



**CYNGOR TREF
YSTRADGYNLAIS
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Cwmtwrch Welfare Hall
on Thursday 4th April 2019 at 6.30p.m.**

**Present : Councillor Cllr Tristan Davies Chairman Presided
Councillors R Millington, E Evans, R Lock,
N Craddock, , C Nickels, Ms R Phillips,
M Donnelly, A Williams, A Davies.**

181. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs B Paulett, M Evans, W Thomas, G Davies and L Evans.

182. ORDER OF AGENDA.

A request was received that item 5 on the agenda relating to the appointment of new Councillor for the Cwmtwrch Ward be considered as the first item of business for this evenings meeting.

Resolved that the order of the agenda be changed as requested.

**183. VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF COUNCILLOR FOR THE
CWMTWRCH WARD.**

The Town Council received two expressions of interest in relation to the above vacancy. Letters were received from both individuals in support of their interest in the vacancy, which were read out to the

Council Members present.

On being put to the vote the Town Council selected Ms Lisa Phillips of Lower Cwmtwrch.

184. MINUTES.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 7th March 2019, be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

185. UNIT 14 WOODLANDS BUSINESS PARK MEETING 7TH FEBRUARY 2018.

Further to Minute 153 of the Town Councils meeting on the 7th February 2019 the Chairman and Clerk gave a detailed report following a site meeting that had taken place with the Welsh Assembly representative and Mr Nick Plumb regarding the boundary dispute at the rear of the company's industrial unit at Trawsffordd. Following a lengthy discussion on the matter it was **agreed** to ask Mr Nick Plumb owner of Unit 14 to make a £500 donation to a local charitable group in the community. Should agreement be reached in this respect then the Town Council would allow the new fencing boundary created by the company to remain in situ. Town Council to be consulted on the organisation chosen to receive this financial donation.

186. YSTRADGYNLAIS RECREATIONAL GROUNDS

Further to Minute 168 of the Town Councils meeting on the 7th February 2019 the Chairman advised that a meeting of the Steering Committee had recently taken place where the proposed Constitution for the new Charitable Group was continuing to be discussed and finalised. It was being proposed that two members from the Town Council would serve on the new Committee. Further meetings would be taking place with Cook and Arkwright in the near future.

187. COST SAVING PROPOSALS – REPORT SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR R MILLINGTON.

The Town Council received a written submission from Cllr Millington covering the following four expenditure items where he was of the opinion that financial savings could be achieved. The paper presented to the Town Council regarding these cost saving proposals is attached as an Appendix to these Minutes

The Town council discussed the proposals at length and the general consensus of opinion was that the next Chairman of the Council organises special extraordinary meetings in September/October of this year to further discuss the cost saving proposals and to discuss pre budget matters for the 2020/21 financial year. Ward committees to also meet in September prior to these meetings to come up with draft proposals which will be put in front of the full Council special meetings.

In the interim period the following checks would be researched:

- a) Cllr N Craddock to research the possibility of creating a meadow at Coronation Park with the local Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales and the estimated costs attached to this idea.
- b) Gorof Cemetery loan – Obtain actual balance of loan remaining from the UK debt management company
- c) Tick Tock Community Bowls – Obtain annual maintenance costs for the Ystradgynlais Bowling Green.

188. YSTRADGYNLAIS COMMUNITY CENTRE PROPOSALS.

Further to Minute 174 of the Town Councils meeting on the 7th March 2019 the Ystradgynlais Ward members reported on the meeting that the Group had recently had with representatives of the Ystradgynlais Community centre regarding possible funding arrangements. The Ward was supportive of the initiative and challenge taken on by the Group, which the Town Council discussed in detail.

Following consideration of the documentation received and to the Wards presentation it was resolved that a grant of £500 a month for a six month period be awarded to the Centre to assist with the running costs of the former Youth centre building subject to the receipt of a satisfactory Constitutional documentation being received by the Town Council for inspection. Also monthly accounts to be submitted to the Town Council for monitoring purposes.

189. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved that the accounts as detailed be paid.

190. TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING – 2nd May 2019.

The Clerk reported that arrangements had been made to hold the above meeting at the Abercrave Welfare Hall. Meeting to commence at 6.30 pm. Members noted the revised arrangements.

191. REVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR POWYS.

Correspondence and a Final Recommendations Report was received by the Town Council from the Boundary Commission for Wales. One particular recommendation affected the Ystradgynlais Town Council area in that the Abercrave Ward and Ystradgynlais Ward were to be amalgamated into one ward and named Aber-craf and Ystradgynlais. Two County Councillors would represent the new Ward.

Resolved to note the content of the report and the changes recommended as stated above.

192. INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL ON COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS IN WALES – FINAL REPORT.

The Town Council received a copy of the above final report from the Welsh Government detailing the findings and final recommendation relative to the future of Community and Town Councils in Wales. Members of the Town Council discussed and noted the content of the said document.

193. GOROF CEMETERY – MEMORIAL HEADSTONE

The Clerk referred to an application received from a local family with a request to erecting a memorial for a deceased family member. The memorial would be Polished Black Granite headstone, with a motorbike design etched on with a sandblasted Welsh Dragon and Daffodil design. An inscription would be placed on the headstone as stated in the correspondence.

Resolved that the design and etchings proposed be agreed but that the suggested word inscriptions requested be declined. Councillor M Donnelly to speak with the family about the matter and report back to the Town Council if necessary.

NOTE : Cllr A Williams declared an interest in this item and did not speak or vote on the matter under consideration.

194. HM LAND REGISTRY – B13 NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION TO REGISTER EASEMENTS – CORONATION PARK.

An application had been received from Welsh Water to access land in the ownership of the Town Council at Coronation Park to carry out works on a water main. Access was allowed for in the deed of ownership held by the Town Council.

Resolved to note the content of the application.

195. WILDLIFE TRUST OF SOUTH AND WEST WALES.

An application was received from the above to hold a children's egg hunt with a difference over the Easter holiday period. event at the top end of Diamond Park . A copy of the organisers public liability insurance was received in connection with this event.

Resolved that approval be granted for the said event.

NOTE: Cllr N Craddock advised that he would be assisting as a volunteer on the day of this event.

196. MERCHANT NAVY DAY – 3rd SEPTEMBER 2019.

A formal invitation was received from the Seafarers UK for the Town Council to support this years campaign to raise awareness of the UK's on-going dependence on Merchant Navy Seafarers. The organisation would like to see the Town council fly the Red Ensign – the British Navy's.

Resolved to liaise with the local British legion branch on the matter and to attempt to obtain the Red Ensign from the Seafarers UK.

197. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2019.

A letter dated 18 March 2019 was received from the Councils auditors detailing the arrangements for the audit of the Councils accounts to 31 March 2019. The Auditor general has appointed Monday 29th July 2019 as the date from which electors can exercise their rights under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004.

Resolved to note the arrangements contained in the documentation.

198. YSTRADGYNLAIS WELFARE HALL.

A letter dated 3rd April was received from the above organisation seeking release of this years funding towards the Community Arts project and the grant agreed towards the soft landscaping work in the car park area. Also confirmation was received from the Board that it had received a total cut of 22% (8K) from the Powys County Council for 2019/2020.

Resolved that the grants requested be released to the Hall and that the information regarding the decreased funding from the Powys County Council be noted.

199. UNDERSTANDING WELSH PLACES.

An e mail was received from the Institute of Welsh Affairs asking for the Town Councils help in generating content for a new website 'Understanding Welsh Places'. The Clerk advised that he had

discussed the matter with Mr John Owen of the Heritage Society and a 150-word paragraph describing the Towns history etc. had been produced and was read out to the Town Council Members.

Resolved that the paragraph description developed regarding Ystradgynlais be approved and forwarded to the Institute of Welsh Affairs.

200. PROPOSED TOURIST MAP/GUIDE FOR YSTRADGYNLAIS.

Members were reminded that following Blodau's success in the 2018 Wales in Bloom competition it has been invited to host the Wales in Bloom 2019 Award Ceremony in the Town on the 13th September 2019. This very prodigious event will be held at the Welfare Hall, Ystradgynlais and is likely to be attended by 150+ delegates from all over Wales. The Ceremony/event will be arranged by the Blodau group together with the Wales in Bloom organisation. As part of the event the Blodau Group have asked the Heritage Society to assist them in the preparation of a Ystradgynlais Tourist pamphlet to present as a souvenir of their visit to Ystradgynlais.. The pamphlet will also be used to promote Ystradgynlais and surrounding communities for visitors to the area and will assist with tourism by highlighting the areas rich culture, industrial and natural heritage.

Therefore it was the intention to establish a working group to develop and publish this Map / Guide of the area, and a request was made to the Town Council to appoint two representatives to sit on this Working Group. Agreed that Councillors Nigel Craddock and Cen Nickels be appointed to represent the Town Council on this new Working Group.

201. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

The Town Council received a planning report in relation to applications received from the Powys County Council.

Resolved that the observations as detailed be forwarded to the Powys County Council.

202. STAFFING REVIEW

Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

Resolved that by virtue of the provisions of Section 1(2) of the above Act, the public and press be excluded during the discussions of the following business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

a) Sub Committee Members updated the Council following a meeting with a member staff in relation to early retirement options. The retirement options, costs and benefits available were discussed at length.

The Clerk updated the Town Council on a recent staffing issue considered by the Councils Management Sub Committee meeting held on the 21st January 2019. Retirement options and benefits for staff was discussed and considered.

Resolved that the staffing issues raised in the discussion be further considered at the Town Councils next meeting in April. Also the question with regards to what is meant in employment terms with regard to the setting of a precedent needed to be researched further. Also research was required in defining the pension differences and entitlements in a situation where an employee resigns and where an employee is retired on the grounds of business efficiency.

NOTE : Councillor E Evans declared an interest in this item and left the meeting.

203. MEMBERS AND OFFICERS REPORTS.

a) Cllr Evan Evans asked as to what progress had been made in relation to the ordering of parts for Caerbont Park. Cllr Evans was advised that the parts had been ordered from Germany and the

Council was awaiting delivery in the near future.. The installation contractor would be asked to chase up the order to get delivery as soon as possible. The Clerk to pursue the matter with the local contractor.

b) Cllr R Millington asked as to the position/status of a path /small lane located at Oddfellows Street and if anyone new as to the status of this access lane. A few Councillors advised that they were unaware as to the status of the access road but that in the past the Powys County Council had carried out maintenance work to the area.

Agreed to note the matter.

The meeting terminated at 9.20 p.m.

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

Planning matters considered by the Town Council on Thursday 4th April 2019

1.0 Applications granted consent

From information posted on the new Powys County Council web site the below application has been granted approval:

B/01/0276	Mr J Adams Tir Canol Landfill Site Palleg Road	Discharge of condition No 10
18/0214/DIS	Marstons Estates Ticking River Wind Road	Discharge of condition No 7 from planning approval P/2017/0917 in regards to a remediation verification report.
18/0674/OUT	Mrs E. Jones Plot adjacent to 25 Heol Gleien Lower Cwmtwrch	Erection of a dwelling, formation of vehicular access and all associated works.
19/0377/NMA	Mr & Mrs G.Richards 56 Brecon Road Ystradgynlais	Application for non-material amendment to planning permission P/2018/0595 in respect of reducing the annexe and altering elevations.

2.0 Applications refused consent

From information on the Powys CC web no application has been refused consent.

3.0 Applications for consideration

From information posted on the Powys County Council web site the following application requires consideration:-

19/0381/HH	Mr R. Howe Gurnos Cottages Cwmphil Road Ystradgynlais	Installation of roof light and bi-fold door.
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Resolved: *No observation*

4.0 Miscellaneous

4.1 *The following application has been closed:*

1/97/0020	Mr R W James 17 Heol Glantawe Ystradgynlais	First floor extension (retrospective), proposed porch. conservatory and extension at rear.
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Resolved: *To note the closure of the application.*