

Minutes of the meeting of the Pontyclun Community Council held in the Pontyclun Community Centre, Pontyclun at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 6 February, 2008.

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO J Tomkova and one member of the public for part of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Ms V A Cale, Ms D Hayes and Councillor M Rea

2. **Declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest were received from Members.

3. **Minutes of the Council's meeting of 9 January, 2008**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council's meeting of 9 January, 2008, be approved as an accurate record subject to an addition to the resolution under minute 8 (a) to reflect that the implication of the increase would be less than 1% increase to Council Tax payers in the Community.

4. **Matter arising**

(a) **Council's Budget for 2008/09**

RESOLVED: That a copy of the Council's Budget for 2008/09 be included with the minutes of the Council's meeting

of 6 February, 2008, for the information of Members.

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

(i) **Cost of constructing an access**

The Council received the report of a local surveyor in which the cost of creating a simple access from the highway on to Council owned land in Brynsadler was estimated to be in the region of £4,000 to £5,000.

RESOLVED: That the cost be noted.

(ii) **Meeting with Mr G B Williams**

The Clerk advised that Mr G B Williams, the adjacent landowner, had asked due to a need to attend a funeral, whether the meeting with Community Council representatives could be re-arranged to 12 February, 2008. The Chairperson had indicated that she would not be able to attend on the proposed new date.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree to the revised date and that Councillor Griffiths accompany the Clerk in place of the Chairperson.

(iii) **Status of work**

The Clerk sought clarification from the Council on whether he should to give instructions for work to commence on the access or whether the Council wished to await the outcome of the meeting with Mr G B Williams on 12 February, 2008.

RESOLVED: That the Council await the outcome of the meeting with Mr G B Williams before taking a decision to construct an access to the Council owned land.

(c) **Alpha Director**

The Clerk reported that the financial accounting package Alpha Director had been purchased. When the package is fully operative it would enable the Council to produce its year end accounts much sooner than had been the case for the last five years.

To enable the software to produce year end accounts for 2007/08 would require the Clerk to re-enter all the Community

Council's financial transactions since 1 April, 2007, in addition to attending to on-going work and end of year returns. To achieve the re-entry of all financial entries into a new system for eleven months in the short time available would be a major task but the Clerk was hopeful this could be achieved. He would keep the Council informed of progress.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(d) **Post-mounted bin**

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) That it be noted that arrangements had made arrangements with the Borough Council for the erection of a post-mounted bin at the Llantrisant Road end of School Street, Pontyclun.
 - (ii) That the Clerk make enquiries with the Borough Council about the litter bin which had recently disappeared from its location at the junction of Heol Miskin and Heol y Coed, Pontyclun.

5. **Minutes of the Community Council's Special Meeting of 22 January, 2008**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Council's Special Meeting of 22 January, 2008, be approved as an accurate record.

6. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

7. **Police matters**

(a) **Report from the police**

(i) **PACT meeting**

PCSO Tomkova updated the Council on the latest PACT meeting which had taken place earlier that evening. Of particular concern to residents was the issue of dog fouling and the absence of suitable receptacles in the Community. A list of hot spots in the Community had been prepared from residents' comments.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson provide PCSO with a further hot spots which she had noted in the Community.

(ii) **High Street, Brynsadler**

PCSO reported on the representations she had received from residents of High Street, Brynsadler, on highway problems. She had been advised, from within the police service, to request the Community Council to ask for a site meeting with representatives of the Highway Authority to discuss the issues.

Councillor Norman advised that while the Community Council could request a site meeting, it would probably be more effective, and quicker, for the request to be channelled through one of the two Borough Council members serving the Community.

PCSO Tomkova agreed to follow Councillor Norman's suggestion.

(iii) **Crime figures**

PCSO Tomkova reported verbally on the crime figures for the Community for the month of January, 2008. Members discussed a number of the incidents with PCSO Tomkova.

RESOLVED: That the crime figures for January be noted.

(iv) **Street meetings with residents**

PCSO Tomkova said that she had been disappointed with recent levels of attendance at PACT meetings in Pontyclun. In attempt to identify the reasons for this apparent lack of interest PCSO Tomkova had started a series of street meetings with residents. The first meeting had taken place yesterday in Pontyclun. Further meetings would take place in Miskin.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(b) **Reports from Members**

There were no reports from Members.

(c) **Spotlight on the police**

The Clerk reported on his attendance at a meeting with representatives of the South Wales Constabulary and other representatives of neighbouring community councils entitled "Spotlight on the Police". The meeting covered two principal areas, namely, Finance and Operations.

The section on Finance was presented by the Treasurer to the South Wales Constabulary, Mr Lyn James, CPFA. Mr James gave a strategic overview of financial resources followed by Key Financial Challenges, Sources of Funding, Funding Settlement for 2008/09, the Budget Gap, Expenditure & Efficiency, Capital Funding, the police authority's precept as a proportion of Council Tax, Precept History and Precept Charge Per Property Band.

The section on Operations was presented by Assistant Chief Constable Dave Morris. Mr Morris illustrated how recorded crime in the Force had declined over the last three and a half years, showed how Sanction Detections had increased, how Drug Enforcement had increased, how Auto Crime had decreased, how Criminal Damage had increased, how the Force was performing against similar forces, the pressures and challenges facing the Force and how the Force intended increasing its efficiency still further during the 2008/09 financial year.

After the presentations an opportunity was available for the police representatives to be questioned.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

8. **Matters reported for decision**

(a) **External Auditor's Report on the Council's accounts for the 2007/08 financial year**

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(b) **Potential large scale development in the vicinity of the of the Community**

The Clerk reported verbally on his attendance at a meeting of representatives of neighbouring community councils concerned about the impact of possible large-scale developments in the vicinity of the Community. Examples of such developments were quoted as being:

- (i) The proposed International Business Park at Junction 33 of the M4
- (ii) The proposed HTV studios at Wenvoe
- (iii) The anticipated military expansion at St Athan

- (iv) Construction of a new access road to Cardiff International Airport

Representatives at the meeting, while not opposed to development, strongly believed that there should be a strategic plan for the area to prevent ad hoc development and to ensure that appropriate infrastructure provisions were made to complement the developments.

It was agreed to bring the representatives' concerns to the attention of the Transport Minister at the Welsh Assembly.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(c) **Public Services Ombudsman for Wales**

The Council received an invitation to nominate a representative to attend a Complaints Handling Seminar to be held at the Miskin Manor Country Hotel on 21 February, 2008.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Jenkins be nominated to attend the seminar.

(d) **Weekly Planning Notifications**

The Council discussed planning applications contained in the latest Weekly Lists.

RESOLVED: That the Council comment to the Planning Authority that it is opposed to the proposal for development contained in planning application No. 08/0027/10 since it believes that the proposal is out of character with similar properties in the area.

(e) **Payment of creditors**

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

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

No matters were reported.

10. **Matters reported for information**

(a) **Tabernacle Church**

The Council received copies of the correspondence which had taken place between the Council and the estate agents acting in

the sale of Tabernacle Church, Pontyclun. It was noted that the Council's offer for the premises had been unsuccessful.

(b) **New Look Local Government Pension Scheme**

The Council received details of the New Look Local Government Pension Scheme, 2008, and noted the action which needed to be taken to comply with the amendments to the pension scheme.

(c) **Charity Auction**

The Council noted the letter from the Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, Councillor Jane Ward, in which she thanked the Community Council for its donation of a watercolour painting to her Charity Auction.

11. The meeting ended at 8.10 p.m.

The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.