



**CYNGOR TREF
YSTRADGYNLAIS
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Annual and Ordinary Meetings of the Council held at the Welfare Hall
on Thursday 30th April 2015 at 7.00p.m.**

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Canon D Roberts.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

The Clerk advised the Council of the resignation of Cllr Aneurin Davies as the Acting Chairman of the Town Council. Consequently the Town Council appointed Cllr Meurig Evans from the Ystradgynlais Ward as Chairman pro tem for this agenda item only. Cllr Evans received one nomination for the Chairmanship of the Town Council for 2015/16, Cllr Aneurin Davies. The Chairman pro tem put the nomination received to the vote.

Resolved that Councillor Aneurin Davies be elected as the Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year 2015/16.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN.

Resolved that Councillor Wayne Thomas be elected as Vice- Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year 2015/16.

4. COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS.

Each Town Council Member received an updated copy of the above Council documents.

Resolved that the revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations of the Council be reaffirmed for the ensuing Municipal Year. Copy circulated previously to all Member Councillors

5. COUNCILS BANK ACCOUNT – CHEQUE SIGNATORIES.

Resolved that the Clerk and any other two Councillors be responsible for signing cheques on behalf of the Council. The following Councillors were approved as being signatories to the Councils bank account, namely, Councillors J Steadman, G Davies, D Lewis, Mrs B Paulett, A Davies Cllr W Thomas, and J D Coombe.

6. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

a) Planning Committee

Resolved that: -

- 1) A Planning Committee be established to include all Council Members with plenary powers to decide on observations to be submitted to the Powys County Council on planning applications.
- 2) Meetings of the Planning Committee to be convened as and when necessary during each month so that observations are submitted to the Powys County Council within the prescribed period and reports of the meetings be submitted to the next suitable meeting of the Council. Meetings to be held at the Welfare Hall , Ystradgynlais
- 3) In the event of Members present at any meeting of the Planning Committee not being unanimous on the observations to be submitted, or when the application is of an important nature, then the application shall be submitted for consideration to the next meeting of the Council.
- 4) The Technical Adviser be responsible for receiving planning applications from the Powys County Council, convening meetings of the Planning Committees, submitting observations to the County Council and report thereon to the next suitable meeting of the Council.

b) Ward Committees

Resolved that :-

- 1) Ward Committees shall be established to include all Council Ward Members for the following Wards: -

Ystradgynlais Ward	-	5 Members – Cllrs Mrs B Paulett, M Evans Mrs A Jones, J Steadman, Goronwy Davies.
Ynyscedwyn Ward	-	4 Members – Cllrs A Davies, C Nickels, Canon D Roberts, R Curry.
Cwmtwrch Ward	-	4 Members – Graham Davies, W Thomas, L Evans, D Lewis.
Abercrave Ward	-	3 Members – J D Coombe, Mrs W Williams, E Evans.

2) Ward Committees shall have plenary powers under the Councils Small Contract Scheme for path, parks and open space maintenance to:-

- a) determine work programmes and estimated expenditure, and the submission thereof to the Council for approval in January of each year for the contract work to be undertaken in the next financial year.
- b) carry out the works by engaging contractors identified on the Councils approved list, subject to a maximum expenditure per contract of £3,000.
- c) allow any two of the Ward Members and the Clerk or Technical Adviser to issue, monitor, approve and sign the contract.
- d) to inform the Council regarding the letting of a contract, the name of the contractor so that the Council can approve the payment of the contract.

c) Urgent Action

Resolved that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Ward Members acting together be given plenary powers to deal with matters requiring urgent immediate action between the Councils Ordinary Meetings.

In addition, that where correspondence is received by the Town Clerk which is deemed to warrant investigation by the Chairman and Vice Chairman, then the Ward Members to which the correspondence relates would be contacted in order to provide a report to the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council in relation to the content of the correspondence.

d) Management Sub Committee

Resolved that :

- a) The Membership of the Management Sub Committee shall consist of the Chairman of the Council and four Council Members, one from each Ward.

Appointment on the Sub Committee to be confirmed at the Annual Meeting of the Council held normally in May of every Municipal Year.

b) The Chairman of the Sub Committee shall be appointed annually each year at the first meeting of the Management Sub Committee following the Councils Annual Meeting.

c) A quorum for any meeting of the Sub Committee shall be at least four Council Members. Should the appointed Council Member be unavailable for any reason to

attend a meeting of the Sub Committee then the Ward Chairman or in his/her absence the Ward Vice Chairman be authorised to appoint a substitute within the Ward to attend the said meeting.

d) Each Member of the Sub Committee shall have one vote apart from the Chairman who in addition to his/her normal vote shall also have a casting vote in a situation where there is an equal number of votes on an issue.

e) The main purpose of the Sub Committee will be to assist the Council in the discharge of its services to the community and also to deal with relevant financial and staffing issues.

f) The power of the Sub Committee will be limited in that no direct decisions are taken on the issues addressed and it will be the responsibility of the Sub Committee to make recommendations to the Council on all issues. The Sub Committee will also undertake a monitoring role on behalf of the Council on certain functions as required such as project management, financial control issues relating to the Councils accounts.

g) Examples of other areas of work that the Council may discharge to the Sub Committee will include:

Personnel/Training, Health and Safety, Project Monitoring
Accounts Monitoring, Welfare Hall Matters

The above list is not exhaustive and the Council may from time to time allocate other specific work to the Sub Committee as deemed appropriate.

h) the Ward appointed Members for the **Municipal Year 2015/16** shall be Cllr Mrs J Steadman, E Evans, R Curry, Graham Davies and the current Chairman of the Council Cllr A Davies.

7. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES.

Resolved that the Council be represented on the under mentioned outside bodies by the following Members :

One Voice Wales

Cllr D Lewis & J D Coombe

Ystrad Welfare & Community Hall	Cllrs Mrs P Paulett & Cllr R Curry
Cwmtwrch Welfare Association	Cllr Graham Davies & Leighton Evans
Ystrad Sports Centre Local Management Committee	Cllr E Evans
Ystrad Volunteer Service	Cllr A Davies
Tick Tock Community Bowls	Cllrs R Curry & A Davies.
Nant Helen Open Cast Liaison Comm.	Cllrs M Evans & E Evans.
Brecknock Disabled Access Group	Cllr J D Coombe & Cllr G Davies
Brecon Beacons Grant Advisory Panel	Cllr J D Coombe
Ystrad Focus on Health Committee	Cllr J D Coombe
Powys/ NPT Cross Border Committee	Cllrs J Steadman, D Lewis Mrs W Williams, A Davies
Steering Committee – Regeneration	Cllrs W Thomas, D Lewis E Evans, J Steadman, R Curry

Note. : An email was received from Cllr Graham Davies confirming that he was standing down as the Town Councils representative on the Governing Body of the area Welsh School Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn Y Glowyr. The Town Council noted the position.

8. CHAIRMAN’S ALLOWANCE.

The Town Council considered and discussed the above matter.

Resolved that:

a) The Chairman receives an allowance of £3,000 for the Municipal Year 2015/2016.

b) An item be referred to the Councils Management Committee with a view to developing guidance for the Council Chairman with respect to the annual Allowance awarded by the Town Council.

9. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Resolved that requests for the payment of annual subscriptions be considered as and when received.

NOTE: The Annual Meeting of the Council terminated at 7.40p.m. following which the Council preceded with the Ordinary Meeting of the Council.

10. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Councils meeting held on the 2nd April 2015 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

11. PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES.

Each Council Member received a copy of the 'Revised Guidance On The Code of Conduct' produced by the above body. The new Ombudsman on recently taking up office had become increasingly concerned about the number of low-level complaints being received from Town and Community Councils. In view of this the current two-stage test has been revised with respect to the investigation of complaints. Members were encouraged to carefully read the contents of the revised Code.

12. PENSIONS REGULATOR – ENROLMENT.

Correspondence was received from the above in relation to the change in the law on workplace pensions. Every employer must automatically enrol those who are eligible into a workplace pension scheme and contribute towards it. The staging date for the Ystradgynlais Town Council was the 1st November 2015 and the Council had to nominate a contact by the 31 May 2015.

Resolved that the Clerk be appointed as the contact Officer on behalf of the Town Council in this regard.

13. THE LARCHES, COMMUNITY HEALTH TEAM.

Notification was received that the Larches Community health Team were to relocate to the Ystradgynlais Community Hospital on the 11th May 2015. Members resolved to note the position.

14. TICK TOCK COMMUNITY BOWLS CLUB.

A letter dated 30th April 2015 was received from the Secretary of the above club seeking release of the ring-fenced grant of £4,500 for the Club in 2015/16.

Resolved that the allocated grant in the sum of £4,500 be awarded to the Tick Tock Community Bowls Club for the season 2015/16.

15. POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL – COMMUNITY DELIVERY INITIATIVE.

A letter dated 9 April 2015 was received from the Powys County Council with regards to the above matter. The county Council was drafting the main principles with regard to the possible devolvement of selected services to a local level. A number of pilot projects had already commenced in Ystradgynlais, Newtown, Welshpool, Llandrindod Wells and Hay on Wye. The County Council advised that this exercise would be a learning process and a guidance document was currently being prepared which will be circulated soon. This document will describe the various aspects of the initiative and provide guidance on how to progress transfers of assets and services.

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence and await the publication of the guidance document.

16. LAND ADJACENT TO THE GOUGH ARMS.

The Ynyscedwyn Ward Members and the Clerk advised the Town Council that the owner of the newly established 'café Chameleon' wished to register an interest in leasing the above area from the Town Council. The intention would be to create a more managed area of native planting and seating and to enable walkers and cyclists to have direct access to the café from footpath no. 8 without having to exit onto the road. It would also benefit the proposed improvements to Route 43 cycle route. The Town Council was advised that the previous interest from another resident had been submitted and that correspondence was being exchanged between solicitors on the matter of an application for a licence to access the property situated behind café chameleon. The Town Council considered the matter in detail.

Resolved that the item be placed on the agenda of the next Council meeting for consideration and determination with respect to both requests.

17. SWANSEA VALLEY HERITAGE.

An application for financial funding support was received from Mr Clive Reed of the above organisation towards the publication of a manuscript research into

Tareni Colliery, a coalmine established near the present day village of Godre'r Graig in the Swansea Valley c1902. The Town council discussed and considered the application.

Resolved that a grant of £200 be award to the Swansea Valley Heritage Group. The Chairman also advised that he would also be making a contribution towards the publication.

18. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER WORKSHOP.

Notification was received from WCVA inviting the Town Council to send representatives to the above event on the 10th June 2015.

Resolved that Cllr Dennis Lewis and Cllr John Coombe be appointed to attend the event on behalf of the Council.

19. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved that the accounts as detailed be paid.

20. YSTRADGYNLAIS WELFARE HALL.

The Town Council received the Hall Manager in relation to the following matters:

a) Core Grant Funding - The Town Council received a detailed four monthly financial and performance report from the Hall Directors in relation to its grant application the contents of which was considered in detail by the Council.

Resolved that a 1st instalment grant of £10,000 be awarded to the Welfare Hall.

b) The Hall Manager advised that the capital works programme had now commenced at the Hall and additional costs had been identified. A financial report was circulated to Council Members, which outlined the latest position in relation to expenditure and grant income. Additional expenditure was being incurred in relation to the Air Handling Unit and Exterior Wall Insulation. A request for an additional grant support from the Town Council was required in the sum of £3250. A grant of £3000 had already been allocated but not paid as yet to the hall for external works to the Foyer and Loading Bay.

Resolved that the application be approved and that a Further grant of £6250 be awarded towards the capital project at the Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall.

21. TOWN COUNCIL ACCOUNTS TO YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015.

The Council received copies of the accounting documents for the Year Ended 31st March 2015 including all the accounting documents and Annual Return.

Resolved that the content of the accounting documents and Annual Return be approved subject to audit and signed by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Clerk.

22. YSTRADGYNLAIS LIBRARY – FUTURE OPTIONS.

An e-mail and a Service Transfer Catalogue (STC) was received from the Powys County Council on the above matter. The STC sets out the relevant background information about the Ystradgynlais Library and includes operational and resource costs.

A request was made to further discuss with the Town Council Members the content of the STC in a workshop style basis. The idea would be that the workshop would enable the County Council to scope out with the Town Council possible potential options for the Library's future.

Resolved that prior to ageing to the above that the Powys County Council be asked for the full list of services that it is proposing for the Ystradgynlais community area.

23. 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 as detailed in be forwarded to the Powys County Council.

24. MEMBERS AND OFFICERS REPORTS.

a) Members agreed that the past photographs of previous Council Chairmen currently on display in the Councils Chairman's Room should now be displayed either in the Lesser Hall or the Foyer. Cllr Aneurin Davies to discuss the positioning with the Hall Manager.

b) Cllr R Curry on behalf of the Town Council extended the Councils congratulations to Cllr C Nickels for the work and commitment to coaching the local rugby team which culminated in the under 18' rugby team winning the WRU cup last weekend.

The meeting terminated at 8.45pm

YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS

Planning matters considered by the Town Council on Thursday 30th April 2015

1.0 Applications granted consent

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

P/2014/1232	Mr C. Northey 89 Cwmpnil Road Lower Cwmtwrch Ystradgynlais	Demolition of existing garage and construction of a two storey extension to the front, side and rear of the property with detached garage and associated external and drainage work.
P/2015/0057	Mrs J. Griffiths 50 Heol Twrch Lower Cwmtwrch	Outline: Erection of dormer bungalow
P/2015/0194	Mrs. A. Williams 98 Wind Road Ystradgynlais	Change of use of room used as post Post Office to domestic lounge.
P/2015/0221	Mr & Mrs J. Williams 10 Brynawel Road Ystradgynlais	Construction of a two storey and single storey extension with associated drainage and external works.
P/2015/0229	Mr C. Lewis 87 Brecon Road Ystradgynlais	Rear first floor extension
P/2015/0235	Mr A. Owens 47 Cwmpnil Road Lower Cwmtwrch	Erection of a two storey extension and alterations to dwelling.

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

No matter to report

4.0 Miscellaneous

No matter to report

J G Jones - Technical Adviser