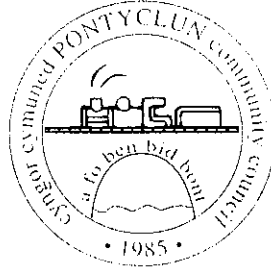


Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

Clerc I'r Cyngor
 J.H.G. Lewis, A.C.I.S., D.M.A.
 "Mandalay"
 Heol Bontfaen
 Talygarn
 Pontyclun
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**Pontyclun Community Council**

Clerk to the 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 Wednesday, 12 May, 1999

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mrs V A Cale, J G Davies, R Edwards,
 Mrs M Griffiths and R G Norman,

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P C Steve Kettle, for part of the meeting, and one member of the public

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Bendle, Flood and Shackell.

2. **Chairperson**

In the absence of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, Councillor Norman occupied the Chair.

3. **Accident to Member**

Councillor Norman reported that Councillor Bendle had suffered an accident while cycling in aid of charity. While the Councillor Bendle was understood to be making a good recovery following the incident he had been badly shaken.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange to send Councillor Bendle the Community Council's best wishes for a speedy recovery.

4. **Congratulations**

Councillor Edwards wished to offer his congratulations to those Members of

the Community Council who had been elected to the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council at the elections held on 6 May, 1999. The Clerk added that following a recent conversation with Councillor Bendle he, Councillor Bendle, also wished to offer his congratulations to the successful Community Council Members.

5. **Chairperson's business**

There were no items of Chairperson's business.

6. **Police matters**

(a) **Speed detection figures**

P C Keddle provided the Clerk with details of speed detection figures in Rhondda Cynon Taff for February, 1999

RESOLVED: That the Clerk provide a copy of the figures to all Members of the Council.

(b) **Licensing meeting**

P C Keddle thanked the Community Council for its recent letter offering apologies for its failure to send a representative to a joint between the police and local licensees.

(c) **Pontyclun Primary School**

The Chairperson, Councillor Norman, drew P C Keddle's attention to a recent act of vandalism at the Pontyclun Primary School where several panes of glass had been broken during the previous evening.

The matter was noted by P C Keddle.

(d) **Manpower at the Talbot Green Police Station**

P C Keddle advised the Council that he would need to carry out his duties from the Talbot Green office for some time and would be unlikely to be present in the Pontyclun office for the foreseeable future. The change had been brought about by the transfer of another officer from the Talbot Green office to carry out other duties within the police service.

The Council was disappointed with the news as it seemed that whenever additional resources were required, the Talbot Green

police station was usually the station where those resources were sought.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the Clerk send a letter to Chief Superintendent Jones of the Rhondda Cynon Taff Division conveying the Council's disappointment that police resources at Talbot Green had been further depleted.
- (ii) That a copy of the letter be sent to the Chairman of the Police Committee.
- (iii) That a copy of the letter also be sent to Dr Kim Howells, MP.

(e) **Mobile telephone usage**

Councillor Edwards drew attention to the increasing practice of the drivers of heavy lorries passing through Pontyclun in using mobile telephones while driving. Councillor Edwards stated that he had noted at least half a dozen drivers following this dangerous practice recently and he was fearful of the consequences for pedestrians and other vehicle drivers should the mobile phone users lose concentration when driving.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That Members be encouraged to take the registration numbers of heavy goods vehicles where drivers had been observed using mobile telephones and forwarding the information to the police.
- (ii) That the Clerk write to the manager of the Pioneer Quarry pointing out that the practice of drivers using mobile phones while driving is illegal and that offending drivers would be reported to the police.

(f) **Speed of vehicles in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Davies pointed out to P C Kettle that the speed of vehicles travelling along Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, was again causing concern to residents. Councillor Davies asked that further monitoring be carried out by the police speed detection team.

The matter was noted by P C Kettle.

(g) **Forecourt, public conveniences, Pontyclun**

Councillor Davies advised that a hot dog vendor was regularly positioning his vehicle on part of the newly concreted forecourt outside the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Borough Council for permission to instal concrete bollards immediately outside the concreted area to prevent any damage to the newly replaced forecourt to the public conveniences.

7. **Minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 7 April, 1999**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 7 April, 1999, be approved as an accurate record.

8. **Matters arising**

(a) **Proposed siting of planters**

The Clerk advised the Council that this item had been deferred from the two previous meetings in the absence of Councillor Flood.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Davies contact Councillor Flood to establish whether he had been able to progress the design and positioning of the proposed planters.

(b) **Possibility of the installation of CCTV**

The Clerk advised that he was still awaiting a report from BT on the potential costs of the installation of fibre optic cables to support CCTV for Pontyclun.

RESOLVED: That the matter be deferred to the Council's next meeting.

(c) **Public Meeting**

Councillor Griffiths reminded the Council that at its monthly meeting in April the Pontypridd and Rhondda Housing Associations had presented a report about community and youth needs in Pontyclun. The report had been based on responses to a questionnaire circulated in Pontyclun.

It was considered that the issues in the report required further discussion before considering future action. It had been decided that it would be appropriate to call a public meeting to discuss the issues and that the meeting would be held in the Pontyclun Community Centre at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 26 May, 1999. An invitation to attend the meeting was extended to all Members of the Council.

It was planned that representatives of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council would be present in order that advice could be obtained on the possibility of European Funding.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

9. **Disabled access to the Ivor Woods, Brynsadler**

The Council discussed the letter of 8 April, 1999, from Mr Peter Cloke, Core Operations Manager, Groundwork Merthyr & Rhondda Cynon Taff. The letter followed up an informal presentation given to the Community Council by Mr Cloke at the Council's meeting of 7 April, 1999. It gave proposals and costs for the creation of a disabled access into the Ivor Woods, Brynsadler.

The Council was surprised at the estimated cost of the proposals, especially as £3,000 appeared to have been provided for costs to be incurred by the highway authority. The Council believed that as the existing right of way into the Ivor Woods was already a highway authority responsibility there was significant scope for working in partnership, limiting costs and giving best value to the public.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact that Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering to acquaint him of the proposals and inviting him to work with the Community Council towards providing a disabled access to the Ivor Woods.

10. **Corporate Plan**

The Council received the letter of April, 1999, from the Chief Executive of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, in which he set out the Borough Council's proposals for its first corporate plan.

The Chief Executive advised that the Plan set out ambitious goals and would only be achieved with the help of a wide range of community groups. It was important that the views of "stakeholders" were taken into account before the Plan is finalised.

To progress the Plan the Borough Council had commissioned Market Research Wales, an independent market research agency to conduct a series of informal discussions with groups of members of local communities. All information received by the Borough Council would be treated in confidence and only aggregate results from all groups would be presented to the Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the Chief Executive's letter be noted.

11. **Blasting at Forest Wood Quarry, Pontyclun**

The Council received a copy of a letter sent by the Llanharry Community Council to the Director of Planning at the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council about complaints from Llanharry residents over the effects of blasting from Forest Wood Quarry, Pontyclun.

The Llanharry Community Council provided a list of dates and times when complaints had been received and requested the Borough Council to carry out investigations with a view to alleviating the nuisance being suffered by Llanharry residents.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write in support of the Llanharry Community Council's letter and remind the Borough Council that it had agreed in principle many months earlier to establish a quarry liaison committee of quarry management representatives and local residents where complaints about the effects of blasting could be discussed.

12. **Millennium Festivities meeting**

The Clerk reported that a meeting of the Steering Committee on Millennium Festivities in the Community of Pontyclun had been held on 27 April, 1999.

At that meeting it had been reported that grant application forms were now available under the Millennium Festival Small Grants Scheme to enable local organisations to secure financial assistance for their Millennium festivities. All organisations who had attended the earlier public meetings had been contacted and told of the availability of forms.

Not all organisations would meet the criteria for securing grant aid. Some organisations had decided to proceed with their festivities irrespective of grant assistance. A number of groups had sent an outline of their proposals to the Committee and a draft calendar of festivities to mark the new Millennium was being prepared. A further letter would be sent to those organisations who had not sent details of their proposals.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

13. **Pontyclun Football Club**

The Council discussed a letter from the Chairman of the Pontyclun Football Club in which he outlined the Club's plans to improve the facilities at Ivor Park, Pontyclun. Central to the Club's plans was an application for a capital grant to Sportlot in the near future.

While the improvement to the Club's facilities would be of most benefit to the Football Club and the development of association football in South Wales, there was also potential for new accommodation to be made available to other users in the community. Interest had already been expressed by a group of local amateur cyclists for meeting, changing and the preparation of refreshments.

The Football Club sought the support of the Community Council in:

- (a) providing a letter of support which would indicate that the Club's project would provide benefit to the local community.
- (b) obtaining financial support which would assist in meeting the Club's target of £21,000 should the application for financial assistance to Sportlot be successful.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the Clerk provide the Pontyclun Football Club with the necessary letter of support.
- (ii) That the Club be invited to make application to the Community Council for financial assistance in time for the annual distribution of grants in July, 1999.

14. **Brunel Arms, Pontyclun - Transfer Notice**

The Council received notice of the application for a transfer of the Justices Licence at the Brunel Arms, Pontyclun. The application was due to be heard before magistrates on 4 June, 1999.

RESOLVED: That the application be noted.

15. **Planning applications**

The Council considered details of planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for weeks ended 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 April, 1999.

(The Clerk declared an interest in application No. T/99/2219/10 and left the Council Chamber during discussion of the application)

RESOLVED: That the Council note the planning applications contained in Weekly Notifications for weeks ended 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 April, 1999.

16. **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 7 to the Council's agenda.

17. **Reports from Members**

(a) **Footpath stile in Talygarn**

Councillor Mrs Griffiths reported that a landowner in Talygarn, understood to be the East Glamorgan Health Trust, had carried out repairs to a stile but had left the stile approximately 6 inches higher than it was previously. The increased height of the stile made it particularly difficult for walkers to negotiate.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Health Trust asking that the height of the stile be reduced to its previous height.

(b) **Fence adjacent to Pontyclun Fire Station**

Councillor Davies reported that the recently repaired fence adjacent to the Pontyclun Fire Station had been vandalised again and posed a danger to pedestrians in the vicinity.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk again take the matter up with the South Wales Fire Service.

(c) **Adoption of drains, Rhyd y Nant, Pontyclun**

Councillor Davies drew to the Council's attention the non-adoption of the public drains in Rhyd y Nant, Pontyclun. As a result of the non adoption of the drains it was necessary for residents to pay to clear blockages.

The Clerk advised that this matter was one which the Community Council had pursued with the former Taff Ely Borough Council and Welsh Water Authority some years earlier but without success. It was believed that it was still open to residents to offer the drains for adoption but before adoption could take place the necessary surveys and any remedial work would need to be funded by residents.

The matter was noted.

18. **Any other business of an urgent nature**

(a) **Proposed footpath lighting, Maes yr Afon, Pontyclun**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had heard earlier that afternoon that the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council would have no objection to the Community Council installing footpath lighting in Maes yr Afon, Pontyclun. The officer dealing with the matter had agreed to confirm the Borough Council's views in writing to allow the Community Council to progress the matter.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(b) **Footpath No. 335 - Talygarn**

The Clerk read out a letter from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering in which he stated that he had contacted Mr Clear, the landowner, who had confirmed that the required works to return the footpath to its former condition had been completed. A site inspection to verify Mr Clear's claim was planned by the Director for 5 May, 1999.

The Clerk advised that he had no knowledge of the findings at the site meeting but wished the Council to know that when he had passed the site on the evening of 6 May, 1999, the obstruction was still present.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk advise the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council that on 6 May, 1999, no action had been taken by the landowner to remove the obstruction from Footpath No. 335.

(c) **Proposed improvement to pavement, Heol y Felin, Pontyclun**

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Director of Highways, Transportation and Engineering in which it was stated that the Director had prepared a report on the proposed pavement improvement and would be submitting it to a committee of the Borough Council, although the date of the meeting was not known.

If a decision is taken to implement the Community Council's proposal the Director would be able to implement the scheme shortly afterwards and all work should be completed within two months of the committee's decision.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the letter be noted.

(d) **The Taff Ely Local Plan Inquiry**

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Programme Officer of the Taff Ely Local Plan Inquiry which had been received too late for circulation with Members' agendas.

The letter enclosed the response of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council to objections numbered 50416/2288 and 2291 relating to Mwyndy Park and Talygarn Hospital respectively. The letter stated that submissions deposited by both Objectors and the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council had been passed to the Inspector for his consideration. It was proposed to notify the Community Council when the Inspector's Report is available and of the Borough Council's response to his recommendations.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the responses of the Borough Council be noted.
- (ii) That a copy of the response on Mwyndy Park be forwarded to Mr Dan Clayton Jones of Mwyndy House, Mwyndy
- (iii) That a copy of the response on Talygarn Hospital be forwarded to Mr Derrick Kingham, Talygarn.

(e) **"Finding Your Voice in the Welsh Assembly"**

Councillor Griffiths referred to her earlier request for a report on a conference at which the Community Council was represented. Councillor Griffiths clarified that the conference was "Finding Your Voice in the Welsh Assembly" to which the Councillor Huish and Clerk were nominated to attend.

The Clerk advised Councillor Griffiths that due to work commitments he had been unable to attend the conference but that he would contact the Councillor Huish with a view to him making a report at the next meeting of the Community Council.

The matter was noted.

(f) **Highway improvements at Station Terrace, Pontyclun**

Councillor Norman advised that he had been contacted by residents in Station Terrace, Pontyclun, about the current highway improvements in the street.

The residents had discovered that as a result of the creation of new parking bays in Station Terrace not all residents would be able to park their vehicles in the street as previously.

The Clerk commented that he understood the concerns of residents about the potential loss of parking places in Station Terrace but wished the Community Council to know that, on behalf of the Council, he had delivered a plan for the highway improvement to each house in Station Terrace several months before any work commenced.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Highway Authority as a matter of urgency to arrange for an engineer to attend Station Terrace and discuss residents' concerns.

19. The meeting ended at 8.35 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Norman', is written diagonally across the bottom right of the page.