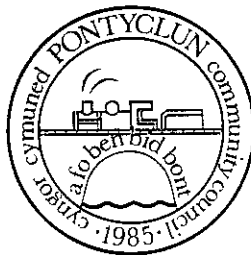


## CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council  
 J. H. G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.  
 Telephone: Llantrisant (0443) 227094



"Mandalay"  
 Cowbridge Road,  
 Taiyarn, 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 June, 1995

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle (Chairperson), Mr T J Burton, Mrs V A Cale, Mr G Davies, Mr R O Edwards, Mr T R J Flood, Mrs M M Griffiths, Mr G M Moir and Mr R G Norman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Four members of the public

1. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Chairperson's Report

(1) Taff Ely Victim Support

The Chairperson reported that since the Council's last meeting he had taken up the invitation of Taff Ely Victim Support and attended the organisation's Annual General Meeting on 19 May, 1995. The Chairman reported that he had been very impressed by the wide ranging work undertaken by Taff Ely Victim Support and the enthusiasm displayed by its members. The organisation depended very heavily for financial support on the donations made by local government. There were strong concerns that after the reorganisation of local government on 1 April, 1996, the group would find itself at a financial disadvantage since any grant received from the proposed Rhondda/Cynon/Taff County Borough Council might not equate to the individual grants currently being received from the Rhondda, Cynon Valley and Taff Ely Borough Councils.

The report was noted.

(ii) 50th Anniversary of VE day church service

The Chairperson reported that the inter denominational church service, arranged at the request of the Community Council, had taken place as planned at the Bethel Baptist Church Centre on the afternoon of Sunday, 14 May, 1995. While Councillor Bendle said that the service was reasonably well supported by the public he was very disappointed to note that few members of the Council attended. The Clerk written to Father Martin Reynolds, the coordinator of the service, to thank him and his colleagues for organising the event.

The report was noted.

(iii) Under age consumption of alcohol

Councillor Bendle referred to the problem of under age drinking of alcohol in the Community where older youths purchased alcohol for under age children. He was sad to have to report that one of his children had recently been involved in one of these incidents. Councillor Bendle had taken a very firm line with his son and had involved the proprietor of Keencost, Mr Davies, in disciplining his son. Councillor Bendle wished to place on record his appreciation of the support and cooperation afforded to him by Mr Davies.

The report was noted.

(iv) Ruling of the District Auditor

The Chairperson informed the Council that since its last meeting the Clerk had been contacted by the District Auditor regarding advice the Clerk given to the Council at its last meeting about the ability of the Chairperson to give a casting vote. The Chairperson invited the Clerk to outline the matter to the Council.

The Clerk informed the Council that he had been contacted by Mr George Grant of the District Auditor's office following the receipt by Mr Grant of a letter from a Mr Leonard Morgan of Clun Avenue, Pontyclun. In his letter Mr Morgan had alleged that the advice given by the Clerk about the ability of the presiding Chairperson at the Council's Annual Meeting to give a casting vote prior to being re-elected as Chairperson for 1995/96, was incorrect.

Mr Grant had confirmed that the advice given by the Clerk was correct. He would be replying to Mr Morgan to that effect. The Clerk had requested Mr Grant to send him a



copy of the reply to Mr Morgan in order that he could place it before the Council. Mr Grant agreed to provide a copy of the letter.

A number of members expressed their surprise that a letter should have been received from Mr Morgan since he was not present at the Council's Annual Meeting on 10 May, 1995.

The matter was noted.

3. Minutes of the Council's Annual Meeting of 10 May, 1995

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's Annual Meeting of 10 May, 1995, be approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

(a) Calendar of Meetings for 1995/96

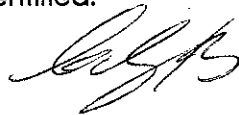
The Clerk advised the Council that he had made enquiries of Mrs Sheila Heke, the officer responsible for booking arrangements for the Community Centre about the availability of alternative evenings for Community Council meetings. He had been told that the first Tuesday and Thursday evenings in every month were available provided the Community Council continued to hold its meetings in the committee room.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council retain its existing practice of holding its meetings at 8.00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month.

(b) Footway lighting in backlanes

The Council discussed the letter of 10 May, 1995, from the County Engineer and Surveyor stating that the lanes specified by the Community Council in its earlier correspondence formed part of the adopted highway and, as a result, any lighting installed should comply fully with the County Council Standard Specification for road lighting. It was stated that while it was not County Council policy to provide lighting to back lanes there would be no objection to the Community Council installing lighting.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk obtain an estimate of the likely cost of installing lighting to the County Council Standard Specification in the back lanes already identified.



(c) Hendy Quarry, Miskin

The Council discussed the letter dated 12 May, 1995, from the County Planning Officer about the representations already made to the Taff Ely Borough Council in the context of the Draft Taff Ely Local Plan. The letter referred to environmental protection policies being included in the Mineral Local Plan for Limestone which was due to be published shortly.

The Council was pessimistic that if the environmental protection policies included in the Mineral Local Plan for Limestone were similar to the environmental protection policies included in the Interim Development Order permission conditions, no short term relief would follow for Miskin residents currently experiencing nuisance.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

(d) Planning Application No. 95/0169/10

The Clerk referred to planning application No. 95/0169/10 which the Council had discussed at its last meeting and informed the Council that he had received notification that planning consent for the development had been refused by the Borough Council.

The matter was noted.

(e) Speeding vehicles in the Community

The Clerk advised the Council that he had contacted the police again over the Council's deep concern about speeding vehicles in the Community, particularly Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. Following the report to the police the Clerk was aware that on at least two occasions in the previous week the mobile police radar team had been checking on the speed of vehicles in Pontyclun.

Councillor Norman was able to confirm that he, too, had observed the police radar team in action during the previous week. Councillor Norman said that he understood some of the difficulties experienced by the police in choosing a stretch of road suitable for monitoring vehicle speeds but, ideally, he would have liked to have seen the team closer to the shopping area of Pontyclun.

Councillor Moir was able to confirm that a radar speed check by the police had also been operating in Miskin recently. Councillor Moir was convinced that the presence of the police had a significant effect on controlling the speed of vehicles passing through Miskin.



Councillor Burton acknowledged the effect of the police's presence but pointed out that the relief experienced was usually temporary. Councillor Burton drew attention to the lack of repeater signs adjacent to the highway on the stretches of road from the A4119 at Mwyndy to Pontyclun and again on the A4222 from Talygarn to Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the County Engineer and Surveyor asking for the erection of repeater signs adjacent to the highway on the stretch of road from the A4119 at Mwyndy to Pontyclun and also on the A4222 from Talygarn to Pontyclun.

(f) Extension of "patio" area at the Bute Arms, Pontyclun

Councillor Norman advised the Council that since the last meeting he had made enquiries with the Borough Council about whether the extension of the "patio" area adjacent to the Bute Arms, Pontyclun, required planning permission. He had established that planning condition for the development was not needed. However, in pursuing his enquiries he had uncovered a possible violation of an earlier planning consent in that the "patio" development was upon land which had formerly been recognised as a car parking area for the public house. Councillor Norman was following the matter up with the Borough Council's Enforcement Officer.

Several members spoke of their concern that as the result of the "patio" development on the former car park drivers had started to park their vehicles on the pavement outside the public house thereby causing a hazard to pedestrians and affecting the visibility of motorists emerging from Station Approach on to the A4222.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the County Engineer and Surveyor about the possibility of erecting concrete bollards on the tarmaced pavement outside the Bute Arms to prevent motorists from parking their vehicles on the pavement.

5. Notice of Motion - Councillor R G Norman -

"That the Council give consideration to marking the 50th Anniversary of VE Day by the planting of trees in the Community"

Councillor Norman explained that he believed there was considerable support for marking the 50th Anniversary of VE Day in the Community in a



long lasting and tangible way. An environmentally friendly, and relatively inexpensive way of doing so, would be by planting ornamental trees at selected sites within the Community. Councillor Norman invited members to support his motion.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk liaise with Councillor Norman to establish the ownership of each proposed site in order that the landowner could be contacted about permission to erect an ornamental tree.

6. Notice of Motion - Councillor R G Norman -

"That the Council give consideration to the employment of a student during the summer months to assist the Council's Handyman"

The Council discussed the desirability of employing a student during the summer months to assist the Council's Handyman with his duties. It was pointed out that there was a vast amount of grasscutting to be undertaken during the summer months and that to avoid complaints from the public it was highly desirable to provide additional grasscutting resources. The Clerk advised that there was sufficient provision in the Community Council's budget for 1995/96 to cover the employment of a student.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the Clerk be given authority to recruit a student from the Jobcentre to assist the Council's Handyman with his duties during the summer months.
  - (ii) That, if possible, the recruitment be made from a student resident in the Community of Pontyclun.

7. Apportionment of electricity and gas charges at the Pontyclun Community Council

The Council considered the response of the Chief Leisure Services Officer of the Borough Council to the Community Council's earlier request for guidance on an appropriate method of calculating a contribution for the consumption of gas and electricity at the Community Council's store. It was stated that a separate sub meter would be installed to record electricity consumption. As there were no separate metering arrangements for recording gas consumption by the Centre's heating boiler it was proposed that there be a 5 way split based on floor area. The Community Council's store comprised 7.3% of the total floor area and it was proposed that the Community Council make a contribution of 7.3% towards the cost of gas consumed by the Centre's boiler.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the Council pay for electricity consumption on the basis of the reading on the sub meter.
  - (ii) That the Council pay for gas consumption for heating on the basis of 7.3% of the total quarterly bill.

8. Footpath No. 323 - Pontyclun to Talygarn

The Council discussed the response of the County Engineer and Surveyor to the Community Council's earlier request for consideration to be given for the re-opening of Footpath No.323 along the route which existed prior to the construction of the M4 Motorway, that is, a route alongside the Nant Dyfrgi. The Community Council had earlier suggested that at the point where the Nant Dyfrgi passed underneath the M4 it may have been possible to construct a catwalk through the tunnel for the safe passage of walkers.

The County Engineer and Surveyor regretted that following consideration of the reduced headroom and omission of lighting with the possible flooding following heavy rain he was unable to accede to the request.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the comments of the County Engineer and Surveyor be noted.
  - (ii) That the observations of the National River Authority be sought on the likely amount of headroom available in the tunnel during periods of flooding.

9. Annual Audit

(a) Procedural changes to community council audits

The Council discussed the letter of 12 May, 1995, from the District Auditor outlining procedural changes in the auditing of community council accounts to ensure that audits are carried out to the high standards expected while containing fees to a minimum.

RESOLVED: That the advice of the District Auditor be noted.

(b) Audit of Community Council Accounts for 1994/95

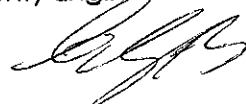
The Clerk reported that the audit of the Pontyclun Community Council's accounts for 1994/95 would commence on 1 August, 1995, and would be completed on 15 August, 1995. Appropriate public notice of the audit had been given.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

10. Grass verge outside No. 79 Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

(Councillor T R J Flood declared his interest in the above matter, took no part in the proceedings, but with the permission of the Council remained in the Chamber during the debate. The necessary entry was made in the Register of Disclosures and General Notices in accordance with Section 94 of the Local Government Act, 1972)

The Council discussed the reply of the County Engineer and Surveyor to Mrs J



Prankerd's request for the grass verge outside her home to be replaced with tarmac or other hard paving. Mrs Prankerd's request was refused on the grounds of cost and the limited benefit which would be gained by other highway users.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the reply be noted.
  - (ii) That a copy of the County Engineer and Surveyor's reply be forwarded to Mrs Prankerd.

11. Footpath No. 333

The Community Council discussed a letter from Dr Wynne Davies of Ceulan Stud, Miskin, drawing attention to the practice of certain members of the public in not keeping to public right of way, Footpath No 333, which crosses his land. Dr Davies stated that members of the public had failed to follow the designated route and had removed the restricting rails adjacent to the path. The result had been that some of his ponies had wandered on to the highway. Dr Davies suggested that part of the reason was that the designated route of the Footpath was hidden in brambles. Dr Davies intended complaining to the County Council since it was that authority which had erected a stile in difficult position in 1992.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the Clerk make arrangements for the brambles complained of by Dr Davies to be removed.
  - (ii) That the Council await with interest the result of Dr Davies' representations to the County Council

12. Hensol Road Bridge, Miskin

The Council discussed the reply of the County Engineer and Surveyor to an earlier request by the Community Council for the erection of signs warning of the narrow bridge across the main line railway in Miskin.

The Community Council was very disappointed with the reply of the County Engineer and Surveyor who had suggested that because there had not been any accidents at the site there was no need to erect any warning signs. Despite stating that observations had been carried out in the vicinity of the bridge it appeared that the County Council had failed to observe that the bridge was used by buses, by people accessing the Scout Hall and by articulated lorry drivers avoiding the heavy goods vehicle test centre in Mwyndy.

- RESOLVED: That the reply of the County Engineer and Surveyor be noted.

13. Payment of creditors

- RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix No. 13 to the Agenda.





14. Planning applications contained in notifications for Weeks Ending 5th, 12th and 19th May, 1995

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

Application No. 95/0258/10

RESOLVED: That while the Community Council has no adverse comment on the application it was considered important that the Borough Council satisfy itself that the applicant has the financial resources to complete the proposed development.

15. Reports from Members

(a) Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee

Councillor G Moir reported that a Member of the Community Council had contacted the Secretary of the Hendy Quarry Liaison Committee to say that future meetings of the Community Council would be held on Monday evenings. As a result, the Annual General Meeting of the Hendy Quarry had been re-scheduled for Wednesday, 7 June, 1995. The re-scheduled meeting had then clashed with the normal monthly meeting of the Community Council. The Annual General Meeting of the Liaison Committee had needed to be re-scheduled again.

Councillor Moir made an appeal for all Members of the Council to adopt a standard approach when dealing with outside bodies and organisations and to pass on information which was factual.

The report was noted.

(b) Housing Committee of the Taff Ely Borough Council

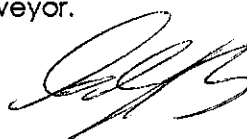
Councillor R G Norman reported that he had been re-elected Chairman of the Taff Ely Borough Council's Housing Committee for 1995/96.

The report was noted.

(c) Pavement defects

Councillor R O Edwards reported that there were many instances of defective pavements in the vicinity of Llwynfen Road, Cerdin Avenue and Palalwyf Avenue which were in need of refurbishment.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the County Engineer and Surveyor.



(d) Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant

Councillor Mrs M M Griffiths reported on her attendance at two meetings of the Governing body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant. The first meeting had been convened to draft a report for the Annual Meeting. The second meeting was convened to confirm the appointment of the Deputy Head.

The report was noted.

(e) Litter in Palalwyf Avenue, Llantrisant and Cowbridge Roads Pontyclun.

Councillor J G Davies expressed his concern about the amount of litter which regularly accumulated in Palalwyf Avenue, Llantrisant Road and Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. Councillor Davies felt that an effective solution to the problem was the reinstatement of the former roadsweeper.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the possibility of the reinstatement of the roadsweeper in Pontyclun.

(f) Taff Ely Police Liaison Committee

Councillor T J Burton reported that any items for discussion at the Taff Ely Police Consultative Committee should, in future, be addressed to Mr A Fry, South Wales Police Authority, Police Headquarters, Cowbridge Road, Bridgend.

The matter was noted.

(g) Drinking of alcohol and taking of drugs

Councillor Mrs A Cale stated that there had been a number of worrying instances of teenagers drinking alcohol and taking drugs in the Ivor Woods, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That any Member receiving reports of teenagers drinking alcohol or taking drugs in the Ivor Woods be advised to report the matter to the police for investigation.

(h) Under age drinking

Councillor T R J Flood referred to reports at previous meetings of under age drinking where the implication had been that the drink had been purchased at retail outlets in Pontyclun. Councillor Flood wished the Council to know that he had recently seen a number of young girls coming into the village carrying large quantities of alcohol which he was sure had not been purchased in Pontyclun.

The report was noted.



16. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Traffic congestion, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

Councillor T R J Flood drew the Council's attention to the traffic congestion regularly occurring on the railway bridge in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. He pointed out that many drivers flouted the law and parked on the single yellow lines. He was of the view that many drivers believed that single yellow lines did not carry the same force of law as double yellow lines.

RESOLVED: That as it was important to avoid congestion on the railway bridge, the County Council be requested to install double yellow lines to replace the existing single yellow lines.

(b) Maps of the Community

Several Members commented on the need to have a map of the Community to be able to ascertain precisely the location of the Community boundaries and the public Rights of Way. The Clerk responded that all Members of the Council who had been first elected before the community council elections of May, 1995, had already been provided with maps of the Community. He would ensure that those Members who were elected at the community council elections in May, 1995, were also provided with maps.

(c) Youth with drug problems

The Chairperson, Councillor Bendle, spoke of reports he had received about a youth who had recently moved into the Community. It appeared that the youth had a serious drug taking problem. Councillor Bendle asked whether any member of the Council had any information about the youth.

No Member had any information of assistance to the Chairperson.

(d) Notice of Motion

Councillor T J Burton gave notice that at the next meeting of the Community Council he wished the Council to discuss the possibility of re-siting the wayside seat which was currently sited on the opposite site of the road to the Pontyclun Post Office in Cowbridge Road.

(e) Footpath known as "The Drive"

Councillor R G Norman drew the Council's attention to a well used footpath in Pontyclun running parallel with the Ynysddu



Farm Estate and the river Ely known as "The Drive" Technically the footpath lay within the boundary of the Llanharan Community Council, although residents of Ynysddu Farm Estate regarded themselves as being residents of Pontyclun. The footpath running between the Estate and the river Ely was an very pleasant waik and regularly used by Pontyclun residents. Councillor Norman suggested that the Council might make representations to the Llanharan Community Council for the siting of two wayside seats along the footpath.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Llanharan Community Council suggesting that that Council might wish to consider the siting of two wayside seats along the footpath.

(f) Councillor Gordon Moir

Councillor Gordon Moir reported that prior to the elections of May, 1995, he had allowed his membership of Plaid Cymru to lapse. He made his intentions clear, in advance, of standing at the May, 1995, community council elections as an Independent candidate. Following Councillor Moir's election as an Independent member of the Community Council he received a letter from Mrs Jennie Griffiths, Secretary of the Pontyclun Branch of Plaid Cymru, informing him that the branch was proposing his "expulsion" at a meeting to be held on 1 June, 1995. Councillor Moir was invited to attend the meeting to "defend" himself.

In the belief that an administrative error had been made Councillor Moir rang Mrs Griffiths and pointed out that he was no longer a member of Plaid Cymru. Mrs Griffiths acknowledged the point. Nevertheless, he was told that it was still the intention to proceed with the recommendation for "expulsion" and that if the recommendation was approved Councillor Moir's name would be erased from the membership register with retrospective effect. It was understood that this malicious and vindictive intent was communicated to a third party.

Councillor Moir, and his family, were deeply distressed by the incident and had sought advice on what legal redress was available.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the General Secretary of Plaid Cymru in Cardiff outlining the facts in the case and suggest that Councillor Moir be given an apology for the contradictory and malicious way in which he had been treated before the matter escalated any further.



(Following a request for the recording of votes Councillors C G Bendle, G Moir, R G Norman, R O Edwards and Mrs M M Griffiths voted for the motion. Councillors J G Davies, T J Burton, Mrs A Cale and T R J Flood voted against the motion)

(g) Llantrisant and District Historical Society

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by Mr Trevor I Rees, Secretary to the Llantrisant and District Historical Society querying why the Community Council had failed to renew its membership of the Society. The Clerk had responded that he had not received a notification to say that membership renewals were due. Mr Rees pointed out that it was not the practice of the Society to issue membership renewal reminders. The Clerk informed Mr Rees that he would place the matter before the next meeting of the Community Council for decision.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for the renewal of the Council's membership at £5 per annum.

(h) Council for the Protection of Rural Wales

The Council discussed the invitation from the Council for the Protection of Rural Wales for the renewal of the Community Council's membership for 1995/96.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk renew the Community Council's membership.

(i) Annual allocation of grants

The Clerk advised the Council that he would shortly be distributing to Members application forms for local organisations to make application for financial assistance to the Community Council. The annual grants allocation meeting was scheduled to take place towards the end of July.

The matter was noted.

(j) Finance Committee Meeting

The Clerk advised the Council that the next meeting of the Council's Finance Committee would be held, at a date yet to be arranged, during the last week of June. The meeting would receive details of the Community Council expenditure for 1994/95 prior to annual audit.

The matter was noted.

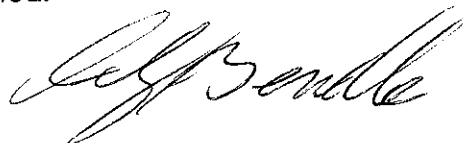


(k) Annual Salary award

The Clerk reported that the second stage of the 1994 salary award negotiated between the Society of Local Council Clerks and the National Association of Local Councils, which became effective from 1 June, 1995, had been implemented.

The report was noted.

17. The meeting ended at 10.10 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. J. B. B.', is written in black ink.