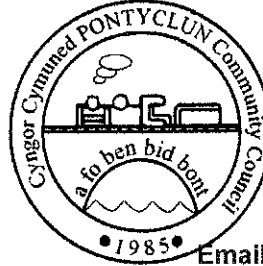


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Minutes of the September monthly meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the vestry of the Babel Chapel, Llantrisant Road, Groesfaen, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 11 September, 2012.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Len Arthur, Ann Bennett, Len Forsdyke, Gwynn Griffith, Margaret Griffiths, Paul Griffiths, Janis Jones, and Brendan O'Reilly

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor John Bowman of the Llanharan Community Council
and one member of the public

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Tony Lane, Gordon Norman and Huw Rees.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations of interest were made:

Brendan O'Reilly for agenda item 16(a) - "I am a trustee of the Pontyclun Community Trust"

Councillor Len Arthur for agenda item 12(vi) - "I am Chair of Promo Cymru"

Councillor Ann Bennett for agenda item 12(i) - "I am a member of the Community Centre Management Committee"

Councillor Margaret Griffiths for agenda items 5(c) - "Notice on Noticeboards", 15(e) - "I am a member of the Borough Council's Development Control Committee" and 16 (a) " - I am a member of the Pontyclun Community Trust"

Councillor Paul Griffiths for agenda items 15(e) – "I am a member of the Borough Council's Development Control Committee" and 16(a) "I am a member of the Pontyclun Community Trust"

Councillor Ken L Forsdyke for agenda item 16(a) – "I am Chairman of the Pontyclun Community Trust"

Councillor Janis Jones for agenda item 16(a) – "I am a trustee of the Pontyclun Community Trust"

3. **Councillor John Bowman**

The Chair gave a warm welcome to Councillor John Bowman, Chairman of the Llanharan Community Council.

Councillor Bowman had been invited to the meeting to observe the way in which the Pontyclun Community Council conducted its business.

4. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 10 July, 2012**

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as an accurate record subject to clarification that the reference in minute 7(b)(ii) to "leaflets on noticeboards" referred to leaflets on the manufacture of noticeboards.

5. **Matters arising**

(a) **Liaison with Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Gymunedol, Llantrisant**

RESOLVED: That this item of business be deferred and considered later in the meeting with the report of the Working Group on Community Engagement.

(b) **Proposed additional noticeboards**

RESOLVED: That this item of business be deferred and considered later in the meeting with the report of the Working Group on Community Engagement.

(c) **Noticeboards**

RESOLVED: That this item of business be deferred to a future meeting.

(d) **Chair's Chain of Office**

The Clerk reported that it had been the practice over a number of years to inscribe the name of the Chair for each year on the links on the Chain of Office.

Inscriptions had not been made for a number of years and the Clerk sought the instructions of the Council for bringing the inscriptions up to date.

RESOLVED: That arrangements be made for the inscriptions to be brought up to date.

(e) **Induction course for Members**

The Clerk reported that provisional arrangements had been made with One Voice Wales for an induction course for Members to be held in the Minor Hall of the Bethel Baptist Church, commencing at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 3 October, 2012.

The fee for the course was £350.00 plus the travelling expenses of the presenter and the course was available for up to 20 participants.

RESOLVED: That the Council confirm the arrangements and that three surplus places be offered, free of charge, to each of the neighbouring community councils of Llantrisant, Llanharan and Llanharry.

(f) **Subsidence at the Community Centre car park**

The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted the Borough Council several weeks earlier to notify of the subsidence on the grass verge adjacent to the leased car park.

The Clerk had pointed out to the Borough Council that there was a possibility of the subsidence extending into the parking areas and the possibility of injury to car park users.

RESOLVED: That a chaser letter be sent to the Borough Council asking for remedial work to be carried out.

(g) **Report on the Council's computer**

KCF

The Clerk reported that under the provisions of the Charter signed with the Borough Council he had sought the Borough Council's assistance in improving the performance of the Community Council's computer.

A free assessment had been carried out by the Borough Council's ICT staff and a recommendation received that increased RAM was needed. The Clerk had arranged for this work and an improvement in speed had resulted.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(h) **Proposed Forest Wood Liaison Committee**

In response to a question about the proposed formation of a Forest Wood Liaison Committee the Clerk responded that, due to other commitments, he had not been able to progress this matter.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

6. **Minutes of the Council's Special Meeting of 17 July, 2012**

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as an accurate record subject to the name of Councillor Arthur being deleted from the list of Members present at the meeting.

7. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

8. **Minutes of the Council's Special Meeting of 27 July, 2012**

Before any discussion on the minutes the Clerk circulated copies of an e-mail and attachments received by him from Councillor Lane the previous evening.

A discussion took place.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's Special Meeting of 27 July, 2012 be approved as an accurate record.

9. **Matters arising**

Retirement of the Clerk

RESOLVED: That the Council note the wish of the Clerk in declining the proposal to hold a function to mark his retirement.

10. **Minutes of the Council's Special Meeting of 16 August, 2012**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's Special Meeting of 16 August be approved as an accurate record.

11. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

12. **Reports from Working Groups**

(i) (a) **Working Group 1 - Administration**

(Councillor Bennett vacated the Council chamber for this item of business declaring a personal and prejudicial interest as a member of the Management Committee of the Pontyclun Community Centre)

The Council discussed the report of the Working Group dated 29 August, 2012, and the later report from the Interview Panel on the short listing of applicants for the post of Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the reports be adopted.

- (b) The Clerk advised the Council that while his date of retirement from the Council would be 30 November, 2012, he would be taking annual leave from 7 November, 2012, to 30 November, 2012.

RESOLVED: That the position be noted.

(ii) **Working Group 2 – Community Engagement**

The Council discussed the report of the Working Group.

RESOLVED: That the report needed more work and at this stage should be accepted as a piece of work in progress.

Councillor Janis Jones left the meeting at this point

(iii) **Working Group 3 – The Local Economy**

The Council discussed the report of the Group and accepted that while many of the proposals were very worthwhile the projected timescales would change.

The Group believed that the Community Council should work with local businesses on a "buy local" campaign and

investigate the possibility of bringing gas and electricity consumers together with the possibility of obtaining better supply deals

In order to make the centre of Pontyclun more attractive it was reported that a meeting with a landscape architect had taken place and that her approach was interesting. The architect had offered to carry out work in the centre of Pontyclun for a fee of £700.

Councillor Griffiths indicated that he would write to Network Rail about using the railway station to promote Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Group's report and proposals be approved and that authority be given for the engagement of the landscape architect for the sum of £700.

(iv) **Working Group 4 – The Local Environment**

Councillor Bennett reported that the Group were pursuing a number of initiatives involving litter bins and dog bins.

Of particular concern, too, was the condition of the mortar binding the dressed stone on the bridge carrying the A4222 across the river Clun. The mortar had deteriorated in a number of places with the result that stone was falling on to the pavement and being thrown into the river Clun by students of Y Pant Comprehensive school.

RESOLVED: (i) That the report be approved.
(ii) That the Clerk contact the Borough Council to request repair work to the stonework.

(v) **Working Group 5 – Social & Cultural Activities**

Councillor Margaret Griffiths presented a verbal report and offered an apology to Councillor Griffith for not inviting him to the last meeting of the Group.

It was reported that the Group had a number of ideas for promoting social and cultural activities within the Community and that her verbal report should be taken as a work in progress report.

Foremost were the possibilities of holding festivals and a cinema club.

The Group also believed that there was a strong case to be made for circulating a questionnaire to establish the public's needs.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and that authority be given to draft a questionnaire.

(vi) **Working Group 6 – Activities with Young People**

The Council discussed the reports of the Working Group dated 3 July, 2012, 20 August, 2012, and the schedule of progress.

RESOLVED: That the reports be adopted.

13. **Residents' concerns**

There were no matters raised by members of the public under this item of business.

14. **Police matters**

(a) **Reports from the police**

The Clerk reported that PC Mike Perry had contacted him to say that he was unable to attend the meeting to present the crime report for the previous month.

PC Perry would ensure that an e-mail copy of the report was sent to the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk circulate the report by e-mail to all Members.

(b) **Reports from Members**

There were no reports from Members.

15. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Invitation to visit the Borough Council's CCTV Control Room at Sardis House, Pontypridd**

RESOLVED: That Councillor Bennett accompany Councillors Paul and Margaret Griffiths on the visit.

(b) **Non e-mail Member of the Council**

RESOLVED: That Councillor Bennett arrange for Councillor Norman to be provided with a hard copy of e-mail exchanges between Members where those exchanges involve the whole Council.

(c) **Open Day Showcase for Pontyclun Bosom Pals**

RESOLVED: That the Council be represented at the event by Brendan O'Reilly.

(d) **Footpath connecting Brynsadler with Llanharry**

Brendan O'Reilly gave a verbal report on the obstructions on the footpath connecting Brynsadler with Llanharry.

That part of the footpath which lay within the Pontyclun Community Council's area was a designated Public Right of Way but it was of short length and the remaining part of the footpath contained several obstacles for walkers.

It appeared that a report to the Borough Council some time earlier about obstructions on the footpath had failed to identify any obstacles but complaints continued to be received from members of the public.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange a further site meeting with the Borough Council's Footpaths Officer and Brendan O'Reilly to discuss a way forward.

(e) **Planning**

(Councillors Margaret and Paul Griffiths declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in this item of business as members of the Borough Council's Development Control Committee. They elected to vacate the Council chamber)

(i) **Weekly Lists**

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

RESOLVED: That no comments be made to the Planning Authority on the applications in the Weekly Lists.

(ii) **New Town Centre**

- (ii) That a copy of Mrs Mudd's letter be forwarded to the Pontyclun Action Group for inclusion in Pontyclun News as a warning to other pet owners to be vigilant.
- (iii) That a copy of Mrs Mudd's letter also be displayed in Community Council noticeboards as a warning to local pet owners to be vigilant

17. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Lease of Council owned land**

The Council received the Land Registry document confirming the registration of a lease in favour of the Pontyclun Ward Community Trust for land in the Community Council's ownership in Brynsadler.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

(b) **Good Councillor's Guide**

Members of the Council confirmed receipt of copies of the Good Councillor's Guide as an aid to performing the duties as councillors on the Pontyclun Community Council.

(c) **One Voice Wales**

(i) **2012 Annual Conference**

The Council received copies of the motions due for debate at the Annual Conference due to be held on 13 October, 2012.

RESOLVED: That the motions for debate be noted.

(ii) **"The Voice"**

The Council received copies of One Voice Wales's circular letter drawing attention to their latest edition of "The Voice".

A copy of "The Voice" was available from the Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

(d) **Borough Council's Standards Committee**

The Council received notification of the appointment of the new community councils' representative on the Borough Council's Standards Committee.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(e) **Public conveniences, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun**

The Council received a letter from Mr John Dilworth of School Street, Pontyclun, congratulating the Community Council on the refurbishment of the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

Mr Dilworth was also pleased that the Council had not chosen to install an automatic public convenience since experience had shown that they were mechanically unreliable.

RESOLVED: That Mr Dilworth's comments be noted.

18. The meeting ended at 10.50 p.m.



A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the date '9/10/12' written in a similar style.