

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun, at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 10 October, 2007,

PRESENT: Community Councillors Ms V A Cale, P Griffiths, S Jenkins, A R Lane, R G Norman, and Ms P Thomas

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO Tomkova and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Community Councillors D Clayton-Jones, C Davies, Ms D Hayes and M Rea.

2. **Declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest were received from Members.

3. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 September, 2007**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 5 September, 2007 be approved as an accurate record.

4. **Matters arising**

(a) **Letter from Councillor Rea**

The Council received the letter at Appendix 2 to the agenda from Councillor Rea.

RESOLVED: That the Council defer discussion of the letter until such time as Councillor Rea is present at a meeting.

(b) **Feedback from Have Your Say Day**

The Chairperson, Councillor Jenkins, reported that while the number of residents attending the latest Have Your Say Day had been fewer than the previous Have Your Say Day, the event had been very worthwhile. Several important topics of interest had been raised with Members.

In particular, the commitments given by the Borough Council to remedy the dilapidated and dangerous state of some of the railings at the Maesyfelin playing fields was still outstanding.

Concern had also been expressed that the bus service from Pontyclun to Cardiff no longer terminated at the Cardiff bus and railway stations station. The service now terminated at Greyfriars Road. Passengers needing to access the railway station were forced to carry their luggage across the city.

Further concerns among residents arose out of worries that when the new railway station opened in Llanharan, east bound trains would not have sufficient capacity for passengers joining trains at Pontyclun station.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the Community Council again writes to the Borough Council drawing attention to the very dangerous state of the railings separating the rugby and soccer pitches on the Maesyfelin playingfields.
 - (ii) That the Community Council writes to the South East Wales Transport Alliance, the Welsh Assembly and the Borough Council seeking assurances that when the new railway station opens in Llanharan there will be sufficient capacity on east-bound trains for passengers joining at Pontyclun.
 - (iii) That the Community Council writes to the Borough Council asking for assistance to ensure that some of the Pontyclun to Cardiff bus services terminate at the Cardiff bus station/railway station.
 - (iv) That in the Community Council's next newsletter the public be made aware of the efforts made by the children of Pontyclun Primary School in organising litter picks in the Community.

- (v) That a copy of the Community Council's objectives, and progress to date, be brought to the next meeting of the Community Council.

(c) **Proposed development at Junctions 33, 34 and 35 of the M4**

RESOLVED: That the Community Council be represented at a group of local community councils considering the implications of the proposed development by the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Clerk.

(d) **Draft proposals of the Boundary Commission for the alteration of community council boundaries in Rhondda Cynon Taff**

The Clerk reported that a survey of Castell-y-Mwnws residents' wishes had been carried out to establish whether the residents wished their settlement to remain in the Community of Pontyclun or be transferred to the Community of Llanharry. Thirteen questionnaires had been delivered to residents' homes and seven completed questionnaires were returned. All seven residents wished Castell-y-Mwnws to remain in the Community of Pontyclun.

The Clerk advised the Council that since the publication of the Boundary Commission's draft proposals he had become aware that the Borough Council had revised its initial views on where the boundary should lie between the Community of Pontyclun in relation to the Community of Llantrisant and the Community of Llanharan.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Community Council comment to the Boundary Commission that it is in favour of the boundaries recognised by the Boundary Commission in its draft proposals.

- (ii) That a copy of the Community Council's comments be forwarded to the Borough Council for information.

5. **Minutes of the Community Council's Special Meeting of 27 September, 2007**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's Special Meeting of 27 September, 2007, be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

Application for planning consent by Beckerly Holdings

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the two applications by Beckerly Holdings to develop the site of the former Park Hall cinema.

- RESOLVED:** (i) to note that the first planning application is a planning inquiry to be heard by an inspector appointed by the Welsh Assembly Government in October, 2007.
- (ii) to note that the second application had not been determined at a Special Meeting of the Taff Ely Planning Committee meeting on 2 October, 2007, due to the late submission of information on parking facilities in the vicinity of the proposed development.

7. **Police matters**

(a) **Local priorities**

PCSO Tomkova reported that the two police priorities for the coming month would be (i) parking in the vicinity of Pontyclun Primary School during school times and (ii) ensuring that there was no anti-social behaviour at Halloween and Bonfire Night celebrations.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(b) **Additional police resources**

PCSO Tomkova reported that the promised increase in the establishment for the local police station had been placed on hold for the time being.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(c) **Break-ins at shops in Pontyclun**

PCSO Tomkova reported that police investigations were continuing following break-ins at The Community Shop and Pure Indulgence. The investigations had been hindered by the lack of fingerprints, witnesses and CCTV footage.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

8. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **Application by the Pontyclun Football Club for Lottery funds to replace and improve facilities at the Maesyfelin playing fields**

The Community Council received an address from Mr Steve Lewis, Chairman of the Pontyclun Football Club.

Mr Lewis stated that the Pontyclun Football Club, which had been providing footballing opportunities in the Community for over 100 years, was facing a major problem. The ground under the Club's changing rooms is being eroded by the adjacent river Ely. The Club is faced with significant building costs in constructing new changing rooms. It was planned to provide facilities which could be used by several organisations in the Community.

Mr Lewis explained that while the Football Club had already some funds, applications for grant assistance would be submitted to a wide range of organisations. As part of the application process it would be necessary to obtain local support. Mr Lewis asked whether the Pontyclun Community Council would be prepared to act as a supporter for the Football Club's plans.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council wholeheartedly support the plans of the Pontyclun Football Club in replacing and improving its facilities.

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

The Council discussed a letter from solicitors acting on behalf of Mr and Mrs G B Williams offering to purchase the Community Council owned land in Brynsadler. The offer extended to the purchasers being prepared, at their expense, to construct the appropriate access to the land and the river side walk for the benefit of the community.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council decline the offer to sell the land to Mr and Mrs G B Williams.
- (ii) That the Council's solicitors be instructed to challenge the view of the Welsh Assembly Government that the Community Council has no interest in the covenant on the land adjacent to the Community Council's land being transferred to the Community Council. Further, that the solicitors be requested to pursue this line of argument robustly

with the objective of getting the full benefit of the covenant transferred.

(c) **Drawings for access to the Community Council's land**

RESOLVED: That a copy of the drawings for access to this land be circulated to all Members by the end of the week.

(d) **Fires in the Ivor Woods, Brynsadler**

The Council discussed the concerns of residents of The Hollies, Brynsadler, over the actions of youths in lighting fires in the Ivor Woods, adjacent to their properties. Residents were worried that the youths' actions could lead to a situation where their homes were at risk.

RESOLVED: (i) That the lighting of fires in the Woods and the damage caused to young trees be reported to the police as incidents of criminal damage

(ii) That signs be erected in the Woods informing the public that the Woods are maintained by the Community Council for the peace and quiet enjoyment of the public. The Community Council would welcome the assistance of the public in keeping the Woods for the purpose for which they were intended.

(iii) That replies be sent to the residents who had written to the Community Council to inform them of the action which had been taken.

(e) **Trial of self watering hanging baskets**

The Clerk advised the Council that the trial of the self watering hanging baskets during the summer of 2007 had been a major success.

RESOLVED: (i) That 50% of the remaining wire type hanging baskets be replaced with self watering hanging baskets for the summer of 2008.

(ii) That the Council investigate the possibility

of creating a flower bed at the junction of Cowbridge Road with Llanharry Road in Brynsadler.

(f) **Planning applications**

The Council examined details of planning applications in the latest Weekly Notifications form the Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That no comment on the applications be made to the Planning Authority.

(g) **Payment of creditors**

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

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

**Pontyclun Rugby Football Club –
Annual Fireworks display – 3 November, 2007**

The Clerk read out a letter which had been received from Mr Graham Croad of the Pontyclun Rugby Football Club in connection with the Rugby Club's Annual Fireworks display on 3 November, 2007.

The Council's consent was sought to take a temporary electrical supply from the Council's public conveniences to assist in stewarding the event.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree to the request provided that any electrical connection be made by a qualified electrician.

10. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Mrs Diane Baker**

The Council received a letter from the Chairman of the Llantrisant Council informing of the death in service of Mrs Diane Baker, Clerk to the Llantrisant Community Council.

RESOLVED: That the Council express its condolences to Mr Andrew Baker, son of Mrs Baker.

(b) **Planning Inquiry**

The Clerk advised the Council that following the refusal of the Borough Council to award planning consent for residential and

commercial development east and west of the A4119 at Mwyndy, the applicant, Scarborough Developments, had lodged an appeal. The appeal would commence on 19 February, 2008, and was likely to last several days.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(c) **Church Village By Pass**

The Clerk advised the Council that construction work on the Church Village By Pass was likely to start early in the New Year. In advance of construction work starting, the Community Council had been provided with plans of the new by pass and details of the accompanying Side Roads Order. The documents were available for inspection by Members.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(d) **Hand over of seat**

The Clerk reported that during September he had been asked to attend a meeting with representatives of the Llantrisant History Society and families of the late Eric Griffith, of Pontyclun, and the late Trevor Rees, of Miskin. The purpose of the meeting was to hand over to the Community Council a seat outside the Community Centre to commemorate the contributions made by Eric Griffith and Trevor Rees in documenting the history of the area.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

11. The meeting ended at 9. 45 p.m.