

PENTYRCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL



CYNGOR CYMUNED PENTYRCH

Minutes of the full Council Meeting held at 7.00pm, 20th February 2017, at the Village Hall, Pentyrch.

PRESENT: Councillors: Stuart Thomas (Chairman), Sandie Rosser, John Harrison, Jeanette Troughton, Graham Thomas, Philippa Hill-John, Sara Pickard, Brynmor Jones, Christine Priday, Wynford Ellis Owen, Chris James

Also present: Cllr Gavin Hill-John; 9 members of the public; PCSOs Richard Davies and Darren Conquer

In attendance: Helena Fox

146. To receive apologies for absence: Cllr Nikki Howard, Clare Bath

147. To receive any declarations of interest: there were none.

148. To consider Police Matters: PCSO Richard Davies reported the following incidents since January 16:

- Creigiau : 4 antisocial behaviour and 2 criminal damage: all are connected and an ASB action plan is in place; 2 shed burglaries; 3 theft (1 allotment, 1 attempted bike, 1 attempted car); 1 drug driver on Creigiau part of M4; 1 fly tipping; 1 wildlife (badger sett disturbance)
- Gwaelod y Garth: 1 ASB re off road bikes
- Pentyrch: 1 ASB; 2 burglaries (1 insecure garage, 1 property under development); 1 theft scrap metal; 1 attempted fraud cold call by phone.

PC Helen Abdullahi is the new Beat Manager and her shift pattern is adjusting to reflect this.

Concern about speeding vehicles was raised at PACT and PC Abdullahi is looking to do something on that in April. The Chairman asked this be done between 7-9am during morning rush hour.

Cllr G Thomas noted that a PACT priority was school parking and the Police are looking into this and planning to patrol at drop off/pick up times.

The Chairman had attended the Tarmac liaison group re Creigiau Quarry. He reported that the quarry entrance lock had been cut off and, just out of sight, a car had been cut up in December and the wreckage is still there. The Police were not previously aware of this and now look into it.

The closing date for articles to the next Community Link is March 2 and the Police will consider a submission.

The Police officers left the meeting.

149. Public Session : Members of the public attended to put their views on the planning application 17/00075/MNR for a telecoms mast at Blaen Buellau Farm. Those attending were: Paul and Karen Thomas, Gary and Suzanne Brown, Joy Glyn, Meira John, Jane Jones, John and Margaret Betty

Karen Thomas spoke on behalf of the group and others who could not attend the meeting. She handed out information to PCC members. The residents had met and decided to start a petition against the mast application. With 162 signatures gathered in a few days, the petition was stopped and lodged with Cardiff council. Many residents have already submitted written objections to the application and more will follow.

All of the residents contacted are strongly opposed to the application. The site chosen is inappropriate due to the impact of the mast on the local landscape and the application process was flawed in many ways, including inadequate community consultation for such a complex issue - which dated from last August. Residents' concerns could have been discussed with the applicant if they had been notified earlier than late January.

Residents were also concerned that if consent is given, and Wales adopts same new planning rules as England, all existing masts could be extended to 20m (or 25m) without any further planning permission, prior approval process or consultation. This application is particularly important because of the precedent it could set for the whole of the LDP's Green Wedge/Special Landscape Area. The size of the base station makes residents think that the mast could be enlarged and the proposed cabinet will have room for more equipment. The petition signatures included Garth visitors who enjoy the area.

Other comments made by residents were that only Vodafone seem to have significant 4G problems in Pentyrch; and that the alternative sites referred to in the application do not compare like with like: some solutions could fix a small 'not spot' and others would cover a much bigger area.

It is accepted that the Vodafone signal is not that good in Pentyrch. Suzanne Brown noted that elsewhere there are many other types of mast that are much less obvious in the landscape; some disguised as lampposts. Mrs Brown objected strongly to the mast location and to the design chosen because it will spoil the visual amenity from the Garth – an important local visitor attraction. Can PCC ask the applicant to consider other sites and other mast types that are much less obtrusive than the proposed lattice mast which could be covered with more dishes and become a bigger visual barrier.

Gary Brown felt that there was not a proper investigation of rugby club as an alternative site.

Cllr Gavin Hill-John noted that there was not much detail provided in August. He had asked for more and none was provided by applicant. Local Authorities generally wave through 4G masts quickly but he did not feel that other sites had been properly explored. It was important to make a strong challenge in light of the presumed consent for these sorts of masts. Cllr Hill-John was concerned that the mast might well be extended. Pentyrch does need better coverage but other sites should be properly assessed. A petition signed by residents has been submitted to Cardiff. Cardiff's Planning Committee have not dealt with an application for a mast in 4-5 years. The petition allow members of the public to speak, for the applicant to respond and then from Cllr Hill-John to make a final address to the committee to which applicant cannot respond. The more objections the stronger the challenge and numbers count. Sending the application to the Planning Committee delays a decision and it may not come before the committee too quickly. If new relevant information comes to light, late representation can be made right up to the night of planning committee meeting. Any such information should be sent to Cllr Hill-John.

Cllr Hill-John will request a site visit and if approved will let everyone know. Members of the public can attend that visit and put questions to the Planning Committee via Cllr Hill-John. A Planning Report will be prepared by planning officers before that visit and/or the Planning Committee and that will be available to the public.

Cllr Priddy commented that she became aware of the local objections and noted that the proposed site is outside the settlement boundary and should be rejected for that reason alone. She felt that the applicant had not properly explored mast sharing with other providers in the area when it is Welsh Government policy to do so. She noted that consultation with the community had been poor. It is true that mobile signals are poor in the Pentyrch area but there are better ways to fix this than the mast proposed.

Residents asked PCC to:

1. Strongly object to the application as residents were overwhelmingly against it.
2. The LDP protects the precious local landscape. Residents want the Plan polices that protect the environment to be used in its defence. The application neither offers mitigation nor addresses the LDP priorities.
3. Work with the applicant to find a better site or solution to 4G local coverage. The reasons given for rejecting alternative sites did not suggest the due diligence of a thorough study. The site

chosen seems as much to with the expediency of a quick deal as with the best site. Some of the applicant's statements are wrong: a local register referred to in the application does not seem to exist and an annual roll-out plan does not mention Pentyrch at all.

4. PCC was asked to consult with community on any such application in future.

The Chairman closed the public session.

150. To Consider any Matters Arising from the Public Session: 17/00075/MNR, Blaen Beullau Farm, Mountain Road, Pentyrch, Cardiff CF15 9QP. The Chairman noted that he had received a letter from Cllr J Harrison who felt he had a personal interest in the application because of his involvement with the Pentyrch Sports Association at Parc y Dwyrlyn which had been considered as a potential site for the mast. Cllr Harrison had not objected to a mast in the September meeting because he accepted that there is need for better mobile cover. Cllr P Hill-John noted that other sites listed in August letter from the planning applicant had been discounted.

It was **RESOLVED** to write a letter of strong objection to this application on the following lines:

- That residents overwhelmingly oppose the application.
- That LDP policies protect the precious local landscape and the application offers no mitigation and fails to address Plan policies, eg KP3(A) Green Wedge; EN3 Special Landscape Area; EN5 Site of Special Scientific Interest and Site of Importance for Nature Conservation.
- That the application does not refer to mast sharing as set out in Technical Advice Note (TAN) 19.
- That the alternative sites do not appear to have been subject to due diligence with reference made to a local register that does not exist and that Pentyrch is not listed in the applicant's roll-out plan.

County Councillors Hill-John and Thomas commented that if the application is rejected and resubmitted they and PCC can work with the applicant on community consultation, alternative sites and mast designs but that cannot be done at this stage of process. Cardiff's Planning Committee will focus on the application before them, not on what might happen in future.

The Clerk will write a piece about this application for the Community Link.

151. To consider any County Council Matters :

151.1. Cllr Graham Thomas reported that the J33/Creigiau application has been approved for 1,500 homes, park and ride, etc. Objections were made and Cllr Gavin Hill-John attended the meeting and there was a lengthy presentation by the planning officer and it was approved. There is still no sign of a rapid transit link, eg along Cardiff Bay Link Road. Cardiff is the 15th most congested city in the UK according to recent figures. Cllr Thomas will write an article for the Link to brief people on this development. Cardiff has PCC's S106 list and the allocation of community gain funds will be made in due course. Cardiff said that PCC are not a statutory consultee on this.

School traffic is a growing issue as school numbers rise and parking provision is poor. Cllr Thomas is working with Cardiff and the Police on proposals to go to the Road Safety Team. It is hoped to improve the drop off point in future and remove the obstructions to school buses from parked cars. The Chairman noted that road markings are faded and cars park beyond where they should, eg where the road narrows.

Pot holes are continuing issue and they are regularly reported to C2C.

The Creigiau Quarry liaison group met on February 14th. The legal agreement is not signed yet and there was no progress to report. The proposed opening date is c2019. Ground works are not done between March and November for environmental reasons and it will take some 6-9 months to build a bund. The Clerk will be sent a copy of the full planning consent and conditions and Cllr Thomas will report on this at each PCC meeting.

151.2. Cllr Gavin Hill-John reported that he had been involved with the mast application and issues on Heol Goch, Church Road, Main Road and litter bins. Gwaelod y Garth has a new bin but it has not been emptied.

The Chairman asked about the trail of mud on Heol Goch from Redrow and the quarry with drains clogged further down the hill. Cllr Hill-John has asked Redrow to check their truck cleaning process. Cllr Troughton noted that when two big vehicles pass they are eroding the road sides and Cllr Hill-John is looking into this.

151.3. Cllr Hill-John's next surgery will be held at the PCC Office, 1 Penuel Road on February 22 between 6:30 – 8:30pm.

The Chairman thanked the County Councillors for their contributions.

Cllr Gavin Hill-John left the meeting.

152. To receive the Minutes of the full Council Meeting held on 16 January 2017: The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr G Thomas, seconded by Cllr P Hill-John and agreed by all. They were signed by the Chairman.

153. Matters Arising from the Minutes not reported elsewhere: there were none.

154. To consider the Schedule of Payments and Receipts: Payments of £6,369.12 and receipts of £900.00 were recorded for January 2017. Acceptance of the figures was proposed by Cllr Ellis Owen; seconded by Cllr P Hill-John and agreed by all.

Cllr J Harrison joined the meeting.

155. To receive the Clerk's Report:

- 155.1. Both CMOs will attend First Aid training for working in woodlands on March 15 and the CMO will attend a refresher course in chain saw use on March 7. Members agreed that the CMO could use the chain saw with this training planned and a valid chain saw use ticket in place. The Clerk will look into first aid for HF and Deb.
- 155.2. With five or fewer employees PCC does not need a written H&S policy but the review of what is in place is underway.
- 155.3. Payments via online banking are only made by the Clerk. It is not recommended that one person both enter and authorise online payments. The Clerk should be able to enter payments and then two councillors authorise payment. The bank has a dual authorisation arrangement and the Clerk will check it allows two people to have access to authorise payments
- 155.4. The bank reconciliation as at 31.1.2017 was received and signed.
- 155.5. The Investment Account closed on January 20 as agreed and the balance of £17,000 + interest of £14.57 was transferred into the Deposit Account.
- 155.6. It was noted that the Co-op Bank is now up for sale.
- 155.7. The Clerk confirmed that a signed hard copy of the new lease for Pentyrch Village Hall is on file and copy has been delivered to Eric Priday, Chairman of PVH
- 155.8. Memorial Park Slide: The Clerk will check the order for this slide to see whether it was intended for a particular age group and whether the run of is long enough. The safety barrier at the top makes it hard for adults to help children at the top.
- 155.9. The CMO suggests that signs are placed in key fly-tipping spots to say they are monitored to try to discourage it. The Clerk will seek quotes.
- 155.10. Trees: an order has been placed for the Priority 1 trees as described in the Tree Report. The Clerk and CMO have visited various sites and arranged for as much of this to be done in house as possible to minimise the cost. Work will start shortly.
- 155.11. One advertiser in the Community Link has not yet paid and has raised concerns with the Chairman. It was **RESOLVED** to write to the advertiser re the outstanding debt.
- 155.12. The meeting discussed the size of adverts in the Link. It was **RESOLVED** to limit advert size to a maximum of a quarter page. Members did not want advertising to dominate the content.
- 155.13. The Clerk had helped NWCG with a response to the Cardiff Draft Transport Strategy which had been submitted to Cardiff and circulated to PCC. Cardiff extended the deadline from February 17 to March 24 so there is still time to add further comments.
- 155.14. Clerk's hours: 9 extra hours were approved for January.

- 155.15. The Chairman suggests PCC writes to Lucie Jones to congratulate her on her recent success as the UK representative at Eurovision. It was so **RESOLVED**.
- 156. To adopt a Social Media and Electronic Communication Policy:** The policy was discussed and a few amendments made. The Clerk will redraft for the March meeting.
- 157. To adopt an Employees' Social Media Policy:** The policy was discussed and a few amendments made. The Clerk will redraft for the March meeting.
- 158. To adopt an Allowance Scheme for PCC Councillors:** It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the policy and review at every Annual Meeting.
- 159. To decide on the renegotiation of the lease of Penuel Graveyard:** Following a discussion it was **RESOLVED** not to renegotiate the lease with the Welsh Baptists Union and to use a Deed of Variation to record the change of land when the sale of part of the graveyard is made. This will involve PCC in no extra legal fees, saving some £2,000. It was noted that PCC will continue to need access to the graveyard for maintenance under the terms of its lease.
- Cllr Ellis Owen left the meeting.
- 160. To decide on upgrading the Council's Sage accountancy software:** It was **RESOLVED** to upgrade to Sage One Start at £5/month + VAT and Sage One Payroll at £4.16/month + VAT giving a cost of some £109/year + VAT.
- 161. To decide on donations made for delivery of the Community Link:** This was deferred to the March meeting.
- 162. To consider the Village Plan:** This was deferred to the March meeting.
- 163. To discuss the Community Project List:** This is a live list of projects and has been lodged with Cardiff Council:

Creigiau:

1. Upgrade the play area opposite Creigiau Inn to provide more leisure amenities
2. Replace the portacabins in Creigiau Junior School
3. New signage throughout Creigiau village
4. Erect wet-day cover for Creigiau bus stops.
5. Provide tools and equipment for a 'clean-up our villages' initiative
6. Develop and upgrade of the Creigiau Recreation Area

Pentyrch:

1. A permanent purpose-built doctors' surgery to meet present and increasing demand
2. Improved services from Cardiff Bus
3. School buildings improvement and expansion
4. School entrance improvement
5. Shopping precinct upgrade
6. Parking improvements
7. Road signage upgrades
8. Road markings repainted
9. Speed cameras on selected roads
10. Pavement upgrades including dropped kerbs
11. Dog fouling bins and signage
12. Public, play and sporting amenities development and improvements including all-weather pitches at Parc y Dwyrlyn.
13. Village enhancements
14. Youth club

Gwaelod y Garth:

1. Improvements to the children's playground facilities
2. Levelling of Gwaelod y Garth playing field

3. New changing and washing facilities for the playing fields
4. 20mph speed limit throughout Gwaelod y Garth, with a weight restriction placed along Main Road
5. Signage along Riverglade directing walkers towards the Garth.
6. An all-weather walking and cycling route between GYG and Pentyrch
7. Resurfacing of walkways: Zig-Zag and between Furnace Cottage and the foot bridge.

164. To discuss CRAMC's request for assistance: The meeting had been provided with the issues CRAMC wishes to discuss with PCC at the March meeting as part of a discussion of the way forward. PCC welcomed CRAMC's presentation to PCC on March 20. The Clerk and Chairman of PCC have previously met with CRAMC representatives.

165. To decide on the future maintenance of the Millennium Mosaic, Pentyrch: PCC was asked to take over the maintenance of this mosaic on behalf of the community. The Clerk had asked the CMO to look at the mosaic and reported that maintenance would be minimal: the wood frame will need oiling twice a year, the tiling will need occasional wiping over and general repairs may arise. It was **RESOLVED** that PCC take over maintenance of the Millennium Mosaic from Ymlaen Pentyrch Forward and a donation will be made to PCC to help with this.

166. To consider a response to the White Paper: Reforming Local Government: Resilient and Renewed: The white paper 'Reforming local government: Resilient and renewed' sets out the Welsh Government's statement of intent about the future of local government in Wales and refers directly to community councils. It asks for comments by 11 April 2017. Members will send comments to the Clerk for a draft response to be put to the March meeting.

167. To decide on a response to the Cardiff Cycling Strategy Consultation: The consultation was noted.

168. To decide on a response to the Cardiff's Liveable City Report: The consultation was noted.

169. To consider a project to commemorate the centenary of the end of WW1: Cllr Harrison asked the meeting to consider a project for the community. It might involve repairs to the Pentyrch War Memorial or commemorative benches installed next to it. Members will send in their ideas to the Clerk for the March meeting.

170. To consider Planning Applications : There were two further planning applications to consider. There were no comments.

17/00216/DCH Applicant: Mr Dormer , Capel House, Heol St y Nyll, Capel Llanilltern. **Proposal:** MOVE DRIVEWAY 3M SOUTH FROM PREVIOUS APPROVAL 15/03111/DCO DEMOLISH EXISTING LEAN-TO AND BUILD NEW 2 STOREY EXTENSION TO WEST END BUILD NEW SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION TO FRONT

17/00209/DCH Applicant: Mrs Morgan , Y Mans, Main Road, Gwaelod-y-Garth. **Proposal:** TWO VELUX WINDOWS INSTALLED TO REAR ELEVATION ROOF SLOPE FOR A STORAGE ROOM AT LOFT LEVEL

171. Correspondence: There were no issues with the correspondence circulated.

172. To consider Councillors' Reports

Date	Councillor	Report	Action Taken
6.2.17	John Harrison	There are a number of potholes appearing 300 metres from St Catwgs Church towards Rhydlafla and others passed the M4 Bridge. Received two complaints from residents in relation to the parking of contractors vehicles at the top of the Village associated with the Redrow Development.	<i>Emails to C2C HF visited the site office and since then things have improved.</i>
30.1.17	Wynford Ellis Owen	Residents have raised concerns about changes to local bus routes.	<i>HF spoke with Stagecoach who say no changes are planned. Confirmed by Cllr</i>

			<i>Graham Thomas after conversation with Cardiff officers.</i>
9.2.17	Chris James	Raised concerns about the slide at Memorial Park.	<i>See Minutes above</i>
Generally	Stuart Thomas	Road conditions including pot holes as noticed.	<i>Emails to C2C</i>

173. Confidential Item: to discuss staff matters: Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 1(2) it was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public in order to discuss staffing matters.

173.1. The extra hours paid to the previous Clerk were approved.

173.2. The Clerk will write to all staff about joining the Local Government Pension Scheme. PCC is compliant with Automatic Enrolment.

174. Date of the next meeting : March 20 1017 at Pentyrch Village Hall, 7pm

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21:25 pm

Chair _____

Date _____