



**CYNGOR TREF  
YSTRADGYNLAIS  
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Welfare Hall,  
Ystradgynlais on Thursday 3rd November 2016 at 7.00p.m.**

**Present : Councillor Wayne Thomas, Chairman, Presided,  
Councillors D Lewis, Mark Evans, L Evans,  
Meurig Evans, Mrs A Jones,  
C Nickels, A Davies, Mrs B Paulett.**

**119. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs W Williams, J D Coombe, J Steadman R Curry, Goronwy Davies, Graham Davies and Evan Evans.

**120. MINUTES.**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Town Councils meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

**121. TARENI COLLIERY GODREGRAIG.**

The Clerk reported that the author of the above local historical book about Tareni colliery had been presented to the Town Council. The book would be made available to Town Councillors for perusal.

Members were of the opinion that the Town Council should purchase and present each local school in the area with a copy of the publication.

Resolved that the Town Council purchases 5 books at a cost of £150 and that the Chairman presents each of the local schools with a copy of the publication.

**122. YSTRADGYNLAIS MINERS WELFARE HALL.**

Correspondence was received from the Board of Directors of the above Hall seeking £32,000 in grant funding for the next financial year 2017/18. The Hall had received a 10% cut to core Powys County Council support funding for staffing and currently negotiations were on-going over Tupe transfer arrangements. Also the Powys Community Fund project support will no longer be awarded to the Hall. Over the past years an annual grant of around £15,000 has been received for Community projects Instead a Service Level Agreement of £6,400 has been agreed annually instead to provide arts to the community. Therefore the hall will need additional funding of around £10,000 to continue the programme of community arts in the community.

Resolved that the content of the letter be further discussed between the Town Councils Management Sub Committee and representatives of the Hall Committee.

**123. GORSEDD PARK YSTRADGYNLAIS.**

Further to Minute 100 of the Town Councils meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> October it was resolved that in addition to matters of concern identified in that meeting **it was also resolved** that the following conditions be attached to any asset transfer of the above land between the Powys County Council and the Town Council:

a) That the Town Council was not prepared to acquire, as part of the asset transfer, the retaining boundary stone wall around the Gorsedd Park and that the Highways Dept of Powys County Council must retain responsibility and ownership of this wall.

- b) That a structural survey be undertaken of the Gorsedd stones
- c) That the Powys County Council be asked for a funding contribution towards the maintenance of the Park for the three years following the transfer date.

**124. DANIEL PROTHEROE MEMORIAL PARK.**

The Town Council was advised that the documentation relating freehold conveyance of the property had now been signed by both parties and the ownership of the land and structures and had now been transferred to the Town Council.

Resolved that the matter be now processed to the Councils solicitor in order to officially register the land in the Town Councils name and ownership.

**125. WEB PAGE AND SOCIAL MEDIA DEVELOPMENT.**

Further to Minute 98 of the Town Councils meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016 an e mail had been received from the Councils Web administrators stating that Phase 1 of the new website development had been completed and certain decisions needed to be taken by the Town Council and individual Wards in relation to completing the new website.

Resolved that the position be noted and that the Wards consider the questions regarding the possible layout options provided by the web site administrator.

**126. WELFARE GROUNDS, YSTRADGYNLAIS.**

Further to Minute 102 of the Town Councils meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016 a letter was received from the Powys County Council confirming that representatives from Cook and Arkwright welcomed the Town Councils offer to meet with the Company in relation to the renewing of the Welfare Grounds lease in 2021.

Resolved that a special meeting of the Town Council be convened to meet and discuss with representatives from the Powys County Council and Cook and Arkwright the position regarding the future of the Ystradgynlais Welfare Grounds

**127. PROPOSED PUBLIC PATH ORDERS ; DIVERSION OF PART OF FOOTPATHS 3 & 6 & BRIDLEWAY 75; EXTINGUISHMENT OF FOOTPATHS 56 AND 71, IN AREA AROUND HAUL ROAD FOR FORMER BRYNHENLLYS OPENCAST SITE CWMTWRCH.**

Further to Minute 103 of the Town Councils meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> October an e-mail on the above matter was received from the Powys County Council. As far as the Powys County Council was concerned all matters regarding the proposed public path orders with slight amendments had now been agreed with interested parties. Cllr A Davies expressed his concern over a private meeting that had taken place between Powys County Council, a Town Councillor, County Councillor and local landowner and was of the opinion that this private meeting was illegal. The Chairman Cllr Wayne Thomas advised that he had properly adhered to Town Council procedures in dealing with this matter. The Chairman further reminded Cllr A Davies that he had made no observations on this issue when the Town Council considered the matters arising agenda item at the 6<sup>th</sup> October meeting where reference to the holding of a site meeting had been made.

The matters regarding the proposed path orders placed in front of the Town Council were further considered and discussed in detail by the Council Members.

Resolved that the Town Council agrees to the proposed public path orders as detailed.

**NOTE:**

**a) Cllr Mark Evans declared an interest in relation to this item.**

**b) Cllr Aneurin Davies abstained from voting in relation to this item.**

**128. POWYS PENSION FUND – ANNUAL MEETING.**

A letter dated 25 October was received from the Powys County Council inviting the Town Council to send representatives to the above meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

Resolved that the Clerk and Technical Adviser be appointed to attend the meeting.

**129. FLOODING HAUL ROAD.**

An e mail dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November was received from CME Developments Ltd detailing the companies concern over the amount of water floods down the Haul Road during wet conditions. CME Ltd have spent a substantial amount of money correcting and installing a drainage system their side to ensure no flooding takes place in the houses below. The drainage problem is with the County Council and the drainage officer Mr Simon Crowther is investigating the problem. CME wishes to confirm to the Town Council that all drains and systems within the ownership of CME Ltd are maintained to a high standard and the company will not be held responsible to any flood or water damage outside the companies control

Resolved to note the position

**Note: Councillor Mark Evans declared an interest in relation to this item.**

**130. TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2017**

A letter dated 31 October 2016 was received from the Powys County Council confirming that the above elections would be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> May together with the elections for the 73 County Council electoral divisions. The following additional information was received:

- Election Costs
- Filling of Casual Vacancies in the Last Six months
- Retirement of Community Councillor
- Annual Meetings of Community Councils
- New Register of Electors
- Clerks Training Course, Brecon 27 February

Resolved that the information received be noted and that the Clerk attends the training course on this subject matter on the 27<sup>th</sup> February.

**131. SAFETY REPORTS PARKS.**

The Town Council received an excellent report from Zurich Insurance in relation to safety inspections recently undertaken at Swn y Nant , Abercrave and Caerbont Parks.

Resolved to note the content of the reports.

**132. POST OFFICE MOBILE SERVICE.**

Notification was received from the Post Office that the Company will soon be proceeding with the proposal to restore Post Office services to the communities mentioned including Glanrhyd. With regards to Glanrhyd the mobile service will be sited on the road opposite 1 Gough Avenue, Ystradgynlais.. the opening time will be from 14.00 to 15.00 on Thursday's.

Resolved to note the arrangement.

**133. HERITAGE INTERPRETATION PANELS – MAINTENANCE.**

Town Council members discussed at length the question regarding the responsibility of maintenance work to the interpretation panels sited at the following locations:

1. **Ystradgynlais** – Adjacent to the Lych Gate in the Church Car park at Heol Eglwys
2. **Cwmgiedd** – On the grass verge Cwmgiedd side of the junction of Heol Giedd and the Ystradgynlais By-pass A4067.
3. **Lower Cwmtwrch** – Adjacent to the former railway bridge on Cwmpnil Road near Bethania Chapel in the direction of travel of Palleg Road
4. **Glanrhyd** – In the raised flower bed area of the Ynyscedwyn Ironworks park, Ynyscedwyn Road.
5. **Abercraf** – Opposite the junction of Heol Tawe and Henoyadd Abercraf near the bus stop in the direction of travel to Ystradgynlais.
6. **Penrhos** – Adjacent to the bus shelter at the junction of Hendreladus and Brecon Road in the direction to Ystradgynlais.
7. **Diamond Park** – Heritage Plinths Diamond Park.

Resolved that the Town Council takes over the maintenance responsibility for the above-located Heritage Interpretation Panels and that the Town Clerk makes provision in the next financial years budget for this purpose.

#### **134. DRAMS FOR YSTRADGYNLAIS.**

Cllr Mark Evans advised that he had recently picked up two drams from the Nant Helen site. Unfortunately they were not in very good condition. Currently they were in storage for the Town Council to decide whether any repair work was going to be undertaken and where they were to be sited.

Resolved that one of the drams be sited at the Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall grounds and the other at a site to be identified in the Ynyscedwyn Ward.

#### **135. WALES IN BLOOM – FINALS.**

Information was received from YSATT that the Ystradgynlais Flowers in Bloom project had received a silver award in Class 4 (Towns in Wales) prize category. This was an exceptional

achievement as it's the first time that the Town has placed an entry in the competition.

Resolved that the Town Councils congratulations be forwarded to the local group for an exceptional result.

**136. FOOTPATH 110A**

Further to Minute 101 it was reported that the Ynyscedwyn Ward had considered three estimates for the removal of the beech tree. The quotations were in the sum of £2,800, £2,600 and £1,900.

Resolved to accept the Wards recommendation to accept the lowest quotation from Carl Stringer.

The Ynyscedwyn Ward also reported that arrangements were being put in place to construct the wall ( C. Stringer) , install new gates (T.G.Jones) and tree thinning/ Landscaping ( M. Thomas).

**137. PUBLIC CONSULTATION – FURTHER CHANGES TO THE POWYS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP).**

The tabled report on the proposed Focussed Changes to the Powys LDP was subjected to member scrutiny.

It was noted that the housing numbers proposed for the County as a whole (5,596 dwellings in order to meet the requirement of 4,500 dwellings (300 p.a.)) were considered to be probably an unrealistic target particularly as the early years build rates were well below this target.

It was also noted the increased housing density had increased the number of proposed dwellings in the Town Council area by 17 to 512. Dependent on developer activity this could in theory significantly increase the existing number of households of 3658 possibly rising by 14% to 4170 with a corresponding population increase of over a thousand on the existing 8100.



As due to various constraints no site has actually commenced to deliver the strategy would require an average build rate of 50 properties per annum over the next ten years of the plan which would be beneficial for employment and availability of new housing. However most of the development sites are hindered through infrastructure constraints and there is a slight concern unless managed by the planning process that a high build rate could have a challenging impact on School capacity, Welsh Language and Culture and local services if there was a rush of building development towards the end of the plan.

With regard to affordable housing concern was raised that the proposed allocation had been reduced to 0% in the South West area. This suggested that there was little demand for such housing which was considered surprising and that the affordable Housing criteria may be sacrificed on the grounds of making the sites viable. This approach appeared to be directly at odds with many of the stated policy objectives of the LDP with regard to the provision of affordable housing. It also seemed to be incompatible with the Ystradgynlais area qualifying for Community First status.

It was resolved to put forward that the affordable housing contributions should remain at the 10% level previously proposed for the South West Powys Region.

**Note: Cllr M. Evans declared an interest in this item and left the room.**

**138. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS.**

Resolved that the monthly accounts as detailed in the payment list circulated be paid.

**139. DEDICATION OF THE REFURBISHED WAR MEMORIAL IN THE GORSEDD PARK, YSTRADGYNLAIS**

The Chairman Cllr Wayne Thomas and Cllr Aneurin Davies gave a detailed report on the programme and Order of Service for the above event which was to be held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November. The refurbished

Memorial being dedicated incorporates features of the original Memorial with the names of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice engraved on the granite wings alongside. Details were also conveyed to the Town Council of the various events at the Welfare Hall and Yorath Chapel, which would take place on the following week. Also the Council was advised of the various events that had been arranged for the following week including the showing of the battle of the Somme film at the Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall on the 17<sup>th</sup> November.

Resolved to note the arrangements and to extend a vote of thanks to Cllr Aneurin Davies for the tremendous hard work and individual perseverance that he had shown over the past three years to bring this project to a successful conclusion.

**140. ONE VOICE WALES.**

Cllr Mark Evans supported by previous One Voice Wales appointed representatives advised of his disappointment with recent OVW meetings he and Cllr Aneurin Davies have attended. The meetings have not been of any interest or benefit to the representatives. Also the membership cost is unacceptable and the course and conference fees are far too high. A few members were of the opinion that the Town Council should cease to be members of the organisation.

Resolved that the matter be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

**141. 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.

**142. MEMBERS AND OFFICERS REPORTS.**

a) Cllr Mark Evans raised the issue of the provision of timber handrails on the unsanctioned footbridge crossing the watercourse on FP 110A. Also the provision of litter bins was considered due to the

litter problem in the vicinity of the path near the Tesco Store. Agreed that the Ward arrange a site meeting to further investigate the above matters.

**NOTE :** The Clerk declared an interest in the above item.

b) A questionnaire was received from Powys CHC regarding the Annual Review and Preparation of the Operational Programme for 2017/18. Agreed that the Clerk liaises with Councillor Coombe on the content and completion of the document.

c) Consultation questionnaire circulated to all Council Members for completion and return relating to the question of Daytime Activities for Older People.

d) Councillors were advised of the need to complete the Powys County Council survey and options in relation to the provision of household Waste Recycling Centers Savings Survey which was to be found on the Powys County Council website.

The meeting terminated at 9.50pm

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL  
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

**Planning matters considered by the Town Council on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016.**

**1.0 Applications granted consent**

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

DIS/2016/0152	Hale Construction Former Gurnos Primary School Road ,Gurnos	Discharge of conditions 5,7,15,17,18,19,21 & 34 of planning approval P/2014/1022.
P/2016/0386	Mr. J. Burgess Development rear of Glandwr House Cwmtwrch	Outline planning permission for a one bed dwelling with all matters reserved.
P/2016/0861	Mr. M. Bennet 258 Brecon Road Penrhos	Change of use of ground floor from commercial use to residential unit.

**2.0 Applications refused consent**

*From information posted on the Powys County Council web no application has been refused consent.*

**3.0 Applications for consideration**

*From information posted on the Powys County Council web site the following applications require consideration:-*

P/2016/1006	Mr. C. Davies 9 Pelican Street Ystradgynlais	Erection of a single storey extension.
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**Resolved: No observation.**

P/2016/1020	Mr. L. Sharpe 15 Gorof Road Gurnos	Erection of extensions
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**Resolved: No observation.**

P/2016/1039	Mr G .Davies 63 Heol Giedd Ystradgynlais	Erection of front, side and rear extension with raising of existing eaves.
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**Resolved: No observation.**

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL  
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

P/2016/1044

Mr& Mrs Adams  
72 Heol Gleien  
Cwmtwrch

Demolition of utility room and erection of single storey extension.

***Resolved: No observation.***

**4.0 Miscellaneous**

To note that the LDP item on the Focussed Changes was reported on the main agenda (Item7)

**J.G. Jones - Technical Adviser**