

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Minor Hall of the Bethel Baptist Church & Centre, Heol Miskin, Pontyclun at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 10 March, 2009.

PRESENT: Community Councillors V A Cale, J G Davies, P Griffiths, J V Huish, M Rea, and C Willis

Also in attendance: One member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors D Clayton-Jones, S Jenkins and R G Norman.

RESOLVED: That a get well card be sent to Councillor Norman following his hospitalisation.

2. **Declarations of interest**

None were made.

3. **Residents' concerns**

The Council received a presentation from Mr Fred Pembridge, a resident of Cross Inn, Llantrisant.

Mr Pembridge referred to his earlier correspondence with the Community Council on the "Mwyndy Application" He expressed his disappointment that at the public inquiry, the Borough Council had not proposed any alternative development for the site. He referred to new schools which had been built elsewhere in Wales and saw no reason why new schools should not be built at Mwyndy. Mr Pembridge advised

the Community Council that this was an issue he had pursued with the local education authority.

In Mr Pembridge's view, the land at Mwyndy had been purchased through public funds and he saw no reason why the local education authority should not use this land for what he saw as an urgent need for new schools in Pontyclun. Mr Pembridge believed that the Pontyclun Primary School and Y Pant were unsuited to their present sites.

A discussion followed where reference was made to the likely need for the Borough Council to compensate the applicant for planning consent at Mwyndy, the decision making process on capital schemes at the Borough Council and the poor settlement for 2009/10 made to the Borough Council by the Welsh Assembly Government.

RESOLVED: That the Council re-affirm its original decision not to support a proposal for the transfer of primary and secondary education to new sites at Mwyndy.

4. **Police matters**

The Clerk reported that PCSO Jitka Tomkova had been transferred from Pontyclun to Llantwit Fardre. Her replacement in Pontyclun was PCSO Jade Lewis. In a meeting with PCSO Lewis the previous week the Clerk had agreed to display notices of the latest PACT meeting in the Community Council noticeboards.

(a) **Reports from the police**

In the absence of police officers there was no discussion.

(b) **Reports from Members**

Body in river

Councillor Cale reported that walkers on the bank of the river Ely had discovered a body. The police had been informed.

The report was noted.

5. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 10 February, 2009**

The Clerk advised the Council of a typing error in the minutes. Minute 6(g)(ii) on Page 5 should read £20 and not £15.

RESOLVED: That, subject to the amendment above, the minutes be approved as an accurate record

6. **Matters arising**

(a) **Land at Brynsadler Mill**

The Council discussed the reply of its solicitors, Spicketts Battrick, to the questions asked in the Council's letter of 6 January, 2009.

The Council believed the questions asked in the letter of 6 January, 2009, had not been answered.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the questions asked in the letter of 6 January, 2009, be asked of Gaskell & Walker, solicitors, Cowbridge.
- (ii) That Gaskell & Walker, solicitors, also be asked to contact the solicitors acting for Mr J Barrington Williams to establish whether he is still interested in purchasing the land on the terms originally proposed.

(b) **Draft Local Development Plan 2006-2021**

(i) **Report by the Chairperson**

The Chairperson reported on her attendance at the presentation by the Borough Council at the Pontypridd YMCA on the Draft Local Development Plan.

The presentation had been arranged to ensure wide public consultation on the Draft Local Development Plan.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(ii) **Extension of consultation period and Correction Addendum**

The Council discussed the letter of 11 February, 2009, from the Borough Council advising that due to inclement weather the consultation period for the Draft Local Development Plan had been extended for a further week. The Council also discussed the Correction Addendum accompanying the letter of 11 February, 2009.

RESOLVED: That the letter and Correction Addendum be noted.

(iii) **Community Council comments on the Deposit Draft Local Development Plan 2006-2021**

The Council was pleasantly surprised to note that a substantial part of its earlier comments on the Preferred Strategy leading to the Deposit Draft Local Plan had been taken into account by the Borough Council.

Of particular note was the proposal for a much reduced allocation for housing and commercial development. The recent decision of the Planning Inspectorate on development at Mwyndy, which the Community Council had strenuously opposed, would account for a significant part of the projected housing and commercial development referred to in the Draft LDP up to 2021.

The Community Council was also surprised that there was no reference in the Deposit Draft LDP to the restoration of the railway line between Pontyclun and Beddau, particularly as the South East Wales Transport Alliance had included this scheme as part of their long term proposals. In the absence of provision in the Draft Deposit LDP the Community Council believed that the line should be allocated as a cycle path and not await proposals for the restoration of a railway.

The Community Council was also of the view that, in awarding planning consent for developments, the Borough Council should make more robust use of Section 106 agreements to achieve greater benefit for communities, the Borough Council and developers

RESOLVED: That these comments be forwarded to the Borough Council.

(c) **Mwyndy Planning consent – Views of Mr Fred Pembridge**

RESOLVED: That as a full discussion had taken place earlier on this item under Residents Concerns no further discussion take place.

(d) **Erosion of river bank – Footpath No. 341**

The Clerk advised the Council of considerable local concern at the erosion of the river bank adjacent to Footpath No.341 between the Ivor Woods and the Nant Dyfrgi.

The Clerk had reported the erosion to the Environment Agency who had responded that land stabilisation was the responsibility

of the landowner and not the Agency. The erosion had subsequently been reported to the person believed to be the landowner and also to the Borough Council's Rights of Way Officer. Meanwhile a number of calls had been received from residents who were worried that a well used footpath was in danger of being permanently lost.

The Borough Council had carried out a site inspection and had agreed to erect a fence to safeguard members of the public walking the footpath. The Rights of Way Officer had also agreed that he would contact the Environment Agency. Consideration would be given to diverting the footpath away from the area subject to erosion.

RESOLVED: That the Council support the action being taken by the Borough Council.

(e) **Buckingham Palace Garden Party**

The Council received the reply of One Voice Wales to the earlier view of the Council that invitations to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party should not be by nomination of chairpersons of community councils but rather by the selection of worthy individuals in communities.

The reply advised the Council that an avenue for the recognition of public service was available through charities, voluntary associations and the armed forces.

RESOLVED: That the reply be noted.

(f) **Miskin Scouts' Hall**

The Clerk referred to the presentation made to the Community Council at its meeting on 10 February, 2009, by Ms Shelley Spiller, about the amount of urgent building work needed to the Miskin Scouts' Hall.

The Clerk advised the Council that Ms Spiller had now provided the Council with a surveyor's report on the extent work required and an estimate of the cost for carrying out the work.

RESOLVED: That the report be added to the list of schemes to be decided for prioritisation by the Council.

7. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Prioritisation of schemes of the Council**

The Council discussed the prioritisation of schemes put forward by Members in Appendix 11 to the Council's agenda.

RESOLVED: That on the basis that the Council would be able to spend approximately £33,000 for each of the next three years, the following schemes be subject to costings:

1. Options for delivering an improved public convenience facility at the site of the existing public conveniences in Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun.
2. In conjunction with the Borough Council, an integrated set of proposals for traffic management in Pontyclun. The proposals to include:
 - (i) an upgrade of the existing pedestrian crossing in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, provided that this work is not already included on the Borough Council's list of pedestrian crossings to be upgraded in the next 3 years
 - (ii) a speed restricted zone of 20mph in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun
 - (iii) a weight restriction of 7.5 tonnes on lorries using Heol Miskin, Pontyclun
 - (iv) lorries exceeding the 7.5 tonne limit to be directed to use the Talbot Green By Pass
 - (v) a Safer Routes to School scheme to incorporate the improvements at (i) to (iv)

Note: That the Council investigate the possibility of persuading the Borough Council to take a "block" of the Community Council's proposals and, if the proposal is acceptable, make a financial contribution to the cost of the work.

3. Exploring ways of supporting youth work in the Community and youth facilities at Y Pant Comprehensive School.
4. Investigating ways of assisting in the provision of premises for local voluntary organisations specifically at the Scout Hall, Miskin, St Paul's Church Hall, Bethel Baptist Church Centre, Pontyclun and YGG Llantrisant.
5. Creating an access to Council owned land in Brynsadler.
6. Installation of a bicycle stand in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.
7. Provision of hanging baskets for summer bedding plants at Cefn yr Hendy.
8. Assisting in the provision of signage at Cefn yr Hendy.

(b) **Trial Procurement Initiative**

The Council discussed the invitation from One Voice Wales to participate in an e-trading initiative providing improved access to public sector contracts and more efficient procurement systems.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council participate in the trial procurement initiative.

(c) **Publicity for planning applications**

The Council discussed the reply from Jane Davidson, AM, to earlier concerns expressed by the Community Council over the lack of publicity given to cases where a developer chose to submit late changes to a planning application. The lack of publicity often meant that the public was deprived of the opportunity to challenge a developers' late submissions.

RESOLVED: That the reply be noted.

(d) **Community Council meeting dates**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had received 3 separate e-mails from Members who were concerned about agreed dates for Council meetings being postponed. The Members had asked that Council adhere to the meeting dates which had been earlier agreed and published.

The Council discussed the concerns.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That future meetings of the Community Council be held on the second Tuesday of each month with the next meeting being held on 14 April, 2009.
 - (ii) That revised meeting dates be circulated to the four venues identified by the Council for the holding of meetings for the next 18 months
 - (iii) That when the venues have been finalised copies of the schedule of meeting dates for 18 months be provided for each Member.

(e) **Proposed Prohibition of Waiting at Any Time and Amendments to Existing Waiting Restrictions**

The Council had been asked by the Borough Council for its comments on proposals for new restrictions and variations to existing restrictions in Pontyclun.

The Council discussed the proposals. It was believed that it was unlikely that the proposed restrictions would be introduced with immediate effect.

RESOLVED: That the following comments be offered:

- (i) That the Council agrees with the proposal to Prohibit Waiting at any Time at the junction of Llantrisant Road and Clun Avenue.
- (ii) That the Council agrees with the proposal to Prohibit Waiting at any Time on the west side of Llantrisant Road from its junction with School Street to the bus stop near Cwrt Bethel.
- (iii) That the Council agrees with the proposal to Prohibit Waiting at any Time on the east side of Llantrisant Road from its junction with Clun Avenue to the bus stop opposite Cwrt Bethel.

- (iv) That the Council agrees with the proposal to create a Bus Stop Clearway for a short section of highway on the east side of Cowbridge Road near the junction with Palalwyf Avenue.
- (v) That the Council fails to understand the reasons for the retention of the existing Limited Waiting of 30 minutes in 1 hour restriction on the east side of Cowbridge Road opposite the new Tesco store
- (vi) That the Council disagrees with the proposals for Prohibition at Any Time for two sections of Station Terrace. Instead, the Council believes that the Borough Council should progress the proposals for park and ride facilities near the west-bound platform of Pontyclun Station and implement the earlier proposals for Residents Only parking in Station Terrace. The Council also believes that the turning circle at the western end of Station Terrace should be made a Prohibit Waiting at any Time area.
- (vii) The Council believes that Residents Only parking should be introduced in Lewis Street.

(f) **Application for financial support**

The Council discussed an application for financial support from McMillan Cancer Support.

RESOLVED: That the organisation be advised to make application to the Community Council in June, 2009, in order that the application can be considered at the Council's Annual Grant Allocation meeting in July.

(g) **One Voice Wales**

The Council discussed an invitation to renew its membership of One Voice Wales for 2009/10.

RESOLVED: That the Council's membership of One Voice Wales be renewed for 2009/10.

(h) **Weekly Planning Notifications**

The Council discussed applications contained in the latest Weekly Notifications.

The Council noted the significant reduction in the number of applications within the Community of Pontyclun in recent weeks.

RESOLVED: That no comments be offered.

(i) **Payment of creditors**

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 17 to the Council's agenda.

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

No matters were reported.

9. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **The Local Government Partnership Scheme Annual Report 2007/08**

The Council received a copy of the Report for 2007/08.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(b) **Award of planning consent**

The Council received details of the long awaited planning consent for the winter games area football pitch on land off Ffordd Cefn yr Hendy, Miskin. The land had earlier been subject to a Section 106 Agreement as part of the residential development at Cefn yr Hendy.

RESOLVED: That the consent be welcomed as part of the process in providing recreational facilities for residents of the Community.

(c) **Proposed car parking charges**

A Member reported that the Borough Council had identified the car park adjacent to the Pontyclun Community Centre for the introduction of car parking charges during the financial year commencing on 1 April, 2009.

It was understood that the charges would be tiered and that there would be different charges for short term and long term parking.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Borough Council complaining about the introduction of charges without any form of consultation with Community Centre users, the Community Council and residents.

10. The meeting ended at 9.05 p.m.