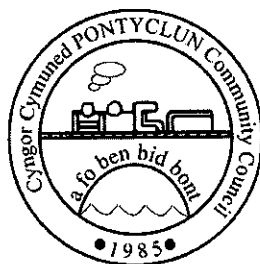


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M I N U T E S

Minutes of the **January monthly meeting** of Pontyclun Community Council held at Pontyclun Day Centre, Heol yr Orsaf, Pontyclun, at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, 13 January, 2015.

PRESENT: Community Councillors: Ann Bennett, Ken Forsdyke, Gwynn Griffith, Margaret Griffiths (Chair), Paul Griffiths, Tony Lane, Huw Rees, Brendan O'Reilly and Bethan Theaker.

Emma Downie and Jonathan Mead of the Clean the Clun project were also present.

Councillor Huw Rees arrived at 7.15pm

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Community Councillors, Janis Jones and Gordon Norman. The Council accepted the apologies.

2. **Declaration of Interest**

None received

3. **Matters raised by residents/guest**

None received

4. **Reports and presentations from others**

Jonathan Mead, Operations Director of South East Wales River Trust and local resident, and Emma Downie, Clean the Clun Project Officer, gave Members an overview of their organisation and the work being carried out in our River Clun. There was a brief question and answer session with particular concerns raised over the poor water quality. Basic infrastructure up river is just one cause and work is underway to raise awareness of this problem. The Council supported the project and suggested a grant application be submitted to seek financial assistance for a chosen aspect of the project. The Council invited Ms Downie to submit information to be included on the Pontyclun.net website.

M. Griffiths
10th Feb 2015

RESOLVED: The Council agreed to support and promote the Clean the Clun project
A278

5. Minutes

- (i) To confirm the minutes of the Council's monthly meeting, 9 December, 2014 as an accurate record – appendix 1

RESOLVED: That the Council approved the minutes of the 9 December, 2014 meeting as an accurate record.

6. Notices of Motions from Councillors

None received

7 Matters arising from previous meetings – Action Table

Appendix 2

Action 186 Delivery vehicles unit 1 & 2 Cowbridge Road - Appendix 3

RESOLVED: That the Council noted the Clerks report.

Action 274 Planning Restriction for unit 1 & 2 Cowbridge Road

Clerk has copies of planning restrictions imposed for both units.
Clerk has requested a copy of the Section 106 and has been advised that these are stored off site.
RCT CBC will arrange to collect and copy the documents.
Councillor Margaret Griffiths will assist Clerk on this matter.

Action 273 Proposed Bus Shelter outside unit 1 & 2 Cowbridge Road

Clerk has chased up request for site visit made in December and is still awaiting a date.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Tony Lane also attends the site meeting.

Action 155a Project Fun Day

Clerk advised the Council that accounts had not been submitted despite repeated requests.

8 Report and recommendations from Clerk

- i To approve the payment of creditors

Appendix 4

RESOLVED: That the Council approved the payment of creditors as shown in appendix 4

ii To note the report on pension contributions

Appendix 5

Councillor T Lane continued to question the Clerk's calculations on this matter. It was confirmed that pension calculations are based on the employees' gross salary. The Creditors lists the employees' net salaries with pension, tax and National Insurance deducted at source. Deductions are not calculated from net salary.

RESOLVED: That the Council noted the report.

iii To approve budget report with 3 recommendations

Appendix 6

1. That the Council agrees a budget for the financial year 2015-16
2. That the Council agrees to set a precept to enable the budgeted expenditure for 2015-16 to be raised
3. That the Council notes the amended Chapters 8 and 13 of the 'Governance and accountability for local councils in Wales – a Practitioners' Guide (2011)

Councillors discussed all items listed on the proposed budget and agreed its budget as shown in appendix 6. Members also agreed to keep the precept at the same level as 2014/15 of £111,000.

Councillor Margaret Griffiths informed the Council that notification had been received from the Heritage Lottery fund that the grant application had not been successful. The Chair asked that instead of removing the total £7000 from the proposed expenditure of capital reserves, that the Council should retain £1000 to be spent on a laptop and scanner to enable the Digital Heritage Station to be opened and staffed by volunteers. These items formed part of the grant application, a copy of which was presented and discussed at the March 2014 meeting, and included using People's Collection Wales as a digital depository for photographs, stories, scanned artefacts etc. Councillor Griffiths, who has worked on the application, explained that one of the partners, People's Collection Wales was prepared to provide training on the use of the Digital Heritage Station which is a requirement for adding information to the People's Collection Wales site. The Chair also explained that another partner, RCT CBC Pontyclun Library, is interested in hosting the Digital Heritage Station.

Following a brief question and answer session Members agreed to this proposal.

RESOLVED: That the Council

1. agreed a budget for the financial year 2015-16
2. agreed to set a precept at £111,00 to enable the budgeted expenditure for 2015-16 to be raised
3. noted the amended Chapters 8 and 13 of the 'Governance and accountability for local councils in Wales – a Practitioners' Guide (2011)
4. retained a £1000 from the reserve fund to be spent on a laptop and scanner to enable the Digital Heritage Station to be opened and staffed by volunteers.

iv To consider planning applications.

Appendix 7

Application Ref: 14/1483/10 members discussed this retrospective

application and objected to the scale of the development when considering the number of animals to be housed in the unit and its design and appearance is not in keeping with the surrounding area.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk forwards an objection to application reference 14/1483/10 to RCT CBC. A279

- v To consider and agree the NJC for Local Government Services 2014 – 2016 pay scales and allowances. Appendix 8

The proposed budget was set before the notification of the pay increase was received. An amendment will be calculated to show the revised NJC Local Government Services 2014 – 2016 pay scales and allowances in the Council's 2015/16 budget. A280

RESOLVED: That the Council agreed the NJC for Local Government Services 2014 – 2016 pay scales and allowances as shown in appendix 8. A281

- vi To decide on Grant Application from St Pauls Nursery Appendix 9

RESOLVED: That the Council awarded a £210 grant towards the purchase of IT equipment. A282

- vii To decide on the offer of sponsorship of Cafe 50 Leekes Appendix 10

RESOLVED: That the Council agreed to accept the offer of sponsorship of Café 50 from Leekes. A283

- viii To note the report Café 50 – Update Appendix 11

Councillor Griffiths informed the Council that it had secured a grant of £2,454 from RCT Homes. A284

A meeting to discuss progress at Café 50 and to consider the next financial year on Thursday 5th February at 9.30 at Café 50 has been arranged. Details of the meeting had been e-mail/posted/handed to Members.

The Caterer has requested for Café 50 to be opened on a Saturday.

Members agreed in principle to this extra day of service. Details on this matter will be discussed in the meeting on the 5 February.

The Clerk confirmed that an additional account had been opened for the Day Centre under the Community Council bank account and the Council had been receiving regular financial reports.

Activities set up at Café 50 for its target audience continued to grow but no bookings for the Centre during the evening and weekends had been made.

A named vote was requested to note the report appendix 11

For: Community Councillors: Ann Bennett, Ken Forsdyke, Gwynn Griffith, Margaret Griffiths, Paul Griffiths, Tony Lane, Huw Rees, Brendan O'Reilly and Bethan Theaker.

Against: Tony Lane

RESOLVED: That the Council noted the report.

- xix To approve the report with a recommendation to establish a working group to advise on preparations for the provision of Christmas Lights and the Appendix 12

'turning on' ceremony in 2015.

Brendan O'Reilly raised an objection to this report questioning its author and the Clerks role to submit motions to the Council. The Clerk explained to Members that her report was written as part of the evaluation process of the Christmas 2014 event and lead on to the planning of any future event. This evaluation process was triggered as the Clerk had had several discussions immediately following the 2014 event with key partners. Whilst matters concerning the 2014 event and contacts were still fresh in everybody's minds the Clerk's report in January included a recommendation to move the matter forward through a working group.

Brendan O'Reilly told the Council that Pontyclun Action Group (PAG) would not be part of a Working Group. Ken Forsdyke, also a PAG member, disagreed and felt that PAG would be willing to join forces through a Working Group. The Clerk was requested to write to PAG to invite them to a Working Group.

A named voted was requested. Community Councillors:

For: Ann Bennett, Ken Forsdyke, Gwynn Griffith, Margaret Griffiths, Paul Griffiths, Huw Rees and Bethan Theaker.

Against: Brendan O'Reilly

Abstain: Tony Lane

Brendan O'Reilly left the meeting at 9.30 pm

RESOLVED: That the Council requested the Clerk to write to Pontyclun Action Group to invite it to take part in a Working Group to advise on preparations for the provision of Christmas Lights and the 'turning on' ceremony in 2015. A285

x To note the report on Ivor Woods

Ken Forsdyke had received a comment regarding muddy footpaths in the Woods. The Clerk reported that the joint project with the Probation Service and the Council to improve draining in the woods was still being carried. Members noted that footpaths in the woods are open to the forces of nature and may at times become muddy.

Councillor Tony Lane suggested that trees at Millfield should also be checked. Councillors Ann Bennett and Paul Griffiths are to visit with Caretaker Darren Norfolk. A286

RESOLVED: That the Council noted the report.

8 Reports and Recommendations of Committees and Working Groups
None received

9 Questions from Councillors
None received

10 Matters of discussion but not decision
None received

M. Griffiths
10th Feb 2015