

Meeting Of Economic Group 5th.June 2018

Pontyclun Community Council states:

Pontyclun Community Council will take action with other agencies to improve the economic well-being of the residents, community, services and businesses.

Our working group terms are

Economy

The Economic working group provides councillors with the opportunity to discuss and investigate options and provide recommendations based on information and evidence regarding the economic well-being of the residents, community, services and businesses of the Community of Pontyclun and development of the Council's services to support this.

It will give consideration to advice on:

- The means of making the village centre more attractive and conducive to successful
- business
- Supporting business networks
- Signposting to business grants
- Promoting Pontyclun to tourists, visitors, businesses and shoppers.
- Improving parking and traffic management in Pontyclun Community area especially
- the centre of Pontyclun and Groesfaen
- Promoting use of footpaths and cycle ways
- Improving Public Transport the Station and rail links
- Crime prevention initiatives
- Maximising benefits of the SEW Metro system to our area
- Any other matter it considers relevant to the strategic objective.

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Further options for parking in Pontyclun**
- 3. Walking routes/maps around Pontyclun**
- 4. Pontyclun.net**
- 5. Our relationship with local businesses**
- 6. AoB**

Meeting was held in the Café 50 on 05/06/2018 at 6pm.

The following Community Councillors attended:- Gwyn Jackson,(Chairman) Anne Jackson, Paul Griffiths, Neil Holley, Martin Ashford and Karen Lane.

Apologies were received from Margaret Griffiths.

Actions arising:

Parking for commuters, local businesses and visitors continues to be addressed by the Economy group. The addition of 15 parking spaces near the Rugby Club has been welcomed and has also improved the appearance of the area. Discussion is on-going with the Pontyclun Athletic Club to see whether their car park could be utilised by local businesses and/or commuters. Additional parking along the railway station remains an aim for the future.

The possibility of a park and ride development near Junction 34 of the M4 was discussed with both advantages and disadvantages noted for Pontyclun.

It was noted that several parking spaces within the Pontyclun Primary School are unused as staff apparently prefer street parking.

Councillor Lane suggested the parking survey should be repeated at the Community Centre car park to reassess usage by commuters, local businesses and visitors.

Walking Routes/maps:

Discussion on promoting Pontyclun as a centre for walkers and therefore an increase in visits to the area is seen as a benefit. The recent walking festival had a mixed response from the public but it is felt that this should be a regular feature on the Pontyclun calendar and given time to develop. Further work is required on providing maps and route descriptions by possibly enrolling the help of the Taff Ely Ramblers.

Pontyclun.net

Some progress had been made on this. It was felt that insufficient use was made of the site. The meeting discussed ways of improving awareness of the site. Local businesses should be approached to have their details added taking account of GDPR. It was noted that some businesses on the site no longer exist.

AoB

A discussion around the advantages/disadvantages of developing Pontyclun as a town as opposed to a village came to no concrete conclusions other than the view that a town has greater influence on a county council and Welsh Government. There did not appear to be an immediate economic benefit.

Actions:

Conduct the parking survey; (All)

Develop walking routes; (All)

Increase use of Pontyclun.net; (All)

Establish appropriate contact for Athletic Club. (GJ)