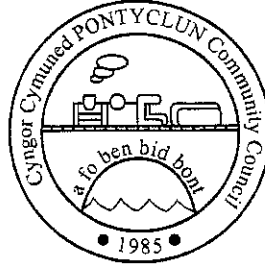


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Pontyclun Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 10 June, 2008.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Ms V A Cale, J G Davies, P Griffiths, M Rea and Ms C Willis

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO Tomkova and eight members of the public for part of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors D Clayton-Jones, J V Huish, Ms S Jenkins, R G Norman and S Rogers

2. **Declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest were received from Members.

3. **Minutes of the Council's Annual Meeting of 14 May, 2008**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 September, 2007 be approved as an accurate record subject to the inclusion of the words "and that a decision be taken at that meeting on the month of the Annual Grants meeting for subsequent years" after the word "July" in minute 10 (i)

4. **Matters arising**

(a) **Calendar of meetings for 2008/09**

Cade A. Willis

RESOLVED: That the Calendar of Meetings for 2008/09 be approved.

(b) **Alternative venues for Council meetings**

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries about the availability and costs of other venues within the Community for holding Community Council meetings.

5. **Minutes of the Community Council's May monthly meeting**

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as an accurate record subject to the substitution of the word "Office" for "Commission" in minute 6(d)(ii).

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **New Members' Code of Conduct – Training**

It was reported that the Borough Council at short notice had cancelled the training course for Members in the new Code of Conduct scheduled for 28 May, 2008.

Councillor Rea advised that he had taken the matter up with the Borough Council's Legal and Democratic Officer, Mr Lucas, who had agreed to make a presentation to Members of the Pontyclun Community Council in the Pontyclun Community Centre.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Rea contact Mr Lucas with a view to arranging the training course for Tuesday, 17 June, 2008, in the Pontyclun Community Centre.

(b) **New Member's Code of Conduct – Public Notice**

The Council received the letter of 3 June, 2008, in which an offer was made by the Borough Council to include the name of the Pontyclun Community Council as a council within the Borough which had adopted the new Model Code of Conduct.

This would have benefit to the Community Council in that it would avoid the need for a separate public advertisement and have the advantage of the new Code being available for inspection by the public during office hours at the Borough Council's headquarters in Clydach Vale.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council agree to its name being included in the advertisement placed by the Borough Council.

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

Councillor Griffiths referred to the independent review of the purchase of land in Brynsadler by the Wales Audit Office.

Councillor Griffiths pointed out that in the event of questions being asked by officers of the Wales Audit Office, Members needed to re-cap on the process which led to the purchase.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange for all Members of the Pontyclun Community Council to be provided with a copy of the file papers.

7. **Police matters**

(a) **Serious crimes**

PCSO Tomkova reported that no serious crimes in the Community had been reported to the police in the previous month.

The report was noted.

(b) **River Ely – removal of litter and debris**

PCSO Tomkova reported that youngsters in the Community had participated in a major clear up of litter and debris on the banks of the river Ely in the last month. The riverbanks were now much cleaner. It was hoped to carry out similar clean-ups at three to four monthly intervals.

Councillor Griffiths said that he was pleased to hear about the progress being made to clear the riverbanks. The initiative had been started by the previous administration.

RESOLVED: That a letter of congratulations be sent to Mr Ben Williams of Rivercare.

RESOLVED:

(c) **Dog fouling**

PCSO Tomkova reported that there was considerable concern among local residents about the incidence of dog fouling along footpaths in the Brynsadler area.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk bring the absence of bins for dog fouling to the attention of the Borough Council with a request that more bins be erected throughout the Community.

(d) **Traffic management**

PCSO Tomkova reported that at a street meeting she had held earlier that evening many residents had complained about the speed of traffic on Cowbridge Road, Llantrisant Road and Heol Miskin, Pontyclun. She was also aware of complaints of speeding vehicles in Llantrisant Road, Groesfaen.

PCSO Tomkova stated that she would be making speeding traffic a priority for the month and she would request more speed checks by the police in these areas.

The report was noted.

(e) **Alleged case of arson in The Hollies**

In response to a question from a Member, PCSO Tomkova reported that the alleged case of arson at The Hollies, Brynsadler was still the subject of investigation by the police.

The report was noted.

(f) **Parking on the footway**

Councillor Cale referred to regular instances of parking on the footway by the drivers of vehicles using the Indian restaurant in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. She asked whether any action had been taken against the offending motorists.

PCSO Tomkova replied that motorists had been warned about the practice on several occasions. Further infringements would result in motorists being booked.

The report was noted.

(g) **Speed restrictions in the vicinity of schools**

The Chairperson, Councillor Willis, referred to a consultation paper issued by the Welsh Assembly Government about the possibility of introducing 20 m.p.h. speed restrictions in the vicinity of all schools.

Councillor Rea stated that he had already made representations to the Borough Council for the erection of traffic signs erected on the new Cefn yr Hendy residential development.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council respond to the circular saying that the Pontyclun Community Council is supportive of the proposal.

(h) July monthly meeting of the Community Council

PCSO Tomkova advised the Council that she was unlikely to be able to attend the Council's July monthly meeting.

The report was noted.

8. Matters reported for decision

(a) Nomination to the Borough Council's Standards Committee

The Council discussed the letter from the Borough Council advising of a vacancy on that council's Standards Committee. Invitations had been extended to community councils to make a nomination to the Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson, Councillor Willis be nominated to the vacancy.

(b) Planning

(Councillor Rea declared an interest in this item of business. He remained in the Council Chamber but did not take part in the Council's deliberations)

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

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

Application No. 08/0759/10

The Council is opposed to this application on the grounds that:

- (i) historically, there has been no residential development in the Talygarn Conservation Area where the site does not make use of the footprint of a former building.
- (ii) if granted, the application would be the forerunner of many other applications for residential consent in this Conservation Area.
- (iii) the Community Council believes that the oversized existing garage has never been used for its stated purpose. The Community Council further believes it was constructed with conversion to residential accommodation in mind.

(c) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 5 to the Council's agenda.

9. **Matter reported for decision since the despatch of agendas**

The Clerk reported receipt of a note from Councillor Jenkins in which she asked whether the Council was happy for her to continue in her role to update the Community Council's website.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Council thank Councillor Jenkins for her work in updating the Council's website.
 - (ii) That provided Councillor Jenkins is agreeable, she be asked to continue to update the website until the proposed Communications Group has reported.

10. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Annual award of grants, 2008**

The Clerk reported that, following the practice in recent years, application forms for grants from the Community Council would be sent to all successful applicants in the previous year. Additional application forms were available from the Clerk.

RESOLVED: That before application forms were distributed, a provision be incorporated into the form asking for an organisation's consent to the publication of its name on the Community Council's website and giving the name of the organisation's contact.

(b) **Signage for the Ivor Woods**

The Clerk reported that an order had been placed for the erection of three signs in the Ivor Woods encouraging the public to enjoy the Woods and seeking residents' cooperation in preserving the unique features of the Wood for all to enjoy.

The Clerk had been informed that the signs would be supplied and erected within a fortnight.

The report was noted.

(c) **South Wales Police Authority**

The Council received details of vacancies for Independent Members on the South Wales Police Authority.

- RESOLVED:**(i) That the Community Council nominates Councillor Rea to one of the vacancies.
- (ii) That details of the vacancies be placed on Community Council noticeboards.

(d) **Hanging baskets and planters**

The Clerk reported that plans for the erection of hanging baskets and the filling of planters in Pontyclun were well advanced. All summer bedding plants were scheduled to be in place by mid June.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) The report be noted.
- (ii) That the Council's thanks be extended to the Handyman for his work.

11. **Deputation of residents**

The Council received a deputation of residents concerned at rumours they had heard about the resurrection of earlier proposals for the construction of a bridge across the river Ely near Brynsadler Mill to enable a landowner to access his land.

Residents understood that if the rumours were true there would need to be involvement of the Community Council. Residents sought clarification on the Community Council's position. Residents were strongly opposed to the construction of a bridge across the river Ely involving the use of land in public ownership.

Residents were assured that the Community Council knew nothing of a proposal to resurrect plans for a bridge across the river Ely. Neither had any information appeared in the weekly planning lists, which the Community Council regularly received, from the Planning Authority.

12. **Exclusion of the press and the public**

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the next item of business on the grounds that it involves legal proceeding or contemplated legal proceeding.

13. **Land at Brynsadler Mill**

The Council discussed correspondence between the Council and its legal adviser.

RESOLVED: That a further letter be sent to the legal adviser to establish whether he wished to continue to act for the Council.

14. **Maesyfelin footbridge**

Councillor Davies advised the Council that the Maesyfelin footbridge across the river Ely was in need of re-painting.

RESOLVED: That a specification for the work be drawn up and tenders invited from appropriate painting contractors.

15. **Highways concerns**

Councillor Davies raised concerns about a number of footways in poor condition and faded "Give Way" signs on the highway in Castan Road and Palalwyf Avenue.

RESOLVED: That the issues be referred to the Highway Authority with an offer from Councillor Davies that he would identify the areas of concern to Highway Authority officers on a walk about of the area.

16. **Blockage of footpath**

Councillor Griffiths reported a fallen tree across the footpath running alongside the former landfill site in Talygarn to the Nant Dyfrgi.

RESOLVED: That the blockage be investigated by the Council's Handyman.

17. **Former Councillor Lane**

During the Council's meeting former Councillor Lane delivered a letter addressed to the Chairperson of the Community Council.

With the Chairperson's permission the Clerk read out the letter. It related to the complaint made to the Ombudsman that Councillor Lane, during his term of office, had breached the Members' Code of Conduct.

RESOLVED: That it be noted that, following appeal, the Ombudsman had decided not to proceed with an investigation into the complaint. The Ombudsman had stated that the breach complained of was not sufficiently serious to warrant investigation. This was contrary to the understanding of former Councillor Lane who appeared to be under the impression that the Ombudsman had found that there was no case to answer.

11. The meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.