



**CYNGOR TREF
YSTRADGYNLAIS
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Welfare Hall,
Ystradgynlais on Thursday 1st December 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
Graham Davies, J D Coombe, E Evans.
J Steadman.**

143. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs W Williams and R Curry.

144. MINUTES.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Town Councils meeting held on the 3rd November 2016 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

145. YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN CENTRE FLOWER DISPLAY.

The Town Council received a detailed costing from YSATT in relation to the proposal to extend the existing Town Centre scheme. The Group had recently been successful in the Wales in Bloom

competition and have taken on board its advice on where the scheme can be extended and improved. Planting in the following areas was proposed:

- 1) Gorsedd Park and the War memorial Area.
- 2) Church entrance via the car park area.
- 3) Heol Eglwys (entrance to the lane leading to the Guide Hut)
- 4) Pavement outside the Ynyscedwyn Arms and Gough Bridge

Resolved that following proposals be agreed in principle and be subject to final approval and ratification at the Town Councils Budget meeting in January 2017:

- a) to continue to support the costs of the Town Centre original flower planting scheme at a cost of £3,600 (excl VAT)
- b) To pursue a daffodil planting scheme for the Gorsedd Park. Funds to be obtained from the Powys County Council and Town Council funds in this financial year.
- c) Flower planting scheme for the War Memorial area . Funds allocated by the Ynyscedwyn Ward for the next financial year in the sum of £1,700 (excl VAT)
- d) For the Gough bridge, Church entrance and the other suggested flower display scheme extensions it was agreed that the YSATT representatives seek alternative funding avenues with the assistance of the local Ystradgynlais County Councillor. Town Council to consider what financial assistance it can provide at the budget meeting. Clerk to liaise with the representative of YSATT on possible funding opportunities to enhance the current scheme.

146. YSTRADGYNLAIS MINERS WELFARE HALL.

The Chairman referred to the draft Minutes of the Management Sub Committees meeting on the 30th November 2016 where the following recommendation was agreed following discussion with the Board management:

- **Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall Funding for the Financial Year 2017/18 :**

Recommended that in addition to the £30,000 in grant funding that a further £2,000 be awarded to the Hall for the financial year 2017/18 towards match funding of future charitable trust grant applications. This £2,000 in additional grant afforded to the Hall to be reviewed on an annual basis.

It was noted that the draft minutes of the said meeting would be placed on the agenda for the Town Councils meeting in January 2017

Resolved that the recommendation as detailed be agreed in principle subject to approval of the expenditure at the Councils Budget meeting in January 2017.

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

1) The Chairman Cllr Wayne Thomas gave thanks to all individuals and Groups who were involved in organising the events on the 11th November 2017 in relation to the above event. It had proved to be a very successful day carried out in a highly professional manner. A special thanks was extended to Mr John Owen for the invaluable assistance given in assisting the Clerk and Chairman in organising and providing a detailed information pamphlet for the day and which the Town Council **resolved** to recognise this contribution by awarding Mr Jones with an honorarium payment of £300 to cover costs.

2) A letter dated 9 November 2016 was received from a local resident stating that on visiting the newly refurbished War Memorial he was appalled to discover that all the information was only in the English language. The decision not to include any Welsh at all was not acceptable.

Resolved that the Town Council supports the inclusion of a Welsh plaque on the Memorial and that the matter be referred for consideration to the current owners of the Gorsedd Park and War Memorial, namely Powys County Council.

**148. ST CYNOG'S CHURCH COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS.
TREE FESTIVAL 6/12 YO 11/12.**

Notification was received advising the Town Council of the arrangements and activities which had been organised for the week. The content of the correspondence was noted by the Council.

149. WELSH GOVERNMENT TALK COMMUNITIES

Notification was received from the Welsh Government in relation to the changes that were going to be made with regards to the Communities First Programme, which was coming to an end next year. Members were asked to complete an on line questionnaire for completion in relation to this matter. The Town Council noted the position in relation to this matter.

**150. TRANSFER OF LAND AT WAUN GYRLAIS,
YNYSSCEDWYN WARD**

Conveyance documents were received from the Powys County Council in relation to the transfer of the above land to the Ystradgynlais Town Council.

Evidence of ownership was received namely Land Registry Title No CYM499290 together with supporting documentation. Due to the nature of the transaction it was proposed that formal contracts are dispensed with and that the Town Council accept a draft transfer of the land in question.

Resolved that it be agreed that formal contracts be dispensed with in relation to this conveyance and that the Chairman and Vice Chairman sign the conveyance transfer documents on behalf of the Town Council.

151. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

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

152. LEASE OF YSTRADGYNLAIS RECREATIONAL GROUND.

A letter dated 11th November 2016 was received from Powys County Council confirming that a meeting with representatives from Cooke and Arkwright had been arranged for the 8th December to discuss the renewal of the Recreation Ground lease in 2021.

Resolved that a pre meeting of the Town Council be arranged on the 7th December at 6.00pm to discuss and formulate questions to Cooke and Arkwright in relation to the renewal of this lease arrangement.

153. WEB PAGE AND SOCIAL MEDIA DEVELOPMENT.

Further to Minute 125 of the Town Councils meeting on the 3rd November 6th October 2016 an e mail dated 16 November had been received from the Councils Web administrators stating that the Ward sections of the new website had now been completed and that the Town Council needed to check and confirm the contents were correct so that the site could be officially launched within the next few weeks. The issue regarding the possible inclusion and monitoring of a Facebook facility was discussed at length and reference was also made to a proposal that the Welfare Hall would undertake the monitoring role for an annual fee of £2000. Concern was expressed however over the inclusion of this facility on the Town Council website and that further guidance/information be obtained on this matter.

Resolved that:

a) The Clerk and appointed Ward representatives check the content of the new website over the next week so that the move to the new platform can be confirmed to the Web Site Administrators.

b) Further information be obtained from the Councils Web Site Administrators with regard to the proposed Facebook facility in terms of recommended protocols, Member guidance, security, usage etc.

154. FOOTPATH 110A

Further to Minute 136 it was reported that a site meeting had recently

taken place between the Ynyscedwyn Ward Members and Powys County Council Officers on providing a cycle route from Maesydderwen school via footpath 110a and down to Wind Road. The Ward Members had agreed in principle with the proposal and that a letter would be sent in the near future to the Town Council detailing the proposal in more depth and to seek the Town Councils approval and permission to undertake the cycle scheme.

Resolved to await further correspondence from the Powys County Council in relation to this project.

155. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT.

The Town Council received the Clerks report on the above matter for the period between 1 April 2016 and 30 November 2016. Members discussed in detail the position of the Town Councils finances.

Resolved to note the content of the report.

156. COUNCILLORS E –MAILS

The Town Council received copies of e-mails shared between the Chairman and Cllr Mark Evans on matters raised and procedures followed at the last meeting of the Town Council on the 3rd November 2016. Cllr M Evans and the Chairman disagreed about the way certain items and Members were handled and treated at the last meeting which in Cllr Evans' view was totally unsatisfactory and that the Councils procedures at meetings had not been followed in this regard. The Chairman totally disagreed with the views of Cllr Mark Evans in respect of this allegation and reiterated the position that all Town Council procedures had been followed when considering the issues in front of the Town Council.

Town Council members noted the content of the copy e-mails received.

157. NANT HELEN OPEN CAST - DRAMS

The Town Council received an updated report in relation to the two

drams currently in the Councils ownership. Following an assessment on condition it had been ascertained that maintenance and repair work was required to bring the drams back to an acceptable condition. Agreed that cost estimates be obtained for the necessary repairs work required to the Drams.

158. ONE VOICE WALES - MEMBERSHIP

Further to Minute 140 of the Councils meeting on the 3rd November 2016 the Town Council reviewed its position in relation to its membership of the above organisation. Members questioned the benefits of remaining as members but also questioned the unacceptably high annual membership fee of over £1000. Members discussed and considered the advantages and disadvantages of the Councils continued membership of this organisation.

Resolved that consideration of this matter be deferred at the moment and that representatives from OVW be invited to discuss the position with Council Members.

159. APPROVED LIST OF CONTRACTORS.

An application was received from Evergreen Tree and Landscaping Services for inclusion on the Town Councils list of approved contractors. Documentation required had been received for vetting and further Inland Revenue information was awaited.

Resolved that providing the latter mentioned information was acceptable then the Council would confirm and accept the contractor's application onto the Town Councils approved list.

160. 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.

161. MEMBERS AND OFFICERS REPORTS.

a) Cllr Cen Nickels advised that he was of the opinion that the flags in front of the Cenotaph area should be flown on special occasions during the year. Members agreed with this proposal and that Cllr Nickels be responsible for sorting the arrangements with the Local branch of the British Legion.

b) Members reported and identified certain faults that had been identified with the Christmas lights at Ystradgynlais, Abercrave and Cwmtwrch. Clerk to contact the public lighting engineer in relation to the faults.

c) Cllr Mark Evans advised of the position in relation to the litter problem at path 110a and the fact that Tesco had now installed a litterbin on the path and that they were collecting the litter on a daily basis. It was the Wards intentions to site another litterbin in the same location. Report noted.

d) Cllr Leighton Evans reported on the lack of progress in sorting out Highway C202 at Brynhenllys. Agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Evans meet to ascertain the updated position on this matter with the Powys County Council legal department.

e) The Chairman Cllr Wayne Thomas advised that he had met with the local YSATT Group and had pledged £1000 out of the Chairman's Allowance towards the purchase and installation of a defibrillator for Ystradgynlais Town Centre. Discussions were currently taking place with St Johns Ambulance with regards to this matter.

f) The Chairman Cllr Wayne advised that Councillors were invited to an open evening on the 13th December, 7.00pm at the Army Cadets Detachment Centre at Gurnos. Those members intending to attend were asked to inform the Chairman or the Clerk.

The meeting terminated at 9.10pm

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

Planning matters considered by the Town Council on Thursday 1st December 2016.

1.0 Applications granted consent

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

NMA/2016/0082	Mr. P. Evans 4B Cwrt y Gamlas Gurnos Ystradgynlais	Application for non-material amendment to planning permission P/2013/0249 and NMA/2016/0040 in respect of internal layout.
P/2016/0861	Mr. M. Bennet 258 Brecon Road Penrhos	Change of use of ground floor from commercial use to residential unit.
P/2016/0714	Mrs. E. Purvis 36 Commercial Street Ystradgynlais	Change of use of Church to a workshop (ground floor) and two offices (A2) first floor to include internal and external alterations.
P/2016/1039	Mr. G. Davies 63 Heol Giedd Ystradgynlais.	Erection of front, rear and side extension with raising of existing eaves.

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/2016/1104	Mr.M.Davies Land at Brecon Road Ystradgynlais	Section 73 application – removal of Condition No.6 of the approved outline consent P/2015/0750
-------------	---	--

Resolved: *To object on the grounds that the application is premature as the LDP focussed changes are yet to be resolved by the Planning Inspector and the Town Councils position agreed at the November meeting was to request that the affordable homes requirement reverted back to 10% which is at odds with the removal of Condition No.6.*

P/2016/1141	Mr. M. Jones 256-258 Brecon Road Penrhos Ystradgynlais	Change of use of common land and construction of two detached bungalows.
-------------	---	--

Resolved: *Having taken into account the findings of the Planning appeal on highway related matters it was resolved not to offer any observation.*

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

P/2016/1148 Mr B. Cooper Erection of an extension.
10 Richmond Park
Ystradgynlais

Resolved: No observation.

4.0 Miscellaneous

No matter reported.

J.G. Jones - Technical Adviser