

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the vestry of Babel C. M. Church, Groesfaen, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 11 November, 2008.

**PRESENT:** Community Councillors J G Davies, P Griffiths, J V Huish, Ms S Jenkins, R G Norman, M Rea, and Ms C Willis

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** PCSO Jitka Tomkova for part of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors Ms V A Cale, D Clayton-Jones and S Rogers

2. **Declarations of interest**

Councillor Ms S Jenkins declared an interest in item 6 (e) (iii) on the grounds that she is the Chair of the Executive Committee, 1<sup>st</sup> Miskin Mill Scouts.

3. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 7 October, 2008**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting be approved as an accurate record subject to the reference in minute 7 (a) to "New Police Community Support Officer" being amended to "New Police Officer"

4. **Matters arising**

(a) **Highways Issues**

**RESOLVED:** That the recently circulated list of highways related issues raised with the Highways Authority in recent years be brought back to the December

Community Council meeting in order that the items on the list be prioritised.

(b) **Action points**

**RESOLVED:** That a list of action points be included as an appendix to future minutes identifying responsibility for actions and an appropriate timescale.

(c) **Council owned land in Brynsadler**

The Clerk reported that a meeting with a member of staff at Spicketts and Battrick, solicitors, Pontypridd, had taken place on 9 October, 2008. A second opinion had been sought on the questions originally asked of Gaskell and Walker, solicitors, Cowbridge. On receipt of the second opinion, Spicketts and Battrick would be asked for a further legal view on whether the Council had acted ultra vires in its purchase of the land.

The second opinion was awaited and the Clerk had advised Spicketts and Battrick to contact the solicitors who had acted in the original transaction, Edward T Davies and Son, Pontyclun, if any points of clarification were needed.

The report was noted.

5. **Police matters**

(a) **Reports from the police**

(i) **General view**

PCSO Tomkova reported that the previous month had been relatively quiet with only 15 minor crimes reported. Both Halloween and Bonfire Night had passed by without any serious problems.

(ii) **Youth annoyance**

During the month there had been an occasion when approximately 50 to 60 youngsters had gathered in the car park of the Pontyclun Rugby Club. On investigation it was found that very few youngsters were local and that most were from Caerphilly, Maesteg and Pontypridd. A similar situation had occurred at the Llantrisant Leisure Centre and the police station at Talbot Green had been inundated with telephone calls. Most of the youngsters were in the 14 to 15 year age group.

The report was noted.

(iii) **Sale of alcohol**

PCSO Tomkova reported that during the month surveillance had been carried out in conjunction with licensing officers of the Borough Council at premises suspected of selling alcohol to under age youngsters. Evidence of abuse of the licensing laws had been obtained and it was likely that prosecutions would follow.

The report was noted.

(iv) **PACT priorities for the coming month**

PCSO Tomkova advised that the two priorities for the next month would be parking in Pontyclun and school engagement.

The report was noted.

(v) **Appointment of new Chief Superintendant**

PCSO Tomkova advised of the recent appointment of Ms Sue Hayes as the new Chief Superintendant for the area.

**RESOLVED:** That a letter of congratulations be sent from the Community Council to Chief Superintendant Hayes on her appointment.

(vi) **New police officer**

PCSO Tomkova reported that Mr Nigel Pearce, the newly appointed police officer at Talbot Green Police Station, had settled in well to his new duties.

The report was noted.

(b) **Reports from Members**

Councillor Graham Davies reported that residents of Palalwyf Avenue continued to experience problems with motorists using the lane at the rear of the Avenue as a short cut. Little consideration was shown for pedestrians using the lane. Councillor Davies asked if it was possible for a traffic order to be placed on the lane limiting the speed of vehicles to 5 miles per hour.

A lengthy discussion ensued and reference was made to the recent, unsuccessful, request by the Community Council to the Highway Authority for the installation of traffic humps in the lane.

The possibility of “gating” the lane was considered with each resident of Palalwyf Avenue being provided with their own key. The possibility of the Community Council making a contribution to the proposed scheme was suggested.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Davies sound out the views of residents of Palalwyf Avenue on the possibility of “gating” the lane and, also, the possibility of the installation of traffic humps to reduce the speed of traffic using the lane.

6. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Council’s Budget for 2008/09, expenditure to 31 October, 2008 and projected expenditure to 31 March, 2009.**

The Council considered its expenditure to 31 October, 2008 and projected expenditure to 31 March, 2009 against its Budget for the year. The Council also took into account its reserves and earmarked reserves at 31 March, 2008.

he Clerk also drew the Council’s attention to the need for maintenance work needed to be carried out to the footbridge across the river Ely at Maesyfelin. No provision had been made in the Council’s budget for this work. It was noted that action had been taken to carry out temporary repairs to prevent any accident to members of the public.

**RESOLVED:** (i) That the information on expenditure to 31 October, 2008, and projected expenditure to 31 March, 2009, be noted.

(ii) That arrangements be made for an estimate of the cost of permanent repair work to the bridge at Maesyfelin and, if available, the estimate be discussed at the next meeting of the Council.

(b) **Planning Inquiry – A4119 - Mwyndy**

The Council received the result of the planning inquiry held in February, 2008, on the refusal of the Planning Authority to award planning consent for the development of land on either side of the A4119 at Mwyndy, Pontyclun.

It was noted with regret that despite a massive local campaign against the planning application, the inspector holding the inquiry had found in favour of the appellant and that, as a result, conditional consent for the proposed development now existed.

- RESOLVED:** (i) That the decision be noted.
- (ii) That no further action be taken for the time being pending further consultations by the Planning Authority on the Unitary Development Plan.

(c) **Boundary Commission for Wales**

The Council received an invitation to make nominations to represent the Council on workshops being hosted by the Boundary Commission for Wales.

**RESOLVED:** That approval be given for any Member to attend the workshops.

(d) **Request to create an access for disabled persons to St David's Church, Miskin, from Council owned land**

The Clerk advised that this item had been raised in a telephone call from a former Member of the Community Council living in Miskin.

A similar request had been considered by the Community Council some years earlier when the decision had been that the Community Council would not object to the access being created from Community Council owned land subject to the cost of the work being borne by the Church.

The Council discussed the latest request.

**RESOLVED:** That the former Member be advised that funds to assist the project may be available under the Welsh Church Acts administered by the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council. In the event that funds are available the Community Council would be willing to donate the land to assist the project.

(e) **Applications for financial assistance**

The Council discussed four applications for financial assistance.

**RESOLVED:** (i) That a grant of £200 be made

to Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru.

- (ii) That no grant be made to Gorwelion. The Council wished it known that it while it supports the local scouts and guides it did not think it appropriate to support wider applications for financial assistance.
- (iii) That in response to the application for assistance from the Scout Group and Guide Movement, Miskin, the leaders of the local organisation be asked along to address the next Council meeting. (When this application was discussed Councillor Jenkins vacated the Council Chamber and took no part in the Council's discussions)
- (iv) That since the application from the British Red Cross had missed the deadline for the receipt of grant applications, the application be held in abeyance.
- (v) That in March, 2009, the Council review its policy for awarding grants.

(f) **Planning**

(Councillors Huish and Rea declared personal but not prejudicial interests in this item of business. Both Members elected to remain in the Council Chamber but did not participate in any discussions)

**RESOLVED:** That no comments be made to the Planning Authority on any of the planning applications contained in the latest weekly notifications.

(g) **Payment of creditors**

**RESOLVED:** That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 11 to the Council's agenda.

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

No matters were reported.

8. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Erection of bus shelter**

The Clerk reminded the Council that at an earlier meeting it had been agreed to erect a bus shelter to serve the needs of residents of the new residential development at Cefn yr Hendy. The Council had asked the Clerk to find out from the Borough Council whether that council would be prepared to contribute to the cost of the erection.

A reply had been received stating that the Borough Council would not be in a position to contribute towards the cost of the new shelter "for financial reasons and also because of the design and style of the new shelter would not be in accordance with the Council's specification for new shelters"

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk reply and ask what type of bus shelter would be acceptable to the Borough Council.

(b) **Christmas illuminations in Pontyclun**

The Clerk reported that Floodlighting and Electrical Services, of Coed Cae Lane, Pontyclun, would again, this Christmas, arrange to erect Christmas illuminations in Pontyclun without any charge to the Community Council.

It had been suggested to the Clerk that in readiness for Christmas, 2009, Members of the Council should visit the annual fair to be held in the West Country in July, 2009, and decide what illuminations would best suit the Council. A representative of Floodlighting and Electrical Services would be available to advise the Members on obtaining the best value for money. The company would also be prepared to store the new illuminations and erect them in December, 2009.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council express its gratitude for the help offered by the local company and give further thought during the summer of 2009 to attending the annual fair in the West Country.

(c) **Review of Community Council Election Results, 2008**

The Council received details from the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales of the review of Community Council Election Results, 2008.

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

(d) **Fire & Rescue – National Framework for Wales, 2008-2011**

The Clerk reported receipt of the Fire and Rescue National Framework which sets out the Welsh Assembly Government's vision and priorities for the three Fire and Rescue Authorities in Wales.

The Framework creates the foundation on which local solutions are to be built. It aims to promote and support the further development of joint working across Fire & rescue Authorities and with the wider public sector.

**RESOLVED:** That any Member wishing to read the Framework contact the Clerk.

(e) **Delivery of agendas**

The Chairperson requested that agenda papers for Council meetings be delivered to Members by the Thursday preceding the Tuesday, the day of the Council meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk make the necessary arrangements.

(f) **Public participation at Council meetings**

The Chairperson proposed that a period of time be allocated at the beginning of each Council meeting for participation by members of the public.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk make the necessary arrangements and draw the facility to the attention of the public.

(g) **Calendar of meetings for 2008/09**

It was proposed that as the Council had changed its meeting night to Tuesday, and had also decided to rotate its meeting places to different venues throughout the Community, that the calendar of meetings for 2008/09 be amended.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk make the necessary revisions and arrange for the changes to be displayed on the Council's website.

(h) **Proposed meeting place**

It was proposed that in addition to the venues already identified for Community Council meetings, that the possibility of holding meetings at the new school on Cefn yr Hendy.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk pursue the possibility of holding Council meetings at the new school.

(i) **Terms of the sale of alcohol**

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk establish the terms of the sale of alcohol in Pontyclun.

(j) **Community Council website**

**RESOLVED:** That the names and addresses of Members of the Pontyclun Community Council be displayed on the Council's website.

(k) **Remembrance Sunday Service**

**RESOLVED:** That a letter be sent to Mrs Gail Porter in Miskin to thank her for arranging the Remembrance Sunday Service at the Pontyclun War Memorial.

9. The meeting ended 8.25 p.m.



