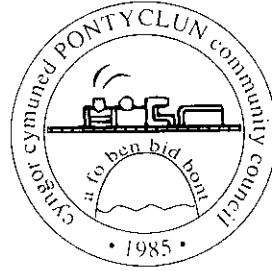


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

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Pontyclun Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held at the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 8 January, 2003.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mrs V A Cale, J G Davies, C Davies
 J R Dilworth, M Rea (Chairperson), and Mrs P Thomas

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P C Steve Keddle and three members of the public for part of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors C G Bendle, J V Huish, R G Norman and S Rogers

2. **Declarations of interest**

Declarations of interest were invited from Members. There were none.

3. **Chairperson's/Leader's business**

Pontyclun and Talygarn – A History and Topography

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, reported that he, together with a number of Members, attended the recent launch of the book "Pontyclun and Talygarn – A History and Topography" hosted by the Llantrisant and District History Society.

Councillor Rea paid tribute to the research and hard work carried out by Society members in the production of the book. The book was not intended to be a definitive work but fulfilled a need in outlining the recent history of Pontyclun, Talygarn and many of the surrounding villages.

RESOLVED: That the Council purchase a copy of the book and place it in the local library.

4. **Police matters**

P C Keddle advised the Council that the Christmas period had been relatively quiet.

(i) **CCTV in Pontyclun**

P C Keddle said that he was pleased to see that the long-awaited CCTV cameras were in operation as he believed that this would lead to a reduction in crime and the prospect of higher crime detection rates.

The report was noted.

(ii) **Proposed parking restrictions**

P C Keddle stated that he was disappointed that the promised introduction of parking restrictions in Heol yr Orsaf, Pontyclun, had yet to be implemented. He reminded the Council that at a meeting some months earlier the introduction of the restrictions was said to be "imminent"

RESOLVED: That the Clerk follow up the matter with the Highway Authority.

(iii) **"Concrete eggs"**

P C Keddle reported that despite the re-positioning of the "concrete eggs" from the lay-by at the western side of Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, to the lay by eastern side of Cowbridge Road, much frustration was being expressed by the public and motorists at their presence. It was the intention of the police to hold a site meeting with the Highway Authority to explore the possibility of the complete removal of the "concrete eggs".

The report was noted.

(iv) **Drug taking**

Councillor Dilworth advised P C Keddle that he had received reports of hard drugs being taken in a local public house. Councillor Dilworth asked whether the police had any information on this matter.

P C Keddle responded that it was believed that Pontyclun, in common with a number of other local villages, had a limited number of residents who participated in drug taking. However, he was unaware of any reports indicating that a public house in Pontyclun was used for the taking of hard drugs.

The report was noted.



(v) **On-street parking, Pontyclun**

Councillor Davies drew attention to the practice of certain motorists in parking near the junction of Llantrisant Road and Clun Avenue in Pontyclun.

Councillor Davies pointed to the difficulties faced by drivers negotiating the junction when vehicles were parked close to the junction.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Highway Authority with a view to getting parking restrictions imposed in the vicinity of the junction.

(vi) **Response of the police**

Councillor Mrs Peggy Thomas expressed her concern about the response time of the police following a report by her daughter to the police on the evening of 20 December, 2002, following a violent domestic argument in public. Councillor Thomas stated that the police took 20 minutes to arrive following the report to the police.

P C Keddle stated that the response of the police would be dependent upon the category placed on the call. If the call had been categorised as one requiring an "immediate" response, the target time for arrival was eight minutes. If the call was categorised as "routine" the arrival of the police could take longer than eight minutes.

P C Keddle agreed to check police records to see what priority had been allocated to the call.

(vi) **Abandoned car**

Councillor Cale reported that there was an abandoned car in the car park of chapel near to her home. She asked if the police would be removing the car.

P C Keddle responded that the car was parked on private property. The police did not have any authority to remove abandoned vehicles where they were parked on private property.

The position was noted.

(vii) **Anti-social behaviour**

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, advised P C Keddle of the anti-social behaviour of a number of youths in Groesfaen who made a practice of gathering in the Community Council's bus shelter near Llwynypennau Cottages.



Vandalism had occurred at the bus shelter and at the nearby children's park where a seat had been burned and play equipment had been damaged.

Councillor Rea asked that the police make periodic visits to the two locations to deter vandalism.

The report was noted.

(viii) **Police personnel**

Councillor Rea drew attention to the changes in senior ranking police personnel which had taken place in recent months. On behalf of the Community Council, Councillor Rea extended an invitation to one or more of the senior ranking officers to address the Council at a future meeting.

RESOLVED: That P C Keddle convey the request to the police officers

5. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 December, 2002**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 4 December, 2003, be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Christmas celebration contributions**

The Chairperson, Councillor Rea, informed the Council that judging of the three Christmas competitions organised by the Community Council had taken place.

The painting competitions at Y Pant Comprehensive School and the Pontyclun Primary School had been judged and the winners would be announced shortly.

Judging had also taken place of the best illuminated house in each of the Community Council's 4 wards. The winners of the competitions were the householders of the following premises:

5 Bryn Creigiau	Groesfaen Ward
20 Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler	Maesyfelin Ward
21 Miskin Crescent, Miskin	Miskin Ward
18 Heol y Coed, Pontyclun	Cefn yr Hendy Ward

Members also believed that the residents of Heol Glan Elai, Pontyclun, had made an exceptional effort to illuminate all the houses in the street



to a very high standard. It was felt that residents efforts should be recognised.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk make arrangements for the payment of £25.00 to the householders of each house indicated above.

(ii) That in the case of the residents of Heol Glan Elai, the Clerk arrange to send each of the householders in the street a congratulatory letter and advise that their actions would be recorded in the minutes of the Pontyclun Community Council.

(b) South Wales Police Authority

The Council discussed the invitation to attend a meeting of the South Wales Police Authority due to be held on Aberdare on the evening of Monday, 20 January, 2003.

RESOLVED: That approval be given for attendance at the meeting.

(c) Footbridge across the Nant Dyfrgi

Councillor Dilworth reported that he had visited the refurbished footbridge across the Nant Dyfrgi. He was impressed with the standard of work carried out by the Community Council's Handyman.

Councillor Dilworth asked whether, to avoid the possibility of injury to any users of the bridge in slippery conditions, it would be possible to lay an anti-slip material on the decking of the bridge.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make arrangements with the Council's Handyman for the work to be carried out.

(d) The Samaritans – Open Evening

Councillor Mrs Peggy Thomas gave a report to the Council on her visit to the Bridgend Branch of the Samaritans.

Councillor Thomas said that she was impressed with the work of the branch and found her evening both informative and interesting. In turn the Community Council was thanked for its continued and valued support. The Bridgend branch faced considerable challenges in the coming year since it either had to undertake major reconstruction work at its existing premises or decide to move to alternative premises.

The report was noted.

7. **Matters reported for decision**



(a) **Presentation by representatives of DRIVE**

The Council received a presentation from DRIVE, a local charity which provided opportunities for people with learning disabilities.

Mr Rob Botting stated that DRIVE had run a successful horticultural scheme in the grounds of the former Talygarn Rehabilitation Centre for around 15 years.

With the large scale residential development currently taking place at the Centre, it had been necessary for DRIVE to vacate its existing site. Mr Chris Nicholson, managing director for the developers, had agreed to provide DRIVE, with purpose built premises complete with services and road access, free of charge, provided that planning consent could be obtained for a site near the cricket ground.

The representatives sought the support of the Community Council for a planning application for development on the site near the cricket ground. A plan of the site would be submitted to the Community Council in due course.

Members pointed out to the representatives of DRIVE that no planning application had been submitted to the planning authority at that stage. Furthermore, there was an expectation that the Community Council would consider each and every planning application with an open mind and on its merits. It was not possible for the Community Council to commit itself in advance to supporting any application when the details of that application were unknown.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for their presentation. He said that the Council would look forward to receiving details of the planning application.

(b) **Payment of Allowances to Members**

At the request of Members, the Clerk reproduced an extract from the latest edition of Local Council Administration dealing with the payment of allowances to councillors.

It was noted that the new Participation Allowance, intended to replace the allowances related to specific forms of expenditure, was payable to members of "parish councils". Furthermore that a district council's remuneration panel must have made a recommendation about levels of parish councillor's participation allowance.



The Clerk pointed out that the new provisions related to “parish councils” and not community councils. Furthermore, no notification had been received from the Borough Council on levels of participation allowances.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Borough Council and the Welsh Assembly for guidance on the current provisions for the payment of allowances to members of community councils.

(c) **Bus shelter, Llwynypennau, Groesfaen**

The Chairman, Councillor Rea, reported on the anti social behaviour of youths congregating in the bus shelter near Llwynypennau Cottages, Groesfaen.

Councillor Rea stated that the bus shelter was used as a meeting point for youths of the village and that vandalism and several forms of anti social behaviour took place regularly. Residents living in the vicinity of the bus shelter had become increasingly worried and had contacted Councillor Rea to find out what action could be taken to alleviate the problem.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make arrangements for the seat in the bus shelter to be removed.

(d) **Planning applications**

The Council discussed planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ended 22 and 29 November and 6 December, 2002.

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

Application No. 02/1730/10

That the Council is opposed to the application on the grounds that:

- (a) the proposed development is too close to a quarry which is known to have been used for the disposal of hazardous chemicals
- (b) the proposed development is outside the settlement area
- (c) the access road to the development is considered to be too narrow
- (d) if approved, the development would lead to further unwelcome development in the countryside.



(e) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 5 to the Agenda

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

There were no matters reported for decision since the despatch of agendas.

9. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Pontyclun Park and Ride (Westbound)**

The Council received a letter from the Director of Environmental Services setting out the latest information on the outstanding development at the westbound platform of the Pontyclun Railway Station.

The information was noted.

(b) **Post-box, Groesfaen**

The Clerk reported that he had contacted Royal Mail and the Borough Council about the lack of a post-box in Groesfaen.

The information was noted.

(c) **Pontyclun Railway Station**

The Clerk reported that he had again written to Railtrack about the serious accumulation of litter to the rear of both platforms at Pontyclun Railway Station.

The information was noted.

(d) **Dog fouling**

The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted the Borough Council about the erection of a "No dog fouling" sign on the Groesfaen Green.

RESOLVED: That a similar request be made to the Borough Council for a "No dog fouling" sign near the steps on the embankment at Manor Hill, Miskin.

10. The meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.

