

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the Pencoed Town Council held on Wednesday 16 April 2003 in the Council Chamber, Felindre Road, Pencoed at 7 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor D. John [Mayor]

Councillors: Mrs. L. Davies, Mrs. S. Jewell, E. Alford, C.J. Davies, D.R. Gregory, G. Jordan, K.F. King, G. Oram

POLICE PRESENCE

Apologies were received from Sergeant Hillman, as no Police Officer was available to attend this meeting. The Clerk has arranged for him to attend the meeting to be held on 11 June 2003.

The Mayor introduced Mr. Huw Irranca-Davies, Member of Parliament, who addressed the Members. Areas covered in discussion were –

- OFT Report on Pharmacies – Best Value and Competition. Concerns about the future of local pharmacies were addressed.
- Closure of Local Post Offices – The introduction of Post Office Card Accounts and other issues concerning Welfare Benefit Payments were brought to his attention including possible loss to the Community of very valuable assets. It was disconcerting to be told that Pencoed was classed in Post Office terms as ‘a rural area’ that implied that our local Post Offices were safe but only until 2006.
- Anti-social Behaviour – Provision of employment through youth opportunities was an important aspect of reducing this problem. Police and Local Authorities will be given new and stronger powers to deal with a range of issues under this heading.
- Fireworks Legislation – A Bill is expected to be presented to Parliament, very shortly. Pencoed Town Council is proud of the fact that provision is made to the people of the Town, a free firework display annually.
- Miners’ Compensation – Although acknowledging the much had been done Members were very concerned that there were still substantial problems in regard to compensation for such illnesses as White Finger, and acute Bronchitis that are directly related to work in this industry. An assurance was given that this process will be accelerated.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Irranca-Davies for taking time out to attend the meeting and hoped could be a regular feature.

4010 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors: J. Butcher, C. Hewlett, T. Williams

4011 MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pencoed Town Council held on 12 March 2003 be confirmed and signed by The Mayor as a true and correct record.

That the Minutes of the Coed Iestyn Management Committee held on 27 March 2003 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record.

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 3 April 2003 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record.

That the Minutes of the Millennium Project Management Committee held on 8 April 2003 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record with the addition of Councillor G. Oram being in attendance.

4012 CLERK'S REPORT

Matter arising from Police Report on 12 February 2003
Redrow Development – Traffic calming measures/Hendre Road
Response from Redrow 'work will re-commence on 17th March. It is anticipated that works will be completed by 25 April.'

This information was noted but concern was expressed as to the preservation of the stone stile.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk request that REDROW ensure this stile is preserved at the site.

Bridgend Circular Walk

The report attached to the Millennium Management Committee Minutes was discussed. A map showing the proposed linked route to the circular walk was tabled. After discussion:

RESOLVED: That the explanatory report and map be submitted to BCBC for inclusion in their proposals.

[Minute 3735 refers]

Vehicular Access to No.46 Heol-y-Geifr, Pencoed

Response still awaited from Gaskell & Walker.

A further response had been received from BCBC and was attached. This was not deemed satisfactory and after discussion:

RESOLVED: That County Borough Members of this Council discuss the issue with the relevant BCBC Officer.

[Minute 3958 refers]

New Surgery - Pencoed

The Mayor is seeking to arrange a further meeting with the L.H.G. to discuss any developments

NOTED

[Minute 3967 refers]

Playing Fields Management Committee

Response received from BCBC. A confidential report submitted by the Clerk was discussed.

RESOLVED:

- That the Secretary to the Playing Fields Management Committee be paid a sum of three months salary in lieu of notice plus an additional three months ex gratia payment in view of the 20 years served by the Secretary in that capacity.
- That the balance held in the Playing Fields Management Committee Account be left there for the time being.

Maesteg Town Council – Consultation/Communications Issues.

A report of the meeting held on 15 March 2003 was received together with a copy of the Constitution. After discussion:

RESOLVED:

- That this Council contribute the required £10.00 for the setting up cost.

- That Section 3.4 of the Constitution be amended as follows –‘The OFFICERS shall consist of

[Minute 3972 refers]

Renovation of Railings at the War Memorial

The Clerk has met with a representative of Cam Engineering Ltd., for an inspection of the railings. The company will be submitting an estimate for the necessary work, in due course.

[Minute 3988 refers]

Regeneration of Pencoed.

A note of the meeting with Mr. Martin Hooker, Assistant Director, Environment and Planning Department BCBC on 11 March 2003 was discussed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk continue the dialogue with a view to preparing a questionnaire to be included in the Winter Edition of ‘The Hyphen’.

[Minute 3967 refers]

The 1998 National Eisteddfod – Erection of a Plaque on the Gorsedd Stones

Response received from Bridgend Town Council ‘suggested wording submitted to the Eisteddfod office in Cardiff and a response is awaited’.

NOTED

[Minute 4004 refers]

The Lawn Ranger

The Clerk had met with Mr. Nigel Harris on 27 March 2003. He reported that Mr. Harris operates by costing individual jobs and offering quotes. It was requested that the Town Council consider this method of operation. After discussion:

RESOLVED: That this Council proceed with this method of operation and that plenary powers be given to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Clerk to identify specific areas of work.

Other Matters

Maintenance of the Millennium Garden

Members will recall that it was agreed that Mr. K.T. would be employed on a casual basis to maintain the Garden. He would be paid at the usual rate of £6.50 per hour and would work between April and October, for a period not exceeding 18 hours during those months. This arrangement was incorporated in the Budget for 2003/2004 and was accepted in the Council Meeting of 11 December 2002 under Minute 3975.

NOTED

Delegation Agreement – Rights of Way

In the light of discussion under Minute 4004 the question of resurrecting this Council’s pursuit of the Delegation Agreement with BCBC in relation to maintaining Rights of Way was raised. After discussion:

RESOLVED: That the Clerk raise the matter further with BCBC.

4013 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The following were approved for payment:

	£
Internet Monthly Payment	13.49
Postage	26.83

Clerk's Mileage	26.51
Greendown Garden Centre	60.00
Countryside Maintenance Person	39.00
Pencoed Miners' Welfare and Community Hall	86.00
Handyman (Projects)	59.81
Staples U.K. Ltd.,	44.98
B.T.C.V. (Millennium Wood Project)	293.75
BCBC [Litter bins]	528.75
Electronic Imaging Solutions Ltd. [Photocopier]	106.42
Royal Mail [Distribution of 'The Hyphen']	231.01

4014 CORRESPONDENCE

Applications for Grants

Pencoed Amateur Radio Club

Pencoed Old Age Pensioners Association

Ogmore Valley Silver Band

RESOLVED: That these applications be referred to the Finance Committee.

Samaritans Bridgend

Invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting on 17 April 2003.

NOTED

Litter Problems

A letter from Ms. E.A. Crates was received and discussed at length. In sympathising with the content of the letter Members strongly resented the description given to the BCBC employee.

RESOLVED: That in acknowledging the letter and its contents concerning litter the Clerk should express the strongly stated resentment of the Members in Ms Crates' description of the BCBC employee.

Welsh Assembly Government

Information received concerning the approved allowances of Community Councils in Wales.

Town Twinning

Letter received from Carreg Gwalch seeking information concerning our Town Twinning arrangements with Plouzané.

RESOLVED: That this letter be sent to the Secretary of the Pencoed and District Town Twinning Association for a response.

Bridgend County Borough Council

The following were received:

Mayor's Award of Citizenship – It was confirmed that our two nominees have been accepted.

NOTED

Diversion of Footpaths – Notice received of temporary closure of Footpath No. 5 and diversion of Footpath No. 8.

NOTED

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Notice received of closure of Hendre Road Level Crossing from 10 p.m. on 26 April 2003 to 5 p.m. on 12 May 2003 or until the work is completed. This also gave information concerning diversions.
NOTED

Notice and Order of Prohibition of Driving at Coychurch Road at its junction with the A473.
NOTED

Objective 1 News received.
NOTED

Provision of Wheel Sports Facilities [Skateboard Parks]
RESOLVED: That this be referred to the relevant Working Party.

Pencoed Nursery School Site, Felindre Road – The Clerk has been in preliminary discussions with the Property Section, BCBC concerning the future of this site and its possible acquisition by this Council to build a new Council Chamber and Office. After discussion:
RESOLVED:

- That the Clerk answer the points raised by BCBC as appropriate
- That the Clerk write to CISW indicating this Council's interest in the site.

OBC Tree Preservation Order [No.3] Trees rear to 7 Charles Avenue – The TPO Officer will be undertaking an examination of the trees to establish if the complaint is justified and will communicate further with this Council in due course.
NOTED

4015 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders be suspended for 15 minutes.

4016 NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2003/2004

The following nominations were received:

- Mayor – Councillor Mrs. Lillian Davies
- Deputy Mayor – Councillor Kenneth F. King

RESOLVED: That the above nominations be accepted.

4017 ITEM FOR FUTURE AGENDA

The following be item be placed on the June 2003 Agenda.

'The general condition of the Local Authority Housing Estates in Pencoed'

[Councillor E. Alford]

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.