established by Borough Council members.

The report was noted.

21. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Possibility of erecting a bus shelter at Bethel Court

Councillor Viv James drew the Council's attention to the need for a bus shelter at the site of the new flats at Bethel Court, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the matter be considered in greater detail at the Council's meeting on 14 July, 1993.

(b) Flight of steps from Heol Miskin into Manor Hill, Miskin

Councillor Gordon Norman reported that he had made enquiries about the flight of steps leading from Heol Miskin into Manor Hill, Miskin and had discovered that the Community Council was responsible for their maintenance. The flight of steps was an integral part of public right of way Footpath No. 314.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for the Community Council's Handyman to carry out:

(i) Maintenance to the flight of steps.

(ii) Maintenance to the remaining section of the Footpath into Manor Hill.

(iii) Arrange for the installation of handrails on either side of the flight of steps.

(c) Overgrown hedge near the Pontyclun Fire Station, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Cyril Bendle reported that there was an overhanging hedge causing nuisance to pedestrians near Bute Cottage, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. The hedge impeded the passage of pedestrians and posed a risk of injury. The County Council, as highway Authority was aware of the situation and had served 14 days' notice upon the owner of the hedge to trim it. In the absence of the owner taking action the County Council would carry out the work and invoice the owner for the cost.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk contact the County Council to establish the present position.

(ii) That the Clerk also bring to the County Council's attention a similar overhang problem at the junction of David's Court and Heol-y-Coed.

(d) Application for planning permission to develop wetlands at the rear of Tesco Stores, Talbot Green

Councillor John Dilworth drew the Council's attention to an application to develop an area of wetland between the Tesco Stores in Talbot Green and the recently opened Talbot Green By Pass. Councillor Dilworth was aware that

there was considerable opposition to the application and requested that detailed discussion on the application take place at the Council's next meeting on 14 July, 1993.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for the item to be included on the Council's agenda for 14 July, 1993, and obtain further details of the application from the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer.

(e) Proposal to construct a new access road into the Mwyndy Industrial Estate

Councillor Delme Bowen informed the Council of an advertisement in a recent edition of the Western Mail in which attention was drawn to the plans of the Highways and Transportation Committee to apply to the Planning Committee of the County Council for permission to construct a new access road into the Mwyndy Industrial Estate. The proposal ignored the fact that the County Council already had planning permission to improve the existing access road into the Estate and, that if a new road was really needed, a much better alternative route was feasible by bringing an access into the Estate from a northerly direction.

RESOLVED: That the Council object to the application on the grounds that:

- (a) The proposal provides for a needless intrusion into agricultural land and wooded areas.
- (b) The proposal, while ostensibly providing better access for residents, will destroy the rural amenity presently enjoyed by those residents.
- (c) The proposal will result in large quantities of explosives from premises on the industrial estate regularly being transported in very close proximity of residential premises.
- (d) The County Council have already sought, and obtained planning permission to upgrade the existing access road from the A4119.

- (e) There is ample room to create an access road from the estate's northern end. If this route were followed it would have the advantage of utilising land which is semi derelict and would afford excellent visibility at the junction of the A4119.
- (f) The County Council appear to be progressing the application with the minimum of consultation since the observations of the Borough Council do not appear to have been sought. Neither has the Community Council been asked for comments on the proposal. Indeed, as the application is from one committee of the County Council to another committee of the County Council it could be argued that the County Council is acting as judge and jury in its own case.
- (g) There is a feeling that the County Council may well have prejudged the matter of planning consent. Approximately 18 months ago the County Council undertook road improvements on the A4119 near the Corner Park Garage. These improvements, while largely completed, were not finalised at the point where the proposed access road to the Mwyndy Industrial Estate joins the A4119. There are strong feelings that the County Council deliberately left this section of the A4119 uncompleted because it anticipated the outcome of its own application for planning consent.

The Council also resolved that the Clerk write to the Welsh Office asking that the application be "called in".

(f) Proposed further residential development at Maesvfelin

The Clerk read out the reply he had received from the Ombudsman in response to the Council's request that he reconsider his decision not to carry out an investigation

into the actions of the National Rivers Authority in failing to disclose information on pre-1971 floodwater levels. The Council was bitterly disappointed to learn that the Ombudsman did not intend investigating the case on the grounds that:

(i) Due to the passage of time it was not possible to re-open the case.

(ii) He was of the view that there was a lack of "personal injustice"

RESOLVED: That a copy of the Ombudsman's letter be forwarded to Mr S Baugh of Tyllwyn, 7 Maes yr Afon, Pontyclun, for his information.

(g) Audit of Accounts, 1992/93

The Clerk reported that the audit of the Community Council's accounts for the 1992/93 financial year had been completed by the District Auditor earlier that afternoon. The District Auditor had issued a certificate to the effect that he had completed the audit of the Authority's accounts for the year ending 31 March, 1993, in accordance with Part III of the Local Government Finance Act, 1982, and the Code of Audit Practice. In his opinion the accounts record fairly the financial transactions of the Authority.

The report was noted.

(h) Community Council's representative on the South Wales Police (Taff Ely) and the British Transport Police Consultative Committees

The Clerk informed the Council that immediately prior to the Council's meeting he had received a letter from Mr Alan Gregory, the Council's representative on the South Wales Police (Taff Ely) and British Transport Police Consultative Committees stating that because of increasing ill health he would no longer be able to carry out his duties.

RESOLVED: (i) That a letter be sent to Mr Gregory thanking him for the diligent way he had carried out his duties on behalf of the Community Council.

(ii) That the matter of a replacement nominee to the Committees be placed on the Council's Agenda for its next meeting.

22. The meeting ended at 10.35 p.m.

*Eric G. [unclear]*