

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held at the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, on Monday, 6 July, 1987, at 7.00pm

PRESENT: Community Councillors Mrs A Burton, Professor I D Bowen, Mrs I V Evans, Mr V P James, Mr R C Kennard, Mrs O P Phillips and Mrs D Richards-Clarke

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received on behalf of the Chairman, Councillor R G Norman, and Councillors T J Burton and E Hopkin.

1. Chairman

In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman the Chair was occupied by the Vice Chairperson, Councillor Mrs O P Phillips.

2. Order of business

RESOLVED: That the order of business be revised and that item 3 on the Agenda be taken first.

3. NACRO - Community Programme - Report of the Scheme Manager and the Senior Supervisor

The Scheme Manager gave a progress report on work completed to date and gave a summary of work which it was planned to undertake in the second year of the Scheme. The Scheme Manager also reported on a new government initiative, known as U.K.2000, which was intended to provide further training opportunities for the unemployed. U.K. 2000, which would have Richard Branson as a figurehead, was planned as a partnership between communities and industry. An essential feature of the scheme was that there be sponsorship by industry in addition to the resources contributed by both the M S C and communities. In order to participate in U K 2000 it was necessary that an existing Community Programme Scheme be "kitemarked". It was suggested that the work undertaken at the Ivor Woods could be submitted for "kitemarking".

RESOLVED: That a decision on whether the Council should make application to participate in U K 2000 be deferred to the Council's meeting of 13 July, 1987.

4. Minutes of the Council's meeting of 1 June, 1987

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 1 June, 1987, be approved as an accurate record.

5. Matters arising

(a) Stability of trees in the Ivor Woods - Tenders Received

RESOLVED: That the contract for lopping, and felling the unstable trees within the area of the landslip be awarded to the lowest tenderer i.e. D H Roderick and Son.

*R G Norman*

(b) Garages on the Hendy estate

(i) Report of the site meeting of 3 June, 1987

The Clerk reported on the site meeting of 3 June, 1987, and the action taken as a matter of urgency to bring the matters to the attention of the Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That the action of the Clerk be approved.

(ii) Comments of the Community Policeman

RESOLVED: That in the absence of the community policeman the matter be deferred to the Council's meeting of 7 September.

(c) Possibility of holding the Urdd National Eisteddfod in Taff Ely in 1991

Councillor Mrs Evans reported on her attendance at a meeting called to discuss whether an invitation should be extended to the Urdd to stage their National Eisteddfod in Taff Ely in 1991. The decision of the meeting was that an invitation would be extended.

The matter was noted.

(d) Upgrading of litter bins in the Community

The Clerk distributed further literature on litter bins. The Council also considered the advice of the Borough Council in their letter of 30 June, 1987.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Council follow the advice of the Borough Council and that replacement bins be ordered from Wybone Industrial Sales, Barnsley, South Yorkshire.

(ii) That initially two bins be ordered, type WLB/3, coloured white.

(e) Fishponds development

The Clerk read out the letters of 26 June and 30 June received from the Welsh Water Authority and the Taff Ely Borough Council respectively. It was noted that the Borough Council had written to the developer reminding him of the condition in the planning consent that he should take precautions to safeguard Footpath No 321.

RESOLVED: That the letter of the Welsh Water Authority, in which it was stated that the work of the developer could have no effect on flood levels likely to occur in the vicinity of Maesyfelin properties, be displayed in the Council's noticeboards.

*RGW*

(f) Roadsweeping at Mwyndy Cottages

The Clerk reported that from the enquiries he had made he had established that the mechanical roadsweeper was due to sweep the road outside the Cottages once a week. The supervisor had promised to investigate the apparent non-sweeping.

The matter was noted.

(g) Burial arrangements

The Clerk reported that on the reorganisation of community boundaries on 1 April, 1985, protection was afforded to those new communities who were formerly part of burial authorities, but since reorganisation had ceased to be burial authorities. The effect of the protection was that residents of the new non burial communities were afforded the same burial facilities as they would have enjoyed had the reorganisation of 1 April, 1985, not taken place. The protection lasted for a period of 25 years from 1 April, 1985.

The matter was noted.

6. Creation of a footpath from the Maesyfelin estate into the Maesyfelin playing fields

A lengthy discussion took place about the need to create a footpath from the Maesyfelin estate into the Maesyfelin playing fields.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk write to the owner of 31 Tegfan, Pontyclun, to establish whether he would be prepared to give his approval to the creation of a footpath alongside his property into the Maesyfelin playing fields.

(ii) That in the event of the owner of the property not being in favour of the proposal he be asked if he could suggest any alternative routes for a footpath into the Maesyfelin playing fields.

7. Wales Association of Community and Town Councils

(a) East Wales Area Committee's Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Meeting of 16 June, 1987

Councillor James reported on the appointments to office and discussions which took place at the meetings.

The report was noted.

(b) Annual Conference, 1987

(i) Delegates

RESOLVED: That Councillors Professor I D Bowen and Mrs O P Phillips, together with the Clerk, be delegated to attend.

LGN

(ii) Motions

RESOLVED: That the following two motions be submitted for debate:-

- A. "A continuing effort must be made to impress upon all non members the benefits and desirability of joining the Welsh Association of Community and Town Councils".
- B. "Placing of double yellow lines on roads at the present time is progressed through the County Councils' highways departments without any reference to community councils. This Association calls upon the Welsh Office to institute a proper procedure to ensure that community councils are consulted before introducing parking restrictions".

8. Agency function - Maintenance of Footpaths and Bridleways

The Council considered the Borough Council's letter of 17 June, 1987, which gave details of the amounts to be claimed by community councils for the maintenance of footpaths and bridleways for 1985/6, 1986/7 and 1987/8.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make arrangements to claim £1775.00, representing the Community Council's allocation for the three years.

9. Parking in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

A discussion took place about parking problems in Pontyclun. It was felt that facilities for parking could be improved and thereby alleviate some of the congestion being experienced at busy periods. Concern was also expressed about the large number of vehicles speeding through the village.

RESOLVED: (i) That a request be made to the Borough Council to open up the car park at the rear of the Pontyclun Community Centre for general use by the public.

(ii) That the Borough Council be requested to erect a more prominent sign drawing motorists' attention to the parking facilities at the rear of the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

(iii) That a copy of the letter to the Borough Council be sent to the secretary of the Management Committee of the Pontyclun Community Centre for his information.

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- (iv) That the concern of the Council about vehicles speeding through the village be conveyed to the police.
- (v) That the matter of traffic congestion in the Community be referred to the Council's traffic sub committee.

10. Children's playground, Pontyclun - Concern about concrete and tarmac furniture bases

A number of members referred to worries being expressed nationally about the inherent dangers to children where park furniture bases were of concrete or tarmac.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Borough Council asking if the existing tarmac and concrete bases in the Pontyclun children's playground could be replaced by safer materials and that until such time as the replacement materials were installed a sign be erected advising of the possible dangers to children.

11. Proposed children's play area, Miskin.

The Council discussed the Borough Council's letter of 12 June.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk establish from the Borough Council when the next meeting of the Capital Programme Committee was likely to take place.

12. Proposed siting of wayside seat near the Pontyclun Library

Discussion took place about the small plot of overgrown land next to the Pontyclun Library which the Council believed would make an ideal site for a wayside seat.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk seek the necessary permission for the Council to place a wayside seat on the site.

13. Proposed Bottle Bank

The Council considered the Borough Council's letter of 24 June, 1987, in which it was stated that the Borough Engineer and Surveyor was conducting a feasibility study into the the placing of bottle banks within the Borough.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk advise the Borough Council that a suitable site for the location of a bottle bank would be the grass verge adjacent to the public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.

14. Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust

An application for financial assistance from the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust was considered by the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Council donate £25.00 to the Trust.

*RGN*

15. Mid Glamorgan Community Trust Appeal

The Council noted that the District Council/Community Councils Joint Liaison Committee had referred back to community councils the appeal for financial assistance from the Mid Glamorgan Community Trust.

RESOLVED: That the Council re-affirm its earlier decision not to make a contribution to the appeal.

16. Justices License - Mwyndy Barn

The Council noted that application was being made for a Justices License for Mwyndy Barn.

17. Justices License - Miskin Manor Leisure Centre

The Council noted that application was being made for a Justices License for Miskin Manor Leisure Centre.

18. Planning Notifications for Weeks 21+22,23,24, 25 and 26

RESOLVED: (i) That the applications contained in the notifications for Weeks 21+22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 be noted subject to the following observations:-

Application No 56/490/87

In the event of permission being granted for the development the developer be required to take appropriate safeguards to safeguard the footpath crossing the site.

Application No 56/516/87

That the Council oppose development on the following grounds:-

- (a) Residential development at the site would be detrimental to the development of the Ivor Woods currently being undertaken by the Community Council
- (b) The proposed access road to the site, that is, Talygarn Drive, is of insufficient standard to cater for the additional traffic which will be generated especially in view of the recent Fishponds development.
- (c) The development would constitute a further "creep" of residential development into a rural area.
- (d) There would be a loss of rural amenity to the residents of the Community.

Application No 56/0533/87

That the Council oppose development on the following grounds:-

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(a) Planning permission for residential development west of the Elms Farm already exists. If permission is granted for development to the east of the Elms Farm it is likely to be the forerunner of many further applications.

(b) The Llantrisant Plan underlines the need for identifiable rural boundaries between communities. If the application is granted then, together with the development to the west, there will be continuous development from Castell-y-Mwnws to Llanharry.

(c) With permission already having been granted for land to the west of the Elms Farm, and land at the rear of the Crown Brewery having been earmarked for residential development, there is sufficient land for residential development in the vicinity.

(ii) That the Community Council's views be conveyed to the Borough Council.

19. Payment of Creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 11 to the Agenda.

20. Any other business of an urgent nature

(a) Special Council Meeting of 13 July, 1987

The Clerk reminded the Council that a Special Meeting of the Council had been arranged for 13 July, 1987, to consider the award of grants for 1987/88.

The matter was noted.

(b) Annual Audit

The Clerk advised the Council that the Annual Audit of the Community Council's accounts for 1986/87 would take place on 10 August, 1987.

RESOLVED: That a meeting of the Finance Committee be held on 16 July, 1987 to receive the Council's accounts for 1986/87.

(c) Planning - Letter received from the Pontyclun Labour Party

A letter dated 3 July, 1987, received from the secretary of the Pontyclun Labour Party was read out by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk reply to the secretary of the Pontyclun Labour Party pointing out:-

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8.

- (i) the statutory role of the Council
- (ii) that planning applications are scrutinised and commented upon regularly.
- (iii) the opportunity available for members of the community to listen to the deliberations of the Council and to offer their own comments.
- (iv) that the observations of the Council on planning matters frequently do not appear to be reflected in the determination of applications.
- (v) that the Council believes the existing democratic arrangements for the discussion of planning applications to be adequate and that they function efficiently in the Community of Pontyclun.

(d) Late night disturbances and violence in Pontyclun

Several members spoke of their concern over the continuation of late night disturbances near the "cluster" of licensed premises on the northern side of the main line railway in Pontyclun. Residents of Pontyclun had been worried about the incidents for some considerable time but had been reassured following the talk given by Inspector Squires of the South Wales Constabulary at an earlier meeting of the Council. Following the latest incident, in which a stabbing had taken place, there were rumours circulating in the village of counter violence by rival youths.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk take the matter up with the Chief Superintendent of Police in Pontypridd.

(e) Council's nomination to the governing body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant

Councillor Kennard referred to the misleading advice which had recently been received from the Taff Ely District Education Officer over the Council's nomination to the governing body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg, Llantrisant. The advice received had led to the Council, and the Council's nominee, Dr S M Bowen, into believing that because she was no longer a member of the Council that she was disqualified from sitting as a governor. Despite several challenges, the District Education Officer had refused to withdraw or amend his advice. It was only after legal opinion had been obtained from within the County Council that the District Education Officer's advice was amended. Verbal confirmation had now been received of Dr Bowen's continuing eligibility to sit on the governing body.

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RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the District Education Officer:-

- (i) confirming that Dr Bowen remained the Community Council's nominee to the board of governors.
- (ii) conveying the Council's disquiet at the way the matter had been handled and pointing out that the Council, and Dr Bowen had been acutely embarrassed by the incident.
- (iii) asking for written confirmation of Dr Bowen's continuing eligibility for nomination by the Community Council to the board of governors.

21. The meeting ended at 10.05 p.m.

*R G Norman*