

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the Pencoed Town Council held on Wednesday 19 April 2006 in the Pencoed Miners' Welfare and Community Hall, Pencoed at 7 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor D.R. Gregory [Mayor]
Councillors: Mrs. L. Davies, Mrs. M. Jones, E. Alford, C.J. Davies,
C.F. Hewlett, D.J. John, K.F. King, G. Oram

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Hewlett back to the meeting expressing the Council's deepest sympathy at the sudden death of his wife Shirley, and invited Members to stand as a mark of respect.

POLICE PRESENCE

Constable Andy Moffatt introduced PSCOs Rob Newman and Meuric Coleman who, with him, make up the new Neighbourhood Policing Team for Pencoed. He then presented the following statistics:

	<u>Felindre</u>	<u>Hendre</u>	<u>Penprysg</u>
Assaults	9	1	-
Theft	4	1	1
Theft of Motor Vehicles	-	-	-
Theft from Motor Vehicles	-	-	-
Burglary – dwellings	1	-	-
Burglary – other	-	-	-
Vehicle damage	6	1	1
Public Order Offences	3	-	-
Criminal damage	4	4	2
Driving whilst disqualified	-	-	-
Make off without payment	1	-	-
Illegal possession of drugs	-	1	-
Arson	-	-	-
Harassment	-	3	-
Drive with excess alcohol	1	-	-
Other	2	-	-
TOTAL	31	11	4
Detections	10	3	

Members raised the following issues:

- Penprysg. An increased incidence of criminal damage involving smashed windows in houses and cars and vandalism in gardens. There has also been an increase in youth annoyance in this particular area.
Response: Constable Moffatt said that some of the culprits in relation to youth annoyance had been warned, the area will be closely monitored but it is important that all incidents are reported.
- Town Centre. There is strong evidence of under-age alcohol abuse in this area.
Response: This is causing concern and is being pursued. Spot fines will be imposed.
- Hendre. A seat was removed from a garden in Woodland Avenue and was dumped in the rear lane having been vandalised. This is the second time this house has been targeted.
Response: This area will be monitored.
- A serious incident involving youth obstruction in the vicinity of the Monument took place at the weekend. A lady car driver had to execute an emergency stop to avoid hitting a youth who jumped out in front of her. Her car was surrounded by other youths in a threatening manner causing the driver both distress and fear. A Police

Officer arrived at the scene and caught the main perpetrator. He then returned to enquire if the driver was unharmed. It would appear that no action had been taken.

Response: This had not filtered back to the Neighbourhood Team and this will be followed up.

In relation to previously reported dumped cars Constable Moffatt said that there was improved contact with DVLA which will considerably speed up the removal of offending vehicles.

Bogus callers. The ringmaster system now in operation will now allow information to be passed on to Neighbourhood Watch Leaders so that areas can be alerted to the problem.

Constable Moffatt advised Members that South Wales Police has launched a new Neighbourhood Policing programme. The scheme will see at least one dedicated Police Officer for each area and he has been identified as the Team Leader with PCSOs Newman and Coleman making up the Team. Monthly PACT [Partnership and Communities Together] will be held so that members of the community can have face-to-face contact with the Team, bringing relevant problems and anxieties to those meetings. This will mean that Police attendance at Town Council meetings will cease. It is hoped that Town Council representatives and the Clerk will be an integral part of those meetings.

The Mayor thanked Constable Moffatt and his team for attending.

The Mayor introduced Mrs. Suzette Graves, the newly appointed Clerk to the Neighbourhood Watch Committee, to give a presentation. Mrs. Graves, who lives in Pencoed, said she has been in post 5 weeks and is relishing the challenge of stimulating more interest in the scheme. There are only 6 schemes in Pencoed and she hoped to remedy this.

Mrs. Graves gave a succinct description of the purpose, role and function of the scheme and indicated there would be some initial set-up costs. It was her intention to visit and talk to various groups in the Town and she was invited to write an article for the next edition of 'The Hyphen'.

Members commented on the presentation and useful ideas were exchanged. The Mayor, in thanking Mrs. Graves, gave this Council's full support to her efforts and indicated that they had made grants for set-up costs in the past and no doubt future applications would be favourably considered.

There were no declarations of interest.

5212 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors: Mrs. K. Watkins, J. Butcher, M. Gregory, R. Williams.

5213 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 March 2006 were confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record.

The Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 29 March 2006 were confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record. [The Clerk thanked the Mayor for making the appropriate responses due to absence from this meeting through illness]

5214 CLERK'S REPORT

(Minute 5149 refers)

Right of Way Access – Coed y Graig to the Relief Road

Further response awaited from BCBC.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write a further letter to BCBC requesting progress.

(Minute 5165 refers)

Town and Community Councils' Forum

Maesteg Town Council will be discussing the response they have received from WAG at their next Council meeting. The Clerk will have further discussion with the Clerk of Maesteg Town Council in due course.

NOTED

(Minute 5178 refers)

Motorcycle nuisance - Rear of Penybont Road

Response received from BCBC, which was circulated. After discussion:

RESOLVED: That a copy of this response be sent to the Principal of Bridgend College and Mr and Mrs Phillips in Penybont Road, Pencoed.

(Minute 5203 refers)

Training needs for Council Members

The Clerk is continuing to follow this up with the Regional Training Officer of SLCC. After discussion:

RESOLVED: That the Clerk negotiate a date in the early Autumn for this event.

(Minute 5208 refers)

Railway Level Crossing

Members attended a meeting of Network Rail representatives that had been arranged by Mrs. Janice Gregory AM. The Mayor gave a brief résumé of that meeting. Additional correspondence from BCBC was circulated and a further response is awaited from WAG. An email had been received from Network Rail suggesting that a small party of Councillors visit the St. Fagan's Level Crossing that is using the system to be introduced at Pencoed. Members concluded that this was not comparing like-with-like and would be of little value. It was felt that the only permanent solution was the closure of the crossing and the creation of a second bridge linking with the Relief Road.

RESOLVED:

- That the invitation to visit the St. Fagan's crossing be declined on the ground that it does not reflect a like-with-like situation.
- Reply to the correspondence from the relevant BCBC Officer again re-stating this Council's considered view that a second road crossing is necessary.
- Await a fuller response from WAG.
- Involve Mr. Huw Irranca-Davies MP, with a view to an approach being made to the Minister of Transport, Central Government, pressing for a second road crossing.

Official Visit to the New Welsh Assembly Building

An Official visit has been arranged for Wednesday 3 May 2006. At the request of the Clerk 10 places were received. The Clerk will contact Members who were not present at the meeting to ascertain whether or not they wish to make the visit.

(Minutes 5210 refers)

Coity Wallia Board of Conservators

St. Mary Hill Fair – August Bank Holiday Monday.

Members reported that the meeting arranged for 5 April 2006 had been postponed. They will report back at a later date.

5215 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The following were approved for payment:

	£
Internet Monthly Payment	14.49
Postage	15.98
Clerk's Mileage	39.00
Telephone	44.41
Inland Revenue	248.31
BCBC (Fuel)	344.91
BCBC (Vehicle Leasing)	1137.37
Once Voice Wales Annual Subscription	783.00
D. Prosser (Internal Audit Fee)	45.00
L. Brophy (Distribution of The Hyphen)	188.80
Tesco (Printing Cartridges)	42.11
Welsh Audit Office	411.25
Printall	389.88
Pencoed Miners' Welfare Hall	13.00
SWALEC (Electricity for Christmas Lights)	398.48
Plantscape	951.75
EIS (Photocopier)	51.54
Petty Cash	100.00

5216 CORRESPONDENCE

The following have been received:

Bridgend County Borough Council

Rights-of Way - Definitive map and statement.

Economic Partnership Objective One. - Annual Report 2005

Footpath 32 Overgrowth – acknowledgement and thanks for the work done by our Countryside Maintenance Officer.

Road Traffic Regulations – Notice of closure of Hendre Road at the level crossing, Sunday 16 April 2006.

Learning Communities, Schools of the Future - Documentation and information concerning consultation meeting to be held at the Pencoed Welfare Hall on Wednesday 3 May 2006 at 7 p.m.

Vale of Glamorgan Council

Disc copy of the local Development Plan.

Welsh Assembly Government

Wales a Safer Country – Risk reduction planning guidance for the Fire and Rescue Authorities.

Connect for Health – Conference to be held in Cardiff on 17/18 May 2006.

All the above were NOTED.

Wales Air Ambulance

Application for a grant.

RESOLVED: That this be referred to the Finance Committee.

The following Leaflets and Information Booklets were circulated to Members:

Bridgend Local Health Board – résumé of proposals for integrated acute services.

Ombudsman – document outlining important changes in relation to complaints against public bodies.

Wales Tourist Board – various leaflets on the Countryside Code.

All the above were NOTED.

Zurich Municipal

Invitation to subscribe to the Local Council Advisory Service that offers health and safety advice to subscribers. NOTED

5217 NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR – 2006/2007

The following nominations were received:

Mayor ... Councillor C.J. Davies

Deputy Mayor ... Councillor R. Williams

RESOLVED: That the above nominations be referred to the Annual General Meeting.

5218 RE-OPENING OF THE PUBLIC TOILETS AT WEEKENDS

Councillor C.J. Davies opened the discussion on this item. BCBC had closed the public toilets on The Square as they could not be serviced during weekends. Many complaints are continuing to be made as a result of this decision across the whole spectrum of age. It is strongly felt by all Members this decision be reviewed and that a means be found to re-open these public toilets. After a full discussion:

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make enquiries of Bridgend, Porthcawl and Maesteg Town Councils what arrangements exist for these facilities in their respective Towns and if they are required to make any financial contribution.

5219 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

To discuss the road system in the Penprysg Ward. [Councillor Mrs. M. Jones]

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

SIGNED
MAYOR

DATE