

Minutes of the October monthly meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Gymuned, Ffordd yr Hendy, Miskin, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 13 October, 2009.

**PRESENT:** Community Councillors D Clayton-Jones, P Griffiths, S Jenkins, S. Rogers and C Willis

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** P C Richard Williams of the South Wales Police, for part of the meeting, and fourteen members of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors Ms V A Cale, J G Davies, J V Huish, R G Norman and M Rea

**RESOLVED:** That the Council's best wishes for a speedy recovery be sent to Councillor Norman who was still hospitalised at the Heath Hospital in Cardiff.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations.

3. **Residents' concerns**

Mr A R Lane of Pontyclun asked why notice of the meeting had not been displayed in the Pontyclun Library for three days.

The Clerk responded that the legal requirement to give three days' notice of the meeting had been met by displaying copies of the agenda in two notice boards in Brynsadler on 7 October, 2009. Copies of the agenda were later displayed in the Council's other notice boards at approximately 7.00 a.m. on the morning of Sunday, 11 October, 2009.

An agenda was also delivered to the Pontyclun Library on the same morning.

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

4. **Police matters**

(a) **Reports from the police**

In the absence of a representative from the police there were no reports.

(i) **Crime Figures**

PC Williams outlined the recorded crime figures for the area for the last month.

The figures showed 24 recorded crimes for the previous month where anti-social behaviour offences accounted for 13 of the crimes. Theft from vehicles accounted for 8 crimes. An arrest had been made in connection with the theft from vehicles.

(ii) **Telephone calls to the police**

PC Williams advised that a member of the public wishing to report a non-emergency matter to the police by telephone should do so by dialling 101 rather than by using any other telephone number.

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

(b) **Reports form Members**

None were made.

5. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 22 September, 2009**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 22 September, 2009, be approved as an accurate record subject to the deletion of the reference to Councillor Rea in minute 9 (d) (ii) and the substitution of Councillor Willis for Councillor Rea in minute 9 (d) (iii).

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Applications for financial assistance**

(i) **Junior and Mini Sections  
of the Pontyclun Rugby Football Club**

Mr Haydn Prior and colleagues made a presentation in support of the application.

The representatives stated that the junior sides at the club provided opportunities for both boys and girls for social interaction and confidence building. In doing so, children had fun and kept fit in an environment which was well supervised and by people who were qualified in first aid.

It had been found that the  $\frac{3}{4}$  pitch at the Windsor Field had deteriorated considerably. Additional to the deterioration, it had been found that debris from the former refuse site at the site kept surfacing and presented potential hazards. Expert opinion had reported that significant quantities of topsoil were needed. In turn, the new topsoil had needed to be raked and seeded. This work could only be carried out in the close season and at a cost of £4,000. The work had been completed but only at a severe cost to the club's finances. If the work had not been carried out the teams using the pitch would have folded.

The club representatives vacated the Council chamber while the Council discussed the application.

**RESOLVED:** That a grant of £3,000.00 be made to the cost of the work.

(ii) **Pontyclun Football Club**

Mr Tony Bishop and three colleagues from the club made a presentation in support of the application.

Mr Bishop stated that the Pontyclun Football Club had a membership of over 200 and was a long standing member of the Welsh League. However, due to the siting of the present club facility at the southern end of the Maesyfelin playing fields, river erosion had caused the club's changing rooms to be structurally unstable. Officially, the facility had been condemned. The club now ran the risk of losing its Welsh League status.

The way forward was for a new facility to be constructed far away from the river. The consent of the ground landlord had been obtained and planning consent for the development had been given by the Planning Authority. If a single contractor were to be engaged to construct the facility the cost was likely to be in the region of £150,000. However, the representatives were confident that the cost

could be significantly reduced to around £80,000 by making savings on excavations, purchase of bricks and the provision of scaffolding.

Most of the cost of constructing the facility at the reduced cost had been raised but the club was still £30,000 short of its target. It was essential to start work by the end of the year.

The Club representatives answered a series of questions from Members before asking the representatives to adjourn to allow the Council to come to a decision.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Council make a donation of £10,000 towards the construction costs of the new facility with payments being made at stages as work progresses.
  - (ii) That the Council may consider making a further donation to the project in due course.
  - (iii) At the January, 2010, meeting of the Community Council the Council reconsider its principles for awarding grants.

(b) **Community Council owned land in Brynsadler**

Verbal reports were received from the representatives of the Council who had met representatives of the Pontyclun Action Group.

It was noted that the Pontyclun Action Group intended exploring the possibility of creating a trust.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Community Council approach the Welsh Assembly Government, as the successor body to the Welsh Development Agency, to ask whether it would be possible to amend Clause 19.2 in the transfer document to make a specific reference to a public footpath.
  - (ii) That the Community Council make enquiries of the Planning Authority to establish whether it would be necessary to obtain planning consent for a change of use

for the land from “agricultural” to “public open space”

- (iii) That the contents of the letter from solicitors Davies Pritchard and Weatherill dated 25 September, 2009, be noted.

(c) **Council’s capital budget for 2009/10**

It was reported from representatives on the working group that a number of on-going projects had been discussed. It was intended to bring a list of projects, with detailed proposals, for consideration at the next meeting of the Council.

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

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Weekly planning notifications**

The Council discussed planning applications considered to affect the Community in the latest weekly lists.

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

**Application No. 09/933/10**

That while the Community Council is not opposed to the application, the Council has concerns that a change of use from retail use to office use will generate the need for additional car parking. The Council believes that the application should provide for additional car parking.

(b) **Payment of creditors**

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

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

None were reported.

9. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Local Government Pay award 2009/10**

The Clerk reported that the pay award for local employees had recently been agreed. The award provides for an increase of 1%, effective from 1 April, 2009, with employees on Spinal Column Point 4, or lower, receiving an increase of 1.25%.

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

(b) **Agenda papers for Council meetings**

Councillor Jenkins asked if more use could be made of back-to-back photocopying when producing Council agendas.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk be authorised to update the Council's photocopier to provide for back to back copying and scanning of documents.

10. The meeting ended at 8.05 p.m.