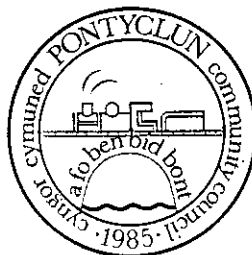


CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTYCLUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
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 Telephone: Llantrisant (0443) 227094



"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 Tuesday, 10 October, 1995.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mr C G Bendle (Chairperson),
 Mr T J Burton, Mr J G Davies, Mr T R J Flood,
 Mr R G Norman and Mr M Rea (for part of meeting)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Inspector Rees and P C Steve Keddle of the South Wales Constabulary and three members of the public for part of the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors Mrs V A Cale, Mr R O Edwards, Mrs M M Griffiths and Mr G Moir

2. Chairperson's business

(a) Postponement of meeting

The Chairperson explained to Members that it had been necessary to postpone the Community Council's meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 4 October because of a public meeting which was being held in the Community Centre. The Chairman felt that the public meeting would be of interest to all Members and he believed that the best course of action was to postpone the meeting of the Community Council for a few days.

The matter was noted.

(b) Opening of the Pontyclun Day Centre

The Chairperson reported that he was pleased to be able to advise that the Pontyclun Day Centre was officially opened on the morning of Saturday, 9 September, 1995. The opening ceremony had been performed by the Mayor of the Borough

1.

Council and had been very well attended. Early indications showed that the Day Centre had been very well received by members of the public.

The report was noted.

3. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 6 September, 1995

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 6 September, 1995, be approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

(a) Heritage Lottery Fund - Ottersbrook Trout Farm

The Clerk reported that he had received substantial information on how to make application for Lottery Funds. He hoped to have made a summary of the salient points for the Council's November monthly meeting. The Clerk advised that the documentation received from the Lottery Fund was available for information to any Member of the Council.

Councillor Norman drew the Council's attention to the status of the Ottersbrook Trout Farm in the Local Plan. He advised that any amendment to the status could not be effected until the publication of the next Plan.

The matter was noted.

(b) Ground instability concerns - Cefn yr Hendy Estate

A full report was given on the public meeting convened by the Taff Ely Borough Council on Wednesday, 4 October, 1995, to discuss residents concerns about ground instability on the Cefn yr Hendy Estate.

A well attended meeting had heard a consultant engaged by the Borough Council explain that the problems associated with the Hendy Mine adit were entirely separate from the problems experienced elsewhere on the Estate and associated with underlying geology.

The Consultant's investigations had revealed differences in underlying strata on the Cefn yr Hendy Estate with certain sections being more prone to ground movement than others. The movements which had occurred could be linked to the

2. 

escape of water from defective drainage systems washing away soil "fines" The Borough Council proposed carrying out extensive investigations to identify defective drains.

The Consultant's view was that the problems being experienced on the Cefn yr Hendy Estate could not be linked with the Hendy Mine adit or the adjacent new residential housing site.

The Consultant and officers from the Borough Council responded to a number of questions from the public. The meeting ended with an offer being made to Cefn yr Hendy residents to establish a joint liaison committee with Borough Council representatives in order to promote good communication between the respective parties.

The report was noted.

(c) An Environmental Plan for the Community

The Clerk referred to the Council's decision to prepare a questionnaire for distribution to all homes in the Community. He advised Members that Councillor Mrs M Griffiths had undertaken work on the questionnaire and had asked that the draft questionnaire be brought to Members' attentions for their preliminary views. The Clerk tabled Councillor Griffiths' draft questionnaire.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk place the matter on the Agenda for the Council's November meeting.

(d) Community Council's Bank Mandate

The Clerk explained that the terms of the Community Council's Bank Mandate with Lloyds Bank required the signature of two Members of the Community Council in addition to the signature of the Clerk on every cheque issued by the Council.

It was necessary to update the Mandate with the signatures of the Members who had been elected to office following the May elections. Members present provided sample signatures for the amendment to the Mandate.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk place the matter on the Agenda for the Council's November meeting to obtain the sample signatures of the four Members not present.



(e) Application for a Transfer of the Justices Licence
"The Barn, Mwyndy, Pontyclun

The Clerk informed the Council that he had received notification that the date for the hearing had been postponed again. A new hearing date had been scheduled for 10 November, 1995.

The matter was noted.

(f) Extended car park adjacent to the Pontyclun R F C

The Chairperson commented that he had taken the opportunity to examine the extended car park in the vicinity of the Pontyclun R F C. While it was pleasing to see additional car parking spaces being made available he was disturbed to note that the complaint referred to at the last Council meeting, that access to the children's playarea had been compromised, was a valid one. He failed to see how anyone with a pushchair could gain access to the children's playarea while there were vehicles parked near the access point.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council await the response of the Borough Council.

5. Notice of Motion - Councillor T J Burton

Councillor T J Burton drew the Council's attention to the state of the railway embankment adjacent to the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

Councillor Burton pointed out that there were some very positive advantages to be gained in clearing the embankment of undergrowth and hoardings. There would be a significant improvement in visibility for drivers joining the Llantrisant Road for they would get early warning of the numerous high sided vehicles passing through Pontyclun. The proposed clearance would also deter car theft since suspicious activities in the car park to the rear of the public conveniences would be in view of the public.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the appropriate department of British Rail.

6. Notice of Motion - Councillor T J Burton

Councillor T J Burton commented that there had been several instances of visitors to Pontyclun having to stop their vehicles to seek directions to local

playing fields. Councillor Burton said this indicated a strong need for a sign indicating "Playingfields" to be erected in the vicinity of the railway bridge in Pontyclun denoting the route to the Windsor Field.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pursue the matter with the Borough Council.

7. Late applications for financial assistance

The Council discussed the schedule of late applications for financial assistance.

RESOLVED: That the following grants be made:

	£	p
Pontyclun A T C	50	00
Pontyclun Childminders' Support Group	50	00
* Llantrisant and Town Ward Age Concern	75	00
Babell C M Church, Groesfaen	100	00

Notes:

- (I) Councillor R G Norman declared his interest in the application prefixed * and took no part in the Council's deliberations. The necessary entry was made in the Register of Disclosures
- (ii) In awarding the above grants the Council took into account the advice given by the District Auditor on the changes made to Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972, by Sections 36 to 38 of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989. In particular, whether:
- (a) the payments were of direct benefit
 - (b) the benefits were in proportion to the payment made
 - (c) the organisation's own resources were sufficient and other potential income considered including other local councils' and
 - (d) the money was not being used to circumvent any limitations on specific powers
 - (e) the impact of grants and of setting a precedent which would result in applications from other groups



8. Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

(a) Local Government Reorganisation -
Model Code of Practice on
Consultation with Community Councils

The Council received the Model Code of Practice on Consultation with Community Councils distributed by the East Glamorgan and Gwent Area Committee of the Association.

RESOLVED: That the Code of Practice be noted.

(b) Course for newly elected councillors

The Council received details of a short course designed for newly elected councillors.

RESOLVED: That the courses be noted.

9. Highway and parking problems in the vicinity of Station Terrace, Pontyclun

The Council received a letter from Mr L H Bailey, 4 Station Terrace, Pontyclun, about highway and parking problems in the vicinity of Station Terrace, Pontyclun

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

10. Highway and parking problems in Pontyclun

The Council received a letter from Mr H J Smith, 7 Ffordd Talygarn, Pontyclun, about highway and parking problems in Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk respond to Mr Smith acknowledging the issues raised and highlighting the actions taken by the Community Council to address the problems.

11. Installation of a new asphalt plant - Forest Wood Quarry, Pontyclun

Mrs O J Bufton of "Highwinds" Talygarn Close, Talygarn, addressed the Council about the problems she had experienced over several years as a result of airborne pollution. Mrs Bufton outlined the nature of the problems and spoke of her determination to establish the source of the pollution. Eventually, she had been able to trace the pollution emissions from Forest Wood Quarry.

Mrs Bufton had earlier involved the Inspectorate of Pollution but that organisation, after sending staff to visit her home to examine affected fruit and

was foliage stated that the symptoms were due to "bloom" Latterly, the Taff Ely Borough Council had proven to be more helpful and had established monitoring points in her garden. Mrs Bufton had noticed a measurable improvement in the amount of airborne pollution since the Borough Council actively monitoring emissions from the Quarry although she was of the view that there was still a reluctance on the part of the Borough Council to institute legal action.

Mrs Bufton was disappointed that, in considering the application for planning consent for the installation of a new asphalt plant at the Quarry, the Mid Glamorgan County Council, as the planning authority, had failed to obtain the views of Talygarn residents on the proposals. When she had asked an officer of the County Council to explain why local residents had not been consulted over the proposals she had been told that a notice had been displayed in the vicinity of the Quarry and a further notice inside the post office in Brynsadler. Mrs Bufton had no doubt that the majority of residents were ignorant of the Quarry proposals.

The Council congratulated Mrs Bufton on her determined stance.

- RESOLVED: (I) That the Council write to the County Planning Officer to express its concern that it had failed to seek the views of the Community Council in determining the application.
- (ii) That the Council urge the County Council, as a matter of urgency, to establish a Quarry Liaison Committee where matters affecting Community residents could be taken up with Quarry management.
- (iii) That copies of the Community Council's letter to the County Council and Mrs Bufton's correspondence be sent for information to the Llanharry Community Council and the Taff Ely Borough Council.

12. Mineral Local Plan for Limestone in Mid Glamorgan

The Clerk explained that on 15 September he had received a letter from the County Planning Officer asking for confirmation of the Council's earlier views on the Local Plan for Limestone, and asking whether the Community Council wished to be heard at the public Local Inquiry. The County Planning Officer had stated that he required a response by 27 September, that is, before the date of the Community Council's October monthly meeting.

In the circumstances, the Clerk had provided copies of the County Council's correspondence to the local Members for the Miskin Ward and sought their



views. There was agreement that the Council's views had been fairly reflected and that there was little need for the Council to be represented at the public Inquiry.

Councillor Burton expressed his reservations that whatever the outcome of the Local Plan for Limestone it was open to the new Unitary Authority from 1 April, 1996, to amend the Plan as it thought fit.

RESOLVED: That the actions of the Clerk be approved.

13. Breach of planning control, Talygarn

The Council noted the reply of the Borough Council to earlier correspondence from the Community Council in which it was agreed that the owner of a field in Talygarn had sited a container without the benefit of planning permission. It was further noted that the owner had been advised that if it is intended to retain the container a planning application should be submitted. Failure to submit an application for planning consent would result in the matter being reported to the Enforcement Sub Committee.

14. Application for financial assistance

The Council considered an application for financial assistance towards the cost of staging the 1996 National Eisteddfod of Wales.

RESOLVED: That a donation of £50.00 be made.

15. Planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for Weeks Ended 25 August, 8, 15, 22 and 29 September, 1995

RESOLVED: That the applications be noted.

16. Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix No. 11 to the Agenda.

17. Reports from Members

(a) Hendy Mine Adit

Councillor Norman reported that the Borough Council had engaged contractors to carry out repair works to the Hendy Mine Adit. The work had been carried out without any unexpected problems and the Borough Council was satisfied that the adit was safe. An annual inspection of the adit was planned.

The report was noted.

(b) Straying horses in the Community

Councillor Norman reported that the problem of straying horses in the Community had recently been discussed at a meeting of the Borough Council's Straying Animals Working Party. It appeared that the owner of the horses had taken advantage of a loophole in the law since research showed that the police, the Borough Council, the Royal Society for the Protection of Animals and the National Farmers Union had little powers, if any, to take effective action against the owner. Furthermore, local farmers were very reluctant to assist in moving the horses since they feared retribution. In the meantime, authorisation for the Borough Council to spend money to repair fences on the Cefn yr Hendy Estate had been given.

The latest news was that the offending horses had been taken away from Pontyclun on Wednesday, 4 October. It was hoped that they were not returned.

RESOLVED: (I) That the report be noted.

(ii) That the Community Council be asked to check the public footpaths on the Cefn yr Hendy Estate to ensure that they were free from all obstructions.

(c) Minerals Local Plan for Limestone
Quarrying in Mid Glamorgan

Councillor Norman reported that, in response to a request by the Borough Council, the County Council had refused to extend the safeguarding zone around the Hendy Quarry, Miskin for the purposes of the Minerals Local Plan for Limestone in Mid Glamorgan.

The report was noted.

(d) Mwyndy Industrial Area

Councillor Norman reported that the Borough Council was aware of significant interest being shown in development at the Mwyndy Industrial Estate. The area was to be the subject of a detailed feasibility report.



As part of the study the unsatisfactory access to Mwyndy Terrace would also be taken into account. Hopefully the access could be re-aligned.

The report was noted.

(e) Planning appeal

Councillor Norman advised that a planning appeal would shortly be held to determine the application for planning consent to develop land opposite the Corner Park Garage, Mwyndy. There was a strong belief that consent would be granted because the County Council had already made preliminary provision to carry out an alteration to the highway at the traffic lights at the Corner Park Garage. Councillor Norman stated that he held strong views about public money being spent by the County Council to assist a private development.

The report was noted.

(f) Vandalism in the vicinity of the Pontyclun RFC clubhouse

Councillor Norman reported that he was disturbed about incidents of stone throwing by youths in the vicinity of the Pontyclun R F C. The lanterns of two lighting columns had been vandalised. Unfortunately the public would suffer twofold as there would be dark areas on the footpath along the Windsor Field and the cost of replacement lanterns would be met out of the public purse. Councillor Norman was hopeful that the Borough Council would bear the cost of repairs rather than the Community Council.

The report was noted.

(g) "No fouling" sign

Councillor Davies asked for the erection of a "No Fouling" sign in the lane to the rear of No.11 Castan Road, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk request the Borough Council to erect a sign.

(h) Off street lighting, High Street, Brynsadler

Councillor Davies referred to the report he made at an earlier meeting and asked whether a light column could be erected in High Street, Brynsadler.



RESOLVED: That after the views of residents had been sought, the Clerk obtain an estimate of the cost of erecting one light column.

(l) Overgrown trees, Heol Miskin

Councillor Davies pointed out that foliage on trees near the brow of the hill at the junction of Heol Miskin and Clun Avenue, Pontyclun, had resulted in the illumination from three light columns to greatly reduced and one road sign to be partly obscured.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matters up with the County Council.

(j) Deep pothole, Maelog Close, Pontyclun

Councillor Davies drew the Council's attention to a deep and dangerous pothole in Maelog Close, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk report the matter to the County Council.

(k) Lack of Transport - Councillor Burton

Councillor Burton reported that his car was off the road, temporarily, and that through his lack of transport he would not be able to be as active in his duties as normal. Nevertheless, he would be attending the meeting of the Purolite Joint Liaison Committee scheduled for Wednesday, 11 October.

The report was noted.

(l) Broken glass in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun

Councillor Burton spoke of his concern at the amount of broken glass on the pavements and in the highway in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun. The area outside the Bute Arms seemed particularly affected.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the County and Borough Councils to seek advice on what measures could be taken to prevent the problems occurring.

(m) Erection of unauthorised business advertisements

Councillor Burton expressed his concern at the practice of the



proprietors of the Bute Arms in erecting posters on lamp posts advertising events at the public house. Councillor Flood shared Councillor Burton's concerns and stated that it was improper for commercial premises to resort to unauthorised advertising to promote their businesses. Councillor Flood quoted three local businesses which had resorted to unauthorised advertising by the erection of signs along the highways namely, "Butterflies Boutique", Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, "Katy's Pine Shop", Ely Valley Road, Talbot Green, and a company advertising replacement UPVC windows where a telephone number was given.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk obtain an authoritative statement on the legal position of such advertisements and that the statement be forwarded to the proprietors of the offending businesses.


(n) Borough Council's Enforcement Committee

Councillor Rea referred to the report he had made at an earlier meeting of the Community Council where a fence had been erected in Groesfaen without the benefit of planning permission. Council's Enforcement Committee and Councillor Rea had been surprised to find that it was proposed that no further action be taken in the matter. Following further representations to the Borough Council there was a strong likelihood that the decision of the Enforcement Committee would be reconsidered.

The report was noted.

(o) Police matters

- (I) P C Steve Keddle introduced the new police inspector for the area, Inspector Rees. Inspector Rees talked about his career in the police force and of how, recently, when the force was being reorganised in the Caerphilly area, that he was given the opportunity of transferring to the Gwent Constabulary or remaining with the South Wales Constabulary. He had opted to remain with the South Wales force and had subsequently been transferred from Caerphilly to Llantrisant. He welcomed a return to an area where he had served some years earlier.



(ii) Monitoring of traffic speed

P C Steve Keddle advised the Council that the police radar team had been active in the Community of late and had carried out checks on the A4119 in Groesfaen and at various points around Pontyclun. The exercise had resulted in a number of drivers being cautioned and others being reported. The monitoring exercises would continue.

The Council expressed its gratitude to the police in its contribution to reducing the speed of traffic passing through the Community and, while understanding the difficulties faced in selecting a suitable place to monitor, wondered whether there was any possibility of monitoring being carried out in the shopping area of Pontyclun on a Sunday.

P C Keddle responded that he would pass on the Community Council's request to the police Traffic Sector.

(iii) Car park sign

P C Keddle advised that action need be taken to draw the public's attention to the presence of parking facilities in the vicinity of the new Community/Day Centre.

Councillor Norman replied that a "car park" sign had been erected by the Borough Council but that there were plans to erect a prominent, combined "car park/Community Centre/Day Centre" sign shortly.

(iv) Concrete "eggs" - layby in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun

P C Steve Keddle enquired whether the Community Council had any further news about the intentions for the concrete "eggs" in the layby in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

Councillor Norman stated that a recent site

meeting had taken place with Mr Barry Jones, the Borough Engineer and Surveyor for the Rhondda/Cynon/Taff Unitary Authority. It was likely that the "eggs" would come within the scope of the redevelopment planned for Cowbridge Road.

(v) Closed circuit television in Pontyclun

Councillor Norman advised that the Borough Council had set aside £30,000 for the provision of closed circuit television in Pontyclun. The camera sites had yet to be decided.

(vi) Main line railway

Councillor Norman advised that he had observed several children playing near the main line railway in Pontyclun and Miskin.

Pc Keddle agreed to report the matter to the British Transport Police.

18. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Off street lighting

The Clerk reported that a site meeting had taken place with an engineer from the County Council on the feasibility of installing lighting in three backlanes in the centre of Pontyclun. It had been estimated that, taking into account capital costs and the cost of providing electricity supplies, each column would cost approximately £800.00. In total eleven columns would be required for the three lanes.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk inform Mr Keith Russell of 6 Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun, that the Community Council was unable to proceed with the installation of lighting in the three lanes identified during the current financial year. The Council would be prepared to reconsider the proposal when finance became available.

(b) Chainsaw training

The Clerk advised the Council that under the Health and Safety



at Work Etc Act, 1974, a duty was placed on all employers to give training to their employees in the use of any mechanical equipment. The Clerk had arranged for the Council's Handyman to undergo training in the use of a chainsaw at the Pencoed College.

The matter was noted.

(c) Proposal to re-site wayside seat

The Clerk reported that he had received a telephone call from a member of staff in the Highways Department of the County Council to say that while it was agreed that the wayside seat opposite the Pontyclun Post Office should be re-sited it was not possible to give permission for the seat to be located outside the Midland Chambers at present since other matters affecting the area were under consideration.

The matter was noted.

(d) Coedcae Lane Industrial area

The Clerk advised that he had received a telephone call from an officer in the Highways Department of the County Council to say that in principle it was agreed that better signposting for heavy vehicles leaving the M4 and seeking the industrial estates in the vicinity of Coedcae Lane. Consideration was being given to the erection of signs "Pontyclun Industrial Area" in the vicinity of the Castell Mynach Inn, the roundabout on the Talbot Green By pass and at the traffic lights near the Purolite plant. However, the proposal needed further consideration to enable provision for those industrial units which were sited in Pontyclun.

The matter was noted.

(e) Licensing - "The Barn" - Mwyndy

The Clerk advised that the revised date for the hearing of the licensing application was 10 November, 1995.

The matter was noted.

(f) Samaritans, Bridgend Branch - "Thank you evening"

The Clerk advised of an invitation from the Bridgend Branch of



the Samaritans to attend a "Thank you evening" at the Mayor's Parlour at the Ogwr Borough Council Offices on Friday, 20 October, 1995.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson and his wife be nominated to represent the Council at the function.

(g) Wales Association of Community and Town Councils - 1995 Annual Conference at Aberystwyth, 14 October, 1995

The Clerk informed the Council that the Council's delegate to the 1995 Annual Conference, Councillor Mrs M Griffiths, had contacted him to say that due to another commitment she would not be able to attend the Conference. An invitation was extended any Member of the Council to attend the Conference in place of Councillor Griffiths.

No Member took up the offer.

(h) Ownership of land at the rear of the Windsor Hotel, Pontyclun

The Clerk distributed copies of a letter received from the Borough Council enquiring if any Member had information on the ownership of a plot of land highlighted in red.

RESOLVED: That while no Member had certain knowledge of ownership of the land, the Borough Council be requested to contact Dr Graham Moses in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun, since it was believed that he may have knowledge of the owner.

(I) Spring flowering bulbs

The Council decided that it would again purchase spring flowering bulbs for planting in the grass verges in the Community.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange the purchase of 6 sacks of spring flowering bulbs.

(j) "No fouling" sign

Councillor Burton advised that there was a need for a "No fouling" sign at both ends of Maelog Close, Pontyclun.



RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council asking for a "No fouling" sign to be erected at both ends of Maelog Close, Pontyclun.

19. The meeting ended at 10.45 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. J. Bond', written in a cursive style.