



**CYNGOR TREF
YSTRADGYNLAIS
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Welfare Hall,
Ystradgynlais on Thursday 5th March 2015 at 7.00p.m.**

Present : Councillor Aneurin Davies, Chairman, Presided,

**Councillors R Curry, Mrs B Paulett,
E Evans, D Lewis, Mrs A Jones,
L. Evans, W Thomas, C Nickels,
Goronwy Davies.**

197. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J D Coombe, Mrs W Williams, M Evans and Canon D Roberts.

198. MINUTES.

Resolved that:

- a) The Minutes of the Councils meeting held on the 5th February 2015 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman with deletion of the reference to the Clerk in Minute 194.
- b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on the 29th

January 2015 be further considered at the next Council meeting in April following written amendments received from Cllr W Thomas at the meeting.

199. DRAFT LEASE - YSTRADGYNLAIS WELFARE HALL

The Town Council received correspondence from CISWO in relation to the above matter. Andrew Morse of CISWO confirmed that the suggestions he had made had been incorporated into the new lease. A legal opinion on the content would cost the Town Council in the region of £200 to £300 per hour. The Clerk advised that he was happy with the content and detail contained in the updated lease. Nothing significant had changed in the content of the new lease as compared to the previous lease apart from the fact that the new lease was now written in more readable rather than legalistic English. Following a discussion on the matter it was **resolved** to obtain the services of the Councils local solicitor in respect of this matter.

200. CYCLE PATH – PATH 8 – Gough Arms.

Further to Minute 183 of the Councils meeting on the 5th February 2015 the Clerk reported that a site meeting had been arranged on the 17th March in relation to the above matter.

Resolved that members of the Ynyscedwyn Ward attend the meeting and report back to the Town Council on the matter.

201. ONE VOICE WALES.

Correspondence was received from the One Voice Wales seeking the Town Councils confirmation as to their representatives on the following Committees:

- a) For the Regional Area Committee - Two representatives were sought.
- b) For the Larger Local Councils Committee – One representative was sought.

Resolved that:

- a) Cllrs J D Coombe and D Lewis be appointed to represent the Town Council on the Regional Area Committee.
- b) Cllr D Lewis be appointed to represent the Town Council on the Larger Local Councils Committee.

202. CWMTWRCH COMRADES BRANCH OF THE ROYAL WELSH ASSOCIATION.

An e-mail dated 10th February 2015 was received from the Secretary of the above Association inviting two Council Member to the laying down of their Standard and Dedication of the Branches new Standard at St Cynogs Church on the 19th April 2015.

Resolved that the Chairman Cllr Aneurin Davies and Cllr Dennis Lewis be appointed to represent the Town Council at the above event.

203. POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL – REGENERATION MEETING.

The Chairman advised that a meeting with the Councils Management Sub Committee, representatives from the Powys County Council and Hall Board had been arranged on Friday 27th March 2015 at 10.30am. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss capital grant opportunities for the Ystradgynlais Miners Welfare Hall and for the possible grant regeneration opportunities for projects identified within the four Wards of the Town Council. It was pointed out that members should also be mindful when considering possible projects of what other organisations are in the area are contemplating or considering pursuing.

204. BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY.

An e mail was received from the above with regard to the consultation exercise being undertaken in respect of the draft National Park Management Plan for 2015 and 2020. The Management Plan sets the vision for the national park and also identifies aims and objectives that the Authority and partner organisations will take forward over the

next five years. The full consultation document could be found on the National Parks website. Agreed that a copy of the correspondence be circulated to each Member for consideration.

205. CLINICAL WASTE HOUSEHOLD DISPOSAL.

Information was received from the Powys County Council regarding the new arrangements for the disposal of household clinical waste. In future only clinical classed as infectious will be collected separately to normal household waste. This change will result in significant savings for the County Council, as all such collections will be the responsibility of Powys Teaching Health Board. Residents whose waste is classed as non-infectious hygiene waste will receive letters informing them that their clinical waste collection service will end and that they should place in with their ordinary rubbish for collection fortnightly.

Resolved that the detail regarding the new arrangements be noted.

206. FOOTPATHS 103 and 109.

The Clerk and Cllr Leighton Evans gave a detailed report in relation to the problems relating to the above paths, which had been passed to the Powys County Council. Unfortunately the responses given from the County Council were not very encouraging and totally negative. The Town Council discussed the position and were satisfied from a public health and safety viewpoint it had covered its responsibilities in this regard in reporting the various hazards identified to the responsible authority.

207. TOWN COUNCILS FUTURE BANKING ARRANGEMENTS

Following a lengthy discussion on the above matter, it was **resolved** that Lloyds Bank plc, Ystradgynlais branch be appointed to provide the Town Council future banking account arrangements.

208. TOWN COUNCIL WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT.

The Chairman gave a detailed report in relation to the assistance

provided by Mr. J.O. a local resident in relation to development of the Town Councils website.

Resolved that an ex gratia payment in the sum of £400 be awarded to Mr J.O. and that he be thanked for his invaluable assistance.

209. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

Resolved that the monthly accounts as detailed be paid.

210. RIVER TWRCH LANDSLIP

a) The Town Council received an updated verbal report from the Technical Adviser in relation to the above matter. It was reported that the first stage (classified as emergency work) had now been successfully completed. As a consequence of the contractor (TRJ) employing a revised method of working to that originally envisaged it was expected that the contractor's invoice would be less than the original estimate of £8,900 plus Vat. In addition tree pruning works, fence replacement and the clearing out of the Gwysfryn ditch had been undertaken by Matthew Thomas.

It was further reported that the Powys Assistant Land Drainage Engineer had advised that the National Resources Wales (NRW) through their Senior Flood Risk Analyst had expressed a view that the river channel has been reduced in size and that some permanent works should be considered to reduce the alleged encroachment. Whilst it was true some angled encroachment to the base of the river channel had indeed occurred it was considered arguable that it had reduced the available river channel as the former vertical face posed by the former railway bridge abutment had now been replaced with a trapezoidal channel offering increased cross-sectional area in higher river flows. In addition the random stone placement within the base of the channel was considered as essential works in order to buttress the re-graded embankment and form a resistance to the river flow. The remedial works had however left a rather bare and unsightly embankment at present although it was

likely this would become less obvious following vegetative growth in the spring. It was the consensus view that the position should be monitored to assess its ability to regenerate and deal with high river flows.

It could however be anticipated that the NRW could at some stage formally approach the Town Council about this matter and request that a permanent bank protection solution which would require prior consent from Natural Resources Wales under Section 109 of the Water Resources Act (1991). This would require a detailed design and the submission of flood defence consent application forms. Any work would need to be undertaken when the fish embargo period is lifted (April 15th to October 15th) and would require all river work to be undertaken in the dry (ie creating a sand bag bund around the working area) and therefore a separate temporary flood defence consent will also be required for the period of works.

Resolved that consideration of Stage 2 project work be considered following receipt of the NRW observations and recommendations on what further works are required.

b) The Clerk gave a detailed report following the meeting held on the 17th February with representatives from the Powys County Council and the management of the George IV Inn. It was reported that the local resident was not now going to attend the meeting to discuss liabilities as they had advised the Powys County Council representative that they did not own the land in question opposite the George IV. The resident would be supplying the County Council with copies of the deeds of the property for scrutiny and analysis. The Town Council to receive a further report on this matter.

NOTE : Members thanked the Clerk and the Technical Adviser for their exemplary prompt action and professionalism displayed in dealing with this emergency on behalf of the Town Council.

211. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

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.

212. MEMBERS AND OFFICERS REPORTS.

- a) The Chairman advised that the training course arranged with One Voice Wales would be held on the 9th March. A room had been booked for the event at the Ystradgynlais Welfare and Community Hall.
- b) Cllr W Thomas gave a detailed report to the Council following his attendance at the Powys County Council Pension Fund Meeting on the 17th February 2015.
- c) Cllr E Evans expressed concern over the failure of the Powys County Council to provide way marking signs. Agreed that the Clerk contacts the Rights of Way Dept to determine the present position as listings had been provided a few years ago in relation to this matter.
- d) Cllr D Lewis gave a report on the problems, which were being experienced, at the local hospital in relation to patient appointments. Agreed that the Chairman and Cllr Lewis arrange a meeting with the Hospital manager.
- e) Cllr W Thomas advised of the progress being made in relation to the development of the land of the old Gurnos Primary School. A Tenants and Residents Association had been set up in Gurnos to lead on a number of projects in the area.
- f) Cllr W Thomas informed the Town Council that as part of the 30th year anniversary of the end of the Miners strike in 1985 and the return of miners to their workplace a special film had been commissioned in relation to this and a showing had been arranged at the Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall on the 22nd March.
- g) Cllr R Curry advised of the continual and increasing problem with dog fouling in the area. It was felt that the Powys County Council was neglecting its duty in this regard. It was noted that sport fields, public footpaths in all Wards were affected by this problem. Agreed that a letter be sent to the County Councils Environmental Section complaining about this problem.

The meeting terminated at 9.00pm

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
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Planning matters considered by the Town Council on Thursday 5th March 2015

1.0 Applications granted consent

From information posted on the Powys County Council web site the following have been granted approval:

P/2014/0929	Mrs K. Newton Hazeldene Gilfach Road Upper Cwmtwrch	Retrospective erection of decking area
P/2014/1095	Mr D. Pickering Ysgol Gymraeg, Ynysgedwyn Pantffynnon Road	Change of use D1 School to C3 dwelling and B1 business, including external alterations and associated works.
P/2014/1238	Mr A. Alrkayan Carringdale Ynyscedwyn Road	Erection of a single storey extension.
P/2015/0007	Mr I. Wilson Noddfa Long Street Ynys Uchaf	Demolition of existing garage and erection of single storey extension to rear of existing bungalow.

2.0 Applications refused consent

From information posted on the Powys County Council web site the following application has been refused consent.

No matter to report

3.0 Applications for consideration

P/2015/0176	Mr. D .Mackins Bryn Henllys Upper Cwmtwrch	Installation of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Farm with ancillary infrastructure capable of generating up to 20MW.
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Resolved: *To request that a financial bond is set up with the developer to ensure the funding is available at the end of the 27 year period for the site to be remediated. In addition it is suggested that a local community fund should be established through a Section 106 agreement.*

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P/2015/0191	Mr R. Lopez Cynlais Primary School Heol Giedd	Conversion of former school building to form 17 bed residential / nursing home together with a rear extension and associated works.
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Resolved: No observation

4.0 Miscellaneous

P 2014/1068 Proposed single storey extension to the front of The Coach House Heol Giedd. This application was refused consent on 19th December 2014 - an appeal has been made to the Secretary of State by Mr & Mrs C & J Rees-Evans

Resolved: To note the appeal.

J G Jones - Technical Adviser