



**CYNGOR TREF
YSTRADGYNLAIS
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Welfare Hall,
Ystradgynlais on Thursday 4th February 2016 at 6.30p.m.**

**Present : Councillor Aneurin Davies, Chairman, Presided,
Councillors W Thomas, Mrs A Jones, L Evans,
D Lewis, Mrs B Paulett, R Curry,
C Nickels, J Steadman, Graham Davies,
J D Coombe, E Evans, Goronwy Davies.**

157. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs W Williams and M Evans.

158. POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL – COMMUNITY DELIVERY.

The Town Council received Powys County Councils Regeneration Officers and local County Council Members on the above matter. A detailed discussion took place on the matter and the question was asked as to what services were the County Council considering possibly transferring down to Community level. The Town Council was of the opinion that a detailed catalogue needed to be identified as to what services were the County Council considering devolving down to community level and how best were these services to be delivered in the future. Also the level of funding from the County Council and period of time this funding would last for needed to be confirmed.

It was felt that both Town Councillors and local County Councillors should work closer on this community delivery issue in the future and it was agreed that further information be supplied by the County Council on the services available. It was noted that the Town Council had already committed to a few land asset transfer agreements from the Powys County Council as detailed.

In conclusion it was agreed that further information be obtained from the Powys County Council regarding the list of services identified as possible transfers in service delivery terms to the local community. It was further agreed that this joint meeting of Town and County Councillors be convened on the 8th March 2016 at 6.00pm.

In consideration of the above the Chairman referred to recent correspondence received from the Ystradgynlais Heritage and Language Society regarding the under mentioned proposed projects for the community. The Council agreed to receive a short presentation of the proposed projects from Mr John Owen of the Society on the detail and reasoning behind this initiative.

- a) Daniel Protheroe Memorial Park, Ystradgynlais. Proposal that the Town Council enter into a long term lease arrangement with Powys County Council to take over full responsibility for the park. Grants to improve the area would be sought in partnership with the Heritage and language Group, Currently the park was in a poor condition as the County Council had failed to provide sufficient funds to maintain the land and monuments to a satisfactory standard.

Resolved that the Town Council agree in principle to the proposal subject to annual and project costs being obtained and approved.

- b) A further request was made to the Town Council for consideration to be given to a project for the placing of stone plinths similar to those at Diamond Park. The locations of 5 plinths would be built at strategic positions within the community and would form part of the tourist trail in the community. Also the proposed panels would encourage more people to use the local footpaths and develop a healthy life style as well as learning of the areas rich cultural and industrial heritage.

Resolved that the Town Council agree in principle to engage in a partnership with the Heritage Society on the basis of a project as described.

159. SYRIAN REFUGEES – UPDATE.

Further to Minute 146 of the Councils meeting on the 7th January the Town Council received the following further information from Mr Simon Inkson, Head of Housing of Powys County Council regarding the Syrian Refugee position:

a) Further to points raised at the meeting on 7th January the Powys Teaching Health Board had confirmed that the Ystradgynlais Practice had not closed its books to new patients. The position was that Practices couldn't close their lists without consultation and approval by their Health Board. The Town council noted the position.

b) A further meeting had been arranged by PAVO on the 22nd February at the Welfare Hall, Ystradgynlais. The meeting has been arranged to advise voluntary organisations about arrangements to accommodate Syrian families in Ystradgynlais and to establish whether there is an appetite to form a locally based group to mobilise support for these new arrivals in the Ystradgynlais community. The Town Council noted the arrangements.

160. DOG FOULING- POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

Information was received regarding a recent survey that the County Council had undertaken in relation to the above matter. Local Members and the local people were encouraged to report all dog fouling incidents or advise of a particular problem in the area to the Authority. Details regarding contact points for reporting incidents were circulated to Town Council Members.

161. VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL REVENUE GRANT SCHEME.

Correspondence was received from the Powys County Council in relation to the above matter. Details was requested as to the financial support given to the Welfare Halls by the Town Council in the

financial year 2015/16. It was also mentioned that the decision whether or not to continue funding to Village and Community Halls beyond the end of March 2017 had not yet been taken, but like many other services continuing funding is actively being considered. Resolved to note the position.

162. YSTRADGYNLAIS VOLUNTEER CENTRE.

The Town council received information in relation to the above Centres Annual accounts up to 31st March 2015. Also the Chairman Cllr Aneurin Davies advised that he had been recently appointed as Chairman to the Volunteer Centre at its recent Annual Meeting. A vacancy now existed on the Volunteer Centres Committee.

Resolved that the Chairman be congratulated with respect to the appointment and that the Committee vacancy be placed on the agenda of the Councils meeting in March.

163. WELFARE AND COMMUNITY HALLS – GRANT APPLICATIONS.

a) Cwmtwrch Miners Welfare Hall. – A letter dated 4 February 2016 was received from the Cwmtwrch Welfare Hall seeking additional funding in this financial year towards the completion of refurbishment work at the Hall taking place in the toilets and kitchen area. To ensure that these are completed an estimated sum of £2500 was required.

Resolved that a grant of £2500 be awarded to the Hall. The grant money to be obtained from the Cwmtwrch Ward Committee budget.

b) Ystradgynlais Miners Welfare and Community Hall. –

1). An e-mail dated 4 February 2016 was received from the Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall Seeking funding towards the improvement of the building. A sum of £3,500 was required towards the purchase and installation of new loading bay garage type door. The current door was totally inadequate and a new door would save on the Halls energy bills and improve the draft exclusion system.

Resolved that the application be approved in the sum indicated and that the grant money be obtained from the Councils Hall maintenance account.

2). A further request was made for a grant of £1,500 as a contribution to the Halls Community Arts Programme. Details of which were contained in the application submitted. It would greatly assist the Hall to plan new projects for the community.

Resolved that the application be approved in the sum indicated and that the expenditure identified be obtained from the Ystradgynlais Ward budget for 2015/16.

164. RECYCLING CENTRE – LOWER CWMTWRCH

An e mail was received from the Powys County Council stating that a new refuse and recycling collection search facility had been launched on the Powys CC website which enables residents to find out about refuse and recycling collection dates.

The Town Council noted the position and expressed its concern and objection to a proposal being considered to close the Ystradgynlais recycling centre at Gurnos, Lower Cwmtwrch.

Resolved that a letter of objection be sent to the Portfolio holder Cllr John Powell in respect of this matter as this is an essential service for the community.

165. COUNCIL MEMBERS APPOINTED AS DIRECTORS ON THE YSTRADGYNLAIS WELFARE HALL BOARD.

Further to Minute 156b) of the Councils meeting on the 7th January the above matter was further discussed in detail and it was **resolved** that in future Council Members who were appointed to the Hall Board by the Town Council would have to declare an interest and not partake in any discussions on financial matters that the Town Council is considering with respect to the Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall.

**166. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT
1 APRIL 2015 TO 31 JANUARY 2016.**

The Town Council received the Clerks financial monitoring report in respect of the above period. A query was raised with regard to the remaining balance of £10,000, which was left after the emergency work undertaken in the Gwys River landslip in January 2015. The Technical Adviser was currently preparing a report to the Council on other remedial/repair work, which needed to be undertaken. However it was pointed out that there was a possible danger that the bank next to where the landslip was may be unsafe. The matter had been reported to the Powys County Council.

167. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

Resolved that the monthly accounts as detailed be paid.

168. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

a) The Town Council received the Technical Advisers report on the planning applications received from the Powys County Council.

Resolved that the Town Councils observations on planning applications considered be forwarded to the Powys County Council.

Note : Councillor Dennis Lewis declared an interest in the planning application relating to the Palleg Golf Club.

b) The Town Council received the following reports from the Technical Adviser in relation to planning matters:

- Paperless Powys – Changes in planning consultation process.
- Powys LDP Plan 2015. Notice of Proposed Focussed Changes Consultation documents.

169. MEMBERS AND OFFICERS REPORTS.

- a) Cllr J D Coombe advised of the concern of local farmers near the Nant Helen Opencast site about the large amount of water, which was flooding their fields. Agreed that Powys County Council be advised of the problem.
- b) Cllr Mrs A Jones advised of her disappointment to hear about the fact that Powys College had closed its doors in Ystradgynlais Town Centre. It was reported that the service had recently been transferred to the Maesydderwen Comprehensive School.

The meeting terminated at 9.05pm