

Pontyclun Community Council
'Town Status' Working Group

Minutes for meeting: 06/06/2023

Meeting was held in person in the office at Pontyclun Community Centre at 13:00.

Present:

Cllrs Jamie Daniel, Carole Willis, Wayne Owen, Sian Assiratti.

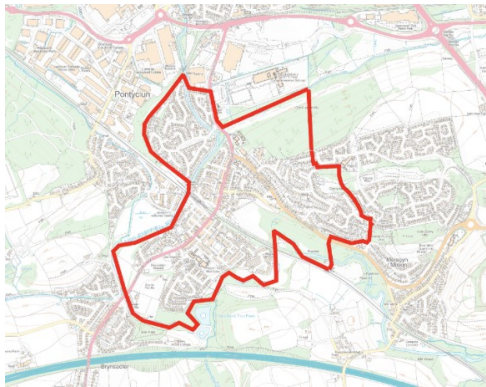
Apologies:

Cllrs Susan Owen, Amanda Sparks, Rhys Williams, Kelly Sherratt.

Working group convener: Cllr Jamie Daniel

Cllr Daniel thanked all Councillors present for attendance and for their support in this project and reiterated some of the benefits of town status for Pontyclun.

Cllr Daniel updated Councillors that, following legal advice from the Welsh Government via OneVoiceWales, the process was no longer as previously thought (via LDP, RCT or Welsh Government). Instead, Pontyclun Community Council need only pass two motions: the first is to designate an area within the community as the 'town' of Pontyclun; the second to change the name of Pontyclun Community Council to a new name to reflect this change.



The proposed boundary of the town was discussed, and the below boundary was agreed to be proposed (this is an approximation and may need to be revised at full council).

Following this discussion, the desire for a 5000 town-population was highlighted, but Cllr Willis reminded councillors that the wider community would meet this requirement.

There is a concern that this boundary would not include businesses such as the Ivor Arms or other businesses immediately outside of the proposed boundary, so councillors at full meeting are invited to propose amendments.

A discussion was held surrounding the proposed name of the community council following this process. Suggestions included 'Pontyclun Town Council' and 'Pontyclun Town and Community Council'. Cllr Daniel reminded councillors that the administrative cost to the council would not be large as we may elect to merely update relevant logo signage as and when it needs replacing anyway. Cllr Owen reminded councillors of the example of Pontypridd Town Council, which would hold a similar relationship to surrounding entities, such as Graig, as the proposed Pontyclun Town Council would to Miskin, Brynsadler and Groesfaen; and that this name would not therefore exclude such places from representation by this council. Councillors agreed to recommend that the name be Pontyclun Town Council.

Councillors agreed that this project is not aimed at expanding Pontyclun, but that it is a recognition of what it already is and that aims to support local businesses and by extension the community as a whole.

Councillors unanimously agreed that a consultation is still required. A discussion was then held surrounding the process of this consultation. Councillors agreed that a page will be on the website highlighting the proposal and the benefits the council perceives to be attainable by achieving this status and inviting members of the public to give their thoughts on this proposal. Further, it was agreed that the council will send a letter summarising the proposal and benefits to the businesses on the high street, after which these businesses will be asked to assist in this consultation process.

Meeting closed at 13:45.

In summary, the recommendations are as follows:

1. That the boundary of the town be as shown above, though councillors are invited to propose changes.
2. That the name of the council be changed to Pontyclun Town Council following the motion to create Pontyclun as a town, subject to consultation.
3. That the consultation process be carried out as defined above.
4. Advise relevant stakeholders of change. The Council will need to consider who it wishes to advise.