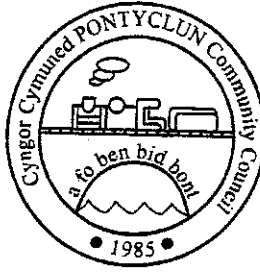


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

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Minutes of the February monthly meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Minor Hall of the Bethel Baptist Church, Heol Miskin, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 8 February, 2011.

PRESENT: Community Councillors D Clayton-Jones, J G Davies, P Griffiths, S Jenkins, M Rea, and C Willis

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Two members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors V A Cale, J V Huish, R G Norman and S Rogers

2. **Declarations of interest**

The following declarations of interest were made:

Councillor P Griffiths for agenda item 6 (d) – "I am a member of the Pontyclun Community Trust"

Councillor S Jenkins for agenda item 6 (d) – "I am a member of the Pontyclun Community Trust"

Councillor M Rea for agenda item 7(b) - "I am a member of the Borough Council's Planning Committee"

3. **Residents' concerns**

No matters were raised.

4. **Police matters**

- (a) **Reports from the police**

The Clerk advised that he had received an e-mail from PC Mike Perry to say that he would not be able to attend that evening's meeting. Nevertheless, he would arrange for a summary of crimes for the previous month to be sent to the Council.

The Clerk read out the summary of crimes for the information of the Council.

RESOLVED: That the position be noted.

(b) **Reports from Members**

There were no reports from Members.

5. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 11 January, 2011**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 11 January, 2011, be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Public conveniences, Pontyclun**

Councillor Rea reported that he was aware of an architect who had carried out a great deal of work in designing and updating toilet facilities in neighbouring areas. He believed that, if approached this architect might be prepared to advise the Community Council.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That Councillor Rea provide the name of the architect to the Clerk in order that an approach can be made.
 - (ii) That the Clerk write to local traders and organisations in Pontyclun to establish whether they would be prepared to make their toilet facilities available to the public and, if so, the amount of charge they would make to the Community Council.

(b) **Domino Pizza, Pontyclun**

The Council discussed the two letters which had been sent to the proprietor of Domino Pizza, Pontyclun, about his use of the slogan "Honk if you are hungry". At first the proprietor had stated that use of the slogan had been discontinued some months earlier. When it was pointed out that the slogan still remained on the rear of a truck used in connection with the business and was

regularly parked only a short distance away, nothing further had been heard from the proprietor.

RESOLVED: That the position be noted and that the Council await developments from the Borough Council, police or local residents.

(c) **Car park at Heol yr Orsaf**

Councillor Rea reported that since the last meeting of the Council he had regularly chased up Borough Council officers to produce the draft lease. He had been given a number of dates when the draft lease would be received only to find that the commitment had not been kept. The explanation offered was that the delay was due to the Borough Council's legal staff needing to deal with other pressing matters. Councillor Rea was hopeful that the draft lease would be available by the end of next week.

The Clerk reported that he had been successful in getting the Borough Council to "recycle" the existing tariff sign at the entrance to the car park. It had been agreed that the existing tubular supporting poles could remain in place while the Borough Council narrative on the sign would be stripped and replaced with a Community Council narrative.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the reports be noted.
- (ii) That enquiries be made of the Borough Council to find out whether the "car park" sign in Cowbridge Road could be recycled to read "Free Car Park" in both English and Welsh languages.

(c) **Community Council land in Brynsadler**

The Clerk reported that the draft lease drawn up by the Community Council's solicitor had been sent to the Trust for its comments. The initial reaction from the Chairman of the Trust was that he found the draft "disappointing" but that he would report to a meeting of the Trust and come back with comments.

It was pointed out that the Community Council's solicitor had acted to protect the Council's interests and that the latest draft was a less demanding draft than the earlier version. Concern was expressed that further requests for amendments would lead to further legal costs having to be met by the Community Council. A view was expressed that if the Trust wished to have more amendments to the draft lease it should bear the additional legal costs.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That before making a final decision on the content of the draft lease the working group await the promised comments from the Trust and, if necessary, convene a further meeting with Trust representatives.
- (ii) That after consideration of the Trust's comments the Council take a decision on whether any clauses could be left out of the draft lease.

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Budget and precept for the 2011/12 financial year**

The Council discussed the information provided by the Clerk on:

- (i) the estimated out-turn at 31 March, 2011
- (ii) variances to the budget for 2010/11
- (iii) the level of reserves
- (iv) a suggested budget for 2011/12
- (v) a precept setting guide for Band D equivalent properties based on the Tax Base for the Community for 2011/12

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council set a budget of £117,732 for the 2011/12 financial year.
- (ii) That there be no increase in the Council's precept for 2011/12 and that the precept remain at £113,863 – the same level as in 2009/10 and 2010/11.
- (iii) That the Clerk table a document setting out the Council's capital financial strategy for 2011/12.

(b) **Charter arrangements with the Borough Council**

The Council noted that the Charter arrangements between the town and community councils in the Borough would be formally launched at a meeting at the Pavilions, Clydach Vale, Tonypany, at 6.30 p.m. on Monday 21 February, 2011. An invitation to attend the launch had been extended to all town and community councillors within the Borough. Expressions of interest from Members of the Pontyclun Community Council to attend the launch were invited.

RESOLVED:

That the Council be represented by Councillors Willis and Rea.

downloading process took 25 minutes and printing a further 10 minutes.

(d) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 8 to the Council's agenda.

8. **Matters for decision since the despatch of agendas**

Application for the diversion of a public right of way – Footpath No 334

The Council discussed the application for a diversion of Footpath No. 334 in Talygarn.

The Clerk advised that any comments on the proposal needed to be made within 14 days of the Borough Council's notification of the application.

RESOLVED: That the Council advise the Borough Council that proposed route for the diversion was fully supported by the Community Council.

9. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **The "Free Two Pence" in 2011-12**

The Council received a circular from the Welsh Assembly Government advising that the up rated amount which community councils could spend on activities for which it had no other specific powers, provided that the expenditure was in the interest of their areas, or inhabitants, would rise to £6.44 per elector for the 2011/12 financial year.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(b) **Borrowing by community councils in 2011/12**

The Council received a circular letter from the Welsh Assembly Government advising of changes to the system for borrowing money for capital purposes.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(c) **South Wales Police Authority – Public Meetings**

The Council received details of meetings of the South Wales Police Authority held at venues across South Wales where representatives of the Authority would be explaining to the public

(c) **Buckingham Palace Garden Party**

The Council discussed a letter from One Voice Wales inviting the Council to make a nomination of the current and out-going Chairperson to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 12 July, 2011.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Council decline to make a nomination.
 - (ii) That the Council doubt the value of this annual event.

(d) **Planning**

Councillor Griffiths advised the Chairperson that he would be leaving the meeting at this point.

(Councillor Rea declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in this item of business as a member of the Borough Council's Planning Committee. He elected to remain in the Council chamber but did not take part in any of the discussions.)

The Council reviewed the planning applications contained in the latest Weekly Lists.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That no comments be made to the Planning Authority for applications contained in the latest Weekly Lists.
 - (ii) That given the considerable public interest in the plans for a rumoured major development at the site of the former Purolite factory and a possible re-location of the Leeke's store on the border of the Community, a Special Meeting of the Community Council be called to discuss any planning application after its submission to the Planning Authority.

Footnote: The Clerk advised the Council that comprehensive details of all planning applications submitted to the Planning Authority could now be viewed on the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council website. While details could be readily viewed, printing the details was causing a significant problem for the Council. The Clerk had printed one application in the latest Weekly List and found the

how it was proposed to tackle the large cuts in its budget for 2011/12.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(d) **Mrs Gail Porter**

Councillor Clayton-Jones regretted to inform the Council that Mrs Gail Porter of Beechley Close, Miskin, had passed away the previous day. Mrs Porter, who was a life-long resident of the Community, had been prominent in many aspects of public life and, for many years, had organised the annual Remembrance Day service in Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Council's deepest condolences be passed to Mrs Porter's husband, Mr Ralph Porter.

10. The meeting ended at 8.15 p.m.

