

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 5 September, 2007.

PRESENT: Community Councillors Ms V A Cale, D. Clayton-Jones, C Davies, P Griffiths, A R Lane, R G Norman, and Ms P Thomas

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P C S O Jitka Tomkova and four members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received on Community Councillors Ms D Hayes, Ms S R Jenkins and M Rea.

2. **Chairperson**

In the absence of the Chairperson, Councillor Ms P Thomas, the Council's Vice Chairperson, occupied the Chair.

3. **Declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest were received from Members.

4. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 4 July, 2007**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's meeting of 4 July, 2007, be approved as an accurate record subject to an addition to minute 7 (a) to reflect that an internal auditor for the Council for 2007/08 had not yet been appointed. Also, that Councillor Lane declared an interest and vacated the Council chamber when discussion took place on planning application No. 07/0868/10 under minute 7 (c).

5. **Matters arising**

Recording of future Community Council minutes

RESOLVED: That future minutes of the Council be written with the objective of recording the resolution of the Council while limiting the narrative on discussion.

6. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 18 July, 2007**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 18 July, 2007 be approved as an accurate record.

7. **Matters arising**

Late applications for grant

RESOLVED: That the following grants be made:

	£
TEDS	100.00
Mr Edgeley Thomas	100.00
St Paul's Sunday School	100.00
* Flower Guild of St Paul's Church, Pontyclun	100.00

* Councillor Lane declared an interest in this application and vacated the Council Chamber.

Note: The application by the British Heart Foundation was deferred.

8. **Minutes of the Council's Special Meeting of 17 August, 2007**

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as an accurate record.

9. **Matters arising**

Since the Council's Special meeting, the applicant had submitted further details in support of his application. The Council discussed the further details. It was understood that the application was likely to be determined at the planning committee meeting on 2 October, 2007.

RESOLVED: That the Council comment that:

- (i) the new position for a puffin crossing was considered to be more dangerous than the existing crossing.

- (ii) that the new proposals for a new crossing would lead to a further loss of 10 parking spaces in Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.
- (iii) that the Community Council is surprised that the applicant has amended his parking survey details when challenged on his earlier figures.

In addition, enquiries be made of the Borough Council on whether any discussions had taken place between the applicant and the Borough Council about any Section 106 planning gains.

10. **Consultation on Housing Strategy**

The Council received a presentation from Ms Alex Coole as part of the Borough Council's Community Housing Strategy. Ms Coole identified six key themes on how the Borough Council would meet its strategy.

At the end of her presentation Ms Coole answered a number of questions from Members.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That Members of the Council be asked to complete the comments section in the document left by her and return it to the Community Housing Section of the Borough Council.
 - (ii) That a copy of the Housing Needs survey be provided to Councillor Dan Clayton Jones.

11. **Police matters**

(a) **Speeding traffic**

PCSO Tomkova reported that an issue of major concern to residents is speeding traffic. During recent weeks the police had been active in monitoring the speed of traffic in Miskin, Elms Farm and other locations in the Community. The exercise had resulted in a number of warnings being issued to motorists.

The report was noted.

(b) **Pontyclun Railway Station**

PCSO Tomkova reported that complaints continued to be received about youth annoyance in the vicinity of the Pontyclun railway station. It was proposed that coordinated action be

carried out with the British Transport Police to resolve the issues. This issue would be the priority for the next month.

The report was noted.

(c) **Burglaries**

It was reported that a burglary had taken place at the Ynysddu Estate. An arrest was made later in evening of the burglary.

It was reported that a burglary had taken place at Charidzma in Pontyclun. Two people had been apprehended by the police.

The reports were noted.

(d) **Junction of Clun Avenue with Llantrisant Road**

Councillor Chris Davies expressed his disappointment that the Borough Council were unable to introduce regulations to control parking at this junction until “there is a budget for doing so”.

(e) **Junction of Heol y Felin with Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun**

Councillor Norman advised PCSO Tomkova that there was a need to give motorists turning right when emerging from Heol y Felin a better vision of on-coming traffic. He suggested that the police could give support to introducing parking regulations or, failing this, requesting the erection of a traffic mirror at the junction.

PCSO Tomkova noted the comments.

(f) **Stone throwing**

Councillor Norman drew PCSO Tomkova’s attention to incidents of stone throwing from youths in Heol yr Orsaf on to the roofs of caravans at the ends of Station Terrace, Pontyclun.

PCSO Tomkova noted the comments.

(g) **Junction of High Street and Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler**

Councillor Norman again raised the need for a traffic mirror to assist traffic emerging from High Street.

It was explained that while there were numerous examples of such mirrors in the Vale of Glamorgan, the Highway Authority in Rhondda Cynon Taff were not supportive of the idea since the view was held that drivers would be come accustomed to relying on the mirror to exit the junction.

(h) **Theft of a vehicle registration plate**

Councillor Cale advised PCSO Tomkova of the theft of a vehicle registration plate from the car of a member of her family during the previous weekend.

PCSO Tomkova noted the comments.

12. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **A Shared Community**

The Council received preliminary details of a consultation document from the Welsh Assembly Government which sought to enhance relationships within local government in Wales. The document invited all unitary authorities and community councils to complete a questionnaire on ways of improving relationships.

RESOLVED: That completion of the questionnaire be deferred to allow the Clerk time to provide copies for each Member.

(b) **Letter from Councillor Rea**

The Council received a letter from Councillor Rea asking a number of questions about the publication of the Community Council's latest Newsletter.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Rea be advised that:

- (i) the need to issue another Community Council Newsletter to update the public had been discussed at a number of Community Council meetings prior to the Have Your Say Day.
- (ii) the text of the Newsletter was written by a small group of Members with the full approval of the Community Council
- (iii) the Council always planned to issue Newsletters during the year. With this in mind, specific provision was made in the Community Council's budget at the beginning of the financial year. The Newsletter was printed by Impressions of Pontyclun. Experience has shown that this local company has provided a very

economical and efficient service over a number of years.

(c) **Public conveniences**

The Council discussed a letter from Mr John Dilworth in response to the article about the public conveniences in the Community Council's latest Newsletter.

In his letter, Mr Dilworth made it clear that he was totally against the suggestion that the public conveniences should be replaced by a bandstand and slimmed down public toilet. Mr Dilworth emphasised that the conveniences were a public asset which should be improved for the benefit of the Community.

RESOLVED: That Mr Dilworth be thanked for his letter and advised that the article was placed in the Newsletter with the intention of receiving feedback from the public. Further that Mr Dilworth would be kept abreast of any plans for the conveniences.

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

RESOLVED: That in the absence of Councillor Sarah Jenkins this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

(e) **Proposed development at junctions 33, 34 and 35 of the M4 motorway**

The Council discussed a letter from Pentyrch Community Council inviting the Pontyclun Community Council to attend a meeting of neighbouring community councils to discuss concerns about possible development at junctions 33, 34 and 35 of the M4 motorway.

RESOLVED: That the Community Council agree in principle to be represented at the meeting and that further details of the meeting be awaited from the Pentyrch Community Council.

(f) **Council for the Protection of Rural Wales**

RESOLVED: That the Council agree to the renewal of its annual subscription to the Council for the Protection of Rural Wales.

(g) **Draft proposals of the Boundary Commission for the review of community boundaries**

The Council discussed the changes proposed to the boundary of the Community of Pontyclun and the boundaries of neighbouring communities. The Community Council also discussed proposed amendments for representation within the Community Council's wards. It was noted that the Boundary Commission sought views on whether the settlement at Castell-y-Mwnws should remain within the Community of Pontyclun or be included within the Community of Llanharry.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council agree with the boundary changes proposed.
- (ii) That the Council suggest that, as the only highway access to the new residential developments to the north of Pontyclun is through Miskin, that this area should form part of the Miskin Ward rather than the Cefn yr Hendy Ward.
- (iii) That the views of residents of Castell-y-Mwnws be sought on whether the settlement should form part of the Community of Pontyclun or Community of Llanharry.
- (iv) That a draft letter of the Council's observations to the Boundary Commission be brought to the Council's October monthly meeting.

(h) **Issues at High Street, Brynsadler**

The Council was addressed by Mr & Mrs Tremlett who had recently bought the workshop of Mr Norman Pipkin in High Street, Brynsadler.

Mr & Mrs Tremlett sought to reassure the Community Council and residents of High Street about their plans for the former workshop. They stated that the former workshop site would not be used for residential development. They would not be using the site as a store in connection with their plumbing business. Additionally, it was not their plan to remove the boundary wall with High Street, although it would be necessary to reduce the length of the wall by about six feet because of a bow in the wall and the need to excavate a sewer.

Mr Tremlett said that his aim was to keep residents informed of his plans and to date had made a number of letter drops to keep residents in the picture

Mr & Mrs Tremlett shared the concerns of residents about access to Cowbridge Road from High Street. They were supportive of a traffic mirror to aid safe access and egress from High Street. Mr Tremlett said that he would fund the erection of the mirror if approval was given by the Highway Authority.

Members commented on the refurbishment of the cottage at the corner of High Street and Cowbridge Road. While work appeared to have been suspended, building activities had caused some concern to residents. It appeared that the road sign to Llanharry, at the gable end of the premises had disappeared.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That the comments of Mr & Mrs Tremlett be noted.
 - (ii) That the Clerk contact the Highway Authority again about the possibility of the erection of a traffic mirror.
 - (iii) That the Clerk contact the Highway Authority about the disappearance of the road sign to Llanharry.

(i) **Community Council land in Brynsadler**

The Clerk reported that he had complied with the request under the Freedom of Information Act to provide solicitors acting for the landowner adjacent to the Community Council's land all correspondence, documents, minutes and e-mails relating to the Community Council's plans for the land. The work involved in researching the information was extensive and, given that the information had to be provided within the statutory period of 20 days, and 10 days of this period fell during the Clerk's annual leave, activity had been frenetic. All documents had been photocopied and delivered to the solicitors within the statutory period. A charge of £75.00 had been made.

The Clerk had also met a surveyor on site, on 12 July, with a view to preparing drawings of the proposed access to the land from the highway in Brynsadler. The surveyor had been fully briefed on the Community Council's requirements and a drawing was expected at any time.

The Clerk had also requested the Council's solicitors for their views on whether the covenant on the land adjacent to the

Community Council's land could be transferred to the Community Council.

The Clerk read out the reply which had been received from the Council's solicitors.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That in the event of no drawings being received from the surveyor, the Clerk be authorised to engage another surveyor to provide drawings.
 - (ii) That the Clerk authorise the Council's solicitors to write direct to the Welsh Assembly Government to challenge the view that the Community Council has no interest in the covenant being transferred.

(j) **Weekly Planning Notifications**

The Council discussed the latest planning notifications received from the Planning Authority.

RESOLVED: That the following comments be made:

Application No. 07/1307/10

That, unless alternative parking provision is provided, the Council is opposed to the application since it will lead to further on-street parking.

Application No. 07/1365/10

That, unless alternative parking provision is provided, the Council is opposed to the application since it will lead to further on-street parking.

Application No. 07/0871/10

That, unless alternative parking provision is provided, the Council is opposed to the application since it will lead to further on-street parking.

Application No. 07/1133/10

As the Council did not have a location plan of the proposed garage, it was difficult to provide a meaningful comment. If the garage was to be erected at the rear of the property the Council

would have no objection to the proposal. However, if the garage is to be erected at the front to the premises the Council would object on the grounds that the development is inappropriate in that it would mar the appearance of the property.

Application No. 07/1043/13

The Council is opposed to the proposal as it constitutes development in the countryside.

Application No. 07/1394/10

While the Council is not opposed to the development, it has concerns over access to the premises.

Application No. 07/1564/10

While the Council is not oppose to the development, it has concerns that the proposal will have the effect of reducing the amenity enjoyed by neighbours. Additionally, if the application is approved, a condition should be placed on the consent to ensure that any building work is in keeping with the surrounding architecture.

(k) Payment of creditors

RESOLVED: That payment be approved to the creditors listed in Appendix 12 to the Council's agenda.

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

No matters were reported.

13. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Council's Income & Expenditure to 31 August, 2007**

The Council was provided with a details of its budget for 2007/08, its expenditure to 31 August, 2007, a forecast of its expenditure to 31 March, 2008, and amounts of variances against its budget.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the information be noted.
- (ii) That the information be brought to a special meeting of the Council.

(b) **Society of Local Council Clerks**

The Clerk provided details of the One Day Conference of the Society of Local Council Clerks to be held in Cwmbran on 12 September, 2007. The Clerk informed the Council that, on this occasion, his Conference fee had been sponsored by the South Wales Branch of the Society of Local Council Clerks. It was a requirement of the SLCC that the Conference fee be paid initially by the Community Council with a reimbursement being made on production of the receipt for payment.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(c) **Planning appeal**

The Council received notification of an appeal against the refusal of the Planning Authority to award consent for the development of 19.1 hectares of land, for mixed use development, east and west of the A4119 at Mwyndy, Pontyclun. The date for the appeal would be notified in due course.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

(d) **Former Park Hall cinema site, Pontyclun**

The Clerk advised the Council that an appeal against the failure of the Planning Authority to determine the first application for planning consent by Beckerly Holdings would be held in the Bethel Baptist Church and Centre at 10.00 a.m. on 9 October, 2007.

RESOLVED: (i) That the information be noted.
(ii) That a notice be placed in the Community Council's noticeboards advising the public of the appeal.

(e) **Maesyfelin railings**

A Member asked whether it would be possible for labour to be made available through the Youth Offending Team to paint the railings around the Maesyfelin playingfields.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries of the officer in charge of the Youth Offending Team.

14. The meeting ended at 10.05 p.m.