

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the Pencoed Town Council held on Wednesday 14 January 2004 in the Council Chamber, Felindre Road, Pencoed at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. L. Davies [Mayor]

Councillors: Mrs. S. Jewell, J. Butcher, C.J. Davies, D.R. Gregory, C.F. Hewlett, D. John, G.I. Jordan, K. F. King, G. Oram, V.L. Thomas

The Mayor wished all present a Happy New Year.

POLICE PRESENCE

Inspector Lewis [Area Inspector], Constable Moffatt and PSCO J. Stadden were in attendance. Crime figures for the previous 4 weeks are as follows:-

	Felindre	Hendre	Penprysg
Assaults	2	-	1
Theft	1	-	-
Theft of Motor Vehicles	-	-	-
Theft from Motor Vehicles	5	-	-
Burglary – dwellings	1	1	-
Burglary – other	-	-	-
Vehicle damage	6	2	1
Public Order Offences	1	2	-
Criminal damage	4	-	1
Driving whilst disqualified	1	-	-
Make off without payment	1	-	-
Illegal possession of drugs	3	-	-
Arson	-	-	-
Harassment	2	-	-
Drive with excess alcohol	1	-	-
Other [Deception]	4	-	-

Inspector Lewis apologized for the absence of Sergeant Gregory who was committed elsewhere. He went on to express the hope that the increased Police presence was recognized as making a substantial difference to the Town. He was firmly committed to ensuring that the current staffing levels would remain in the foreseeable future. It had been recognized that this had not always been the case. There was a significant improvement in crime reduction in the Town and that its streets were safer, with detection rates almost double the average for the Force as a whole. It is expected that 'quality of life' statistics will be reviewed in February and this would reflect the safer streets. In general response times have

been drastically reduced and the advantage of Officers being visible 'on the patch' was evident in that they were getting to know both the area and the people in the Town.

Members concurred with the Inspector's remarks and welcomed his firm commitment to retain staffing levels.

The youth annoyance and graffiti at Felindre Road Pavilion and the bus shelter were being monitored. It is expected that BCBC will repaint the Pavilion shortly and this area will continue to be well monitored. A questionnaire was being prepared and circulated seeking the public's comments in relation to the bus shelter at The Square. This was welcomed by Members and will be included in the next issue of 'The Hyphen'.

Members expressed concern that the car park off Penprysg Road was becoming overcrowded and this was creating a problem with on-street parking near to the Junior School. This will be monitored.

The issue of illegal parking by taxis particularly in the area of the Square will be monitored.

The Inspector advised that at the request of BCBC Highways Department the Police Traffic Manager had inspected the area in the vicinity of Salem Chapel in response to complaints taken up by this Council and a report will be prepared. At the request of the Clerk it was hoped that this Council would receive some indication of the reports' contents in due course.

A Speed Detection Officer had been on observation in Felindre Road on the evening of 13 January 2004 but there had been no reports of speeding.

The Dog Warden is also in attendance in the Town.

In conclusion Inspector Lewis said that he would be seeking to attend Town and Community Council meetings at least once a year and this was welcomed.

The Mayor the Officers both for their presence and for their reports and congratulated them on effectiveness of their work in the Town.

There were no declarations of interest.

4984 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor T. Williams.

4985 MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pencoed Town Council held on 10 December 2003 be confirmed and signed by The Mayor as a true and correct record.

That the Minutes of the Project Management Committee held on 17 December 2003 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record.

4986 CLERK'S REPORT

[Minute 3958 refers]
New Surgery - Pencoed

Response received from the Local Health Board.
NOTED

[Minute 4044 refers]
Regeneration of Pencoed.
Further response still awaited from Mr. Martin Hooker, Assistant Director, Planning, BCBC.

[Minute 4053 refers]
Appointment of a Countryside Maintenance Person (Full time post).
Mr. Martin Evans commenced duties on 5 January 2004, and a temporary vehicle has been provided by Fleet Services,BCBC.
NOTED

[Minute 4073 refers]
Orchard Neighbourhood Watch – Traffic Problems, Coychurch Road
Response received from BCBC. After discussion it was felt that BCBC should monitor that section of the road in the light of the new traffic flow system, the new Nursery and the newly created round-about on the A473 that, in the view of this Council, have substantially increased the traffic flow through that end of the Town.
RESOLVED: That the Clerk request BCBC to review their current stance in the light of the above.

Salem Chapel
Response received from BCBC ...'This matter has now been passed to the appropriate section for investigation and will be dealt with as soon as resources permit. Following investigation I will write to you again indicating my views and any actions taken in this matter.' Subsequent to this response the Clerk had met an Officer of BCBC on-site. They agreed that the Clerk would contact funeral directors who use the Chapel to accept responsibility for unlocking and locking the bollard. The BCBC Officer would ask the Police Traffic Manager to visit the site and report on the issue of parked cars in this vicinity.
NOTED

ADDITIONAL MATTER

Welsh Assembly Government
Study of Role Functions and Future Potential of Town and Community Councils in Wales.
The Clerk reported his attendance at a seminar on 13 January 2004. A series of questions had been circulated as the basis of a discussion at this seminar. These questions he had circulated to Members and now requested that each Member respond to these questions and let him have that response by the end of January 2004 so that they could be collated and submitted to the Welsh Assembly. He stressed that this was an extremely important issue as there is no doubt the intended change of policy would substantially impact on the way in which Town and Community Councils function in the not too distant future. After discussion:
RESOLVED: That each Member complete the question paper so that the Clerk can collate responses and submit to the Welsh Assembly by early February 2004.

4987 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The following were approved for payment:	£
Internet Monthly Payment	13.49
Postage	14.78
Clerk's Mileage (126 miles)	62.88

Pencoed Miners' Welfare & Community Hall	30.00
Gower Woodland and Charcoal [Projects Budget]	1762.50
Music in Hospitals	113.98
Salem Chapel [Mayor's Civic Service]	25.00
County Borough Supplies [Stationery]	20.39
Zurich Municipal [Vehicle Insurance]	131.25
J.A. Davey [Projects Budget]	586.59
M.S. Alderman [Projects Budget]	352.50
Petty Cash	100.00
Electronic Imaging Solutions	106.42

4988 CORRESPONDENCE

Bridgend County Borough Council

- Diversion of Footpath 3 – Community of Pencoed. Copy of Diversion Order No. 8 2003 received.
NOTED
- Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 Section 14 [2]. Copy of Notice relating to the temporary restriction of Redlands Close/Hafod Las footpath.
NOTED.
- Town and Community Council Forum, 16 February 2004. Request agenda items.
After discussion:
RESOLVED: That this Council request the following agenda item be discussed. 'What is the County policy regarding the extending of the 'Safe Routes to Schools' initiative Countywide?
- Citizenship Awards. Request received for nominations.
RESOLVED: That this be discussed at the next Town Council meeting.
- Crucial Crew Initiative. Request received for this Council's support.
RESOLVED: That this be referred to the Finance Committee.
- Town Twinning Naming of Roads. The Chief Executive Officer's response to the Secretary of the Town Twinning Association indicating that this is a matter for Pencoed Town Council was received.
NOTED
- Update of BCBC files in relation to Town and Community Councils.
NOTED
- Draft Municipal Waste Management Strategy – BCBC received.
NOTED

Mr. Huw Irranca Davies MP

Surgery List for 2004 received. This to be displayed in Pencoed Welfare Hall.

Town & Community Councils Standing Committee

- Notice received of the next meeting to be held on 10 February 2004.
NOTED

- Letter of thanks received for this Council's hosting of the meeting held on 21 October 2003 together with an acknowledgement of the Mayor's welcome to the representatives present.

Mr. Alun Cairns AM

A letter requesting to share this Council's comments on the research study mentioned in the Clerk's report, or an opportunity to discuss the report at a Council meeting has been received.

After discussion:

RESOLVED: That the Clerk acknowledge the letter thanking Mr. Cairns for his interest. However due to the short timescale for response it would not be possible to accede to his request, but urge the AM to bring his influence to bear in a effort to persuade the administration to allow more time for consultation.

Welsh Assembly

Disposal of land in Wales by Welsh Authorities for Less than Best Consideration. This circular received.

NOTED

Mr. Keith Evans – Christmas Decorations

Letter received complimenting the Town for the new Christmas Decorations. These had been much appreciated by many people in the Town and are 'a substantial improvement on the gaudy masses of coloured bulbs displayed elsewhere'.

RESOLVED: That this letter be published in the next edition of 'The Hyphen'.

4989 FUTURE VISITS TO THE TWINNED TOWNS

Councillor Mrs. Jewell introduced this item. After discussion:

RESOLVED:

- That invitations to Official Delegations should be timed separately from Town Twinning Association visits.
- That this item be deferred to the March meeting at which time the end of year budget prediction will be available.

4990 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders be suspended for 20 minutes.

4991 CREATION OF A TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBER AND OFFICE FACILITIES

Councillor Hewlett introduced this item. There was a preliminary discussion but as a result of the time constraints this matter was deferred to the General Policy Committee meeting scheduled for 22 January 2004.

RESOLVED:

- That the original Agenda item be amended as follows:
- 'To discuss the feasibility of developing the land at the rear of Pencoed Miners' Welfare & Community Hall, or other suitable locations, for the creation of a Town Council Chamber and Office facilities'.
- That this agenda item be discussed at the next meeting of the General Policy Committee scheduled 22 January 2004.

4992 SAFER BRIDGEND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP –
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

RESOLVED: That this item be deferred to the next Town Council meeting.

4993 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None .

The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.