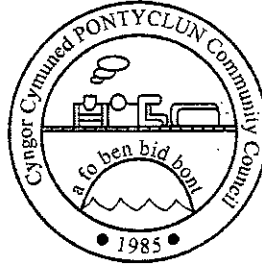


## Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun

## Pontyclun Community Council

Clerc i'r Cyngor:  
JHG Lewis ACIS DMA  
Mandalay  
Heol Bontfaen  
Talygarn  
Pontyclun CF72 9BZ



Clerk to the Council  
JHG Lewis ACIS DMA  
Mandalay  
Cowbridge Road  
Talygarn  
Pontyclun CF72 9BZ

Ffon: 01443 227094  
Ffacs: 01443 238500  
E-bost: greglewis@pontycluncc.org.uk  
Wefan: http://pontycluncc.org.uk

Tel: 01443 227094  
Fax: 01443 238500  
Email: greglewis@pontycluncc.org.uk  
Web: http://pontycluncc.org.uk

Minutes of the February monthly meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Minor Hall of the Bethel Baptist Church and Centre, Heol Miskin, Pontyclun at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 14 February, 2012.

**PRESENT:** Community Councillors P Griffiths, J V Huish, R G Norman, M Rea, and C Willis

**Also in attendance:** Three members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors J G Davies, S Jenkins and S Rogers.

2. **Declarations of interest**

The following declarations of interest were made:

**Councillor P Griffiths** for agenda item 6(a) – "I am a member of the Pontyclun Community Trust"

**Councillor J V Huish** for agenda item 9 (h) – "I am a member of the Borough Council's Development Control Committee. If I am present when Application No. 12/0079/19 is discussed I will be declaring a prejudicial interest and will withdraw from the chamber"

**Councillor M Rea** for agenda item 9(h) - " I am a member of the Borough Council's Development Control Committee"

3. **Residents' concerns**

**Mr A R Lane**

(i) **Bus stop at the layby outside the Tesco store in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

Mr Lane handed Councillor Rea documents and photographs highlighting the difficulties regularly faced by residents in accessing the bus stop in the layby outside the Tesco stores in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. The layby was frequently occupied by articulated vehicles and parked cars.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Rea use the material in his representations to the Borough Council to address the problems at the layby.

(ii) **Proposed lease of land**

Mr Lane referred to Community Council owned land in Brynsadler and the plans of the Council to lease the land to the Pontyclun Ward Community Trust.

Mr Lane claimed that the map attached to the lease did not correspond with the map accompanying the transfer document when the Community Council first purchased the land.

The Council expressed its surprise at the claim as the documentation had been prepared by the Council's solicitor who had earlier liaised with the Land Registry and the Welsh Government in preparing the lease.

**RESOLVED:** That the matter be referred to the Council's solicitor for clarification.

4. **Police matters**

(a) **Reports from the police**

While there was no representation by the police at the meeting, Councillor Rea stated that he had received a call from the police earlier that afternoon informing him that during the previous month there had been ten reported crimes.

Overall, the incidence of crime in the Community was lower than it had been in the past.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

(b) **Reports from Members**

(i) **Inconsiderate parking**

Councillor Norman drew the Council's attention to the increasing number of drivers who parked their vehicles in an inconsiderate, and often dangerous, way. In particular drivers had been parking their vehicles close to the junction of David's Court and Heol y Coed and causing hazards to traffic.

**RESOLVED:** That the matter be brought to the attention of the police.

(ii) **Police precept – 2012/13**

A report was received that the precept of the South Wales Police Authority would rise by 5% for the 2012/13 financial year.

**RESOLVED:** That the matter be noted.

5. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 10 January, 2012**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Arrangements for the signing of lease**

In view of the claim made earlier in the meeting by a member of the public, and the decision of the Council to seek clarification from its solicitor, there was no discussion on arrangements for the signature of the lease.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk write to the Pontyclun Ward Community Trust advising of the claim by the member of the public and the decision of the Council to seek clarification from its solicitor.

(b) **Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Bill**

Following the discussion on the Bill at the January meeting of the Community Council, Members received the comments on the Bill made by One Voice Wales and submitted to the Welsh Government.

**RESOLVED:** That the comments be noted.

(c) **Queen's Jubilee celebrations**

The Clerk and Councillor Norman gave a verbal report on the meeting they had attended with representatives of the Llantrisant Community Council, the Llantrisant Freeman and the Army cadets to discuss the erection of a beacon on the site of the Billywints in Llantrisant in June to mark the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in June. A beacon on the site would be visible for many miles.

While the highest point of the land was in private ownership it was believed that agreement could be achieved for a beacon to be erected on the site. Labour to carry materials for burning, and later clearance of the site, would be provided by army cadets and their parents.

The officer in charge of the cadets stated that insurance cover would be provided by the army but there may be a possibility that small incidental expenses would not be covered. He asked if the community councils involved would make a contribution to the expenses.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council agree in principle to make a financial contribution towards the cadets' costs of staging the beacon event.

(d) **Pontyclun War Memorial**

The Council discussed the quote provided by Mr Edgeley Thomas of £150.00 for printing his research work into the backgrounds of First World War personnel whose names are inscribed on the Pontyclun War Memorial.

Mr Thomas had provided the Community Council with a copy of his research work and planned to place further copies in the Pontyclun library and possibly other local libraries in the area.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council meet the full cost of printing Mr Thomas' research work.

(e) **Community Safety**

The Clerk reported that discussions with Borough Council staff about a presentation on Community Safety to the public were continuing.

It was planned that the presentation would be given in the Pontyclun Community Centre and when plans were finalised they would be reported back to the Council for information.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

(f) **Flood Awareness**

Councillor Rea gave a verbal report on the meeting convened by the Environment Agency in conjunction with the Borough Council and the Fire and Rescue Service on flood awareness.

The meeting had been convened because certain residential areas in the Community had been built on flood plains and predications had been made by the Environment Agency of properties likely to be affected in the event of a 1 in a hundred years flood. The emergency services wished to gain local knowledge from residents of vulnerable people in the areas likely to be affected.

A group of volunteer residents had been identified and further meetings would take place in the coming weeks.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

7. **Minutes of the Council's Special Meeting of 3 February, 2012**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes be approved as an accurate record.

8. **Matters arising**

(a) **Public conveniences**

The Clerk reported that following the Council's Special Meeting he had contacted the architect and asked him to produce detailed drawings and specifications.

After consultation with the Procurement Division of the Borough Council and recommendations from Members in accordance with Standing Orders, the names of seven building contractors had been provided to the architect. Invitations to tender would also be placed on the Council's website, in the Council's noticeboards and in the local press.

**RESOLVED:** That the actions be noted.

(b) **E-mail received from the Pontyclun Labour Party**

The Clerk reported the receipt of an e-mail claiming that the misleading statements about the Community Council and circulated publicly in "Pontyclun News" was a matter of "disagreement between community councillors" and exchanges should not have been conducted through Council channels.

The Council disagreed that the matter was one of disagreement between Members. The misleading statements had been

directed at the Community Council, not its Members, and gave completely false impressions. The Community Council had a duty to give the factual position to the public.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk give a factual response to the writer of the e-mail explaining the Community Council's actions.

(c) **Freedom of Information request**

The Clerk also reported that as part of the e-mail referred to in (b) above a request had been made for information on the process of engaging the architect for work at the public conveniences.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk provide the information being sought.

9. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Precept for the 2012/13 financial year**

The Council received information on:

- (i) The budget for 2011/12
- (ii) The estimated expenditure to 31 March, 2012
- (iii) The estimated variance from budget in 2011/12
- (iv) The estimated reserves at 31 March, 2012
- (v) An illustrative effect of a 1% increase in budget for 2012/13
- (vi) Estimated income for 2012/13
- (vii) A possible budget for 2012/13

**RESOLVED:** (i) That given the healthy state of the Council's finances a reduction of 5% be made in the Council's precept for 2012/13.

(ii) That the 5% reduction, equating to a reduction of £5,693 be reflected in the Council's Capital Reserve.

(iii) That the precept to be levied on the Borough Council for 2012/13 be £108,170.

(b) **Local Government elections**

The Council discussed the proposal of the Welsh Government to move the date of the local government elections in Wales by one year from May, 2016, to May, 2017.

**RESOLVED:** That while a term of office of 5 years appeared to be a long period, the Community Council raise no objection to the proposal.

Councillor Huish left the meeting at this point.

(c) **Re-location of a bus stop**

The Council discussed correspondence from the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council about the possibility of re-locating the bus stop in the layby outside the Tesco store in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

Members discussed a proposal from the Borough Council to re-locate the bus stop approximately 30 to 35 metres south west of its existing position.

It was pointed out that the bus stop had been located at its current position for very many years. The Community Council had actively opposed the application for planning consent for Tesco to operate from its current location since the presence of delivery lorries in the bus layby outside the store would create difficulties for bus passengers. The objections of the Community Council to the Tesco application were well documented.

The current proposal merely moved the problem further along Cowbridge Road. Instead of causing problems at the layby problems would be faced by passengers and car drivers at the entrance to Southgate Garage.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council advise the Borough Council that the terms of the planning consent granted to Tesco Stores should be observed and, if necessary, enforced by the Planning Authority.

(d) **Recycling Centre**

The Council discussed the invitation from the Borough Council to take part in the Rhys-Cycle Safari and visit the Amgen-Cymru Visitor Centre and Landfill site at Bryn Pica, Llwydcoed, Aberdare.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk arrange a provisional date for a visit with the Borough Council and circulate the date to Members to confirm their availability.

(e) **BBC documentary**

The Council discussed a letter from BBC Wales to advise of the making of a documentary series called New Nation.

The BBC stated that it was looking for four stories and would like to follow families/ individual migrant people living in Wales. The objective was to show how the landscape of Wales is changing, celebrate diversity and also overturn preconceptions about Welsh identity.

**RESOLVED:** That the letter be noted.

(f) **Poetry event**

The Council discussed a letter from a published, experienced performance poet asking whether the community might be interested in receiving a light poetry event accompanied by music.

**RESOLVED:** That the invitation be circulated to groups in the Community who receive grants from the Community Council.

(g) **Request for financial assistance**

The Council discussed a request for financial assistance from the Wales Air Ambulance.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council make a donation of £100.00

(h) **Planning**

(Councillor Rea declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in this item of business as a member of the Borough Council's Development Control Committee. He exercised his right to remain in the Council chamber but did not take part in any discussions)

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

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

**Application No. 12/0023/10**

That while the Council is not opposed to the application it draws to the Borough Council's attention the presence of significant underground workings in the Cefn yr Hendy area many of which are uncharted.



The Community Council recommends that a site meeting be held before deciding the application.

**Application No. 12/0073/10**

That while the Council is not opposed to the application it draws to the Borough Council's attention the presence of significant underground workings in the Cefn yr Hendy area many of which are uncharted.

The Community Council recommends that a site meeting be held before deciding the application.

**Other planning matters**

**Application No. 12/1337/10**

(The Chairperson, Councillor Willis, declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in this application. She exercised her right to remain in the Council chamber but did not take part in any discussions)

The Council made no comment on the application.

**Application No. 11/1401/15**

That the Clerk provide details of this application to Councillor Norman.

(i) **Payment of creditors**

**RESOLVED:** That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 13 to the Council's agenda.

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

**Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Gymraeg, Llantrisant**

The Chairperson, Councillor Willis, reported that the School Council was keen to strengthen community links.

One of the ideas put forward was the possibility of the Community Council cooperating with the school in planting shrubs in the vicinity of the school.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council agree to the request in principle.

11. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Polling stations**

The Council received the Borough Council's response to the earlier comments of the Community Council on the location of the polling station in Groesfaen.

**RESOLVED:** That the comments be noted.

(b) **Borrowing by Community Councils in 2012/13**

The Council received the circular from the Welsh Government on the procedure for borrowing for capital purposes during 2012/13.

**RESOLVED:** That the information be noted.

(c) **"Section 137 Expenditure": Limit for 2012/13**

The Council received the circular from the Welsh Government on the appropriate sum for the purposes of Section 137 (4) (a) of the 1972 Local Government Act for 2012/13.

**RESOLVED:** That the information be noted.

(d) **Tylagarw Community Centre**

The Council received a letter from the Treasurer of the Tylagarw Community Centre containing a cheque for the re-imburement of Christmas Trees and thanking the Community Council for the assistance it had given in erecting the trees.

**RESOLVED:** That the letter be noted.

(e) **Food Waste Collections**

The Council received information from the Severn Wye Energy Agency on anaerobic digestion schemes the importance of participating in food waste collection.

**RESOLVED:** That the information be noted.

(f) **One Voice Wales**

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the topics discussed at the last committee meeting of One Voice Wales.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

(g) **Mr David Speed, MBE**

Councillor Rea reminded the Council that following Mr Speed's admission to hospital for surgery the Council had decided to send a letter to the Borough Council strongly supporting Mr Speed's application for sheltered housing at the David's Court complex in Pontyclun.

Councillor Rea read out the letter he had subsequently received from the Borough Council confirming that Mr Speed would be considered for accommodation at David's Court.

**RESOLVED:** That the letter be noted.

12. The meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.

