



**CYNGOR TREF
YSTRADGYNLAIS
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Annual and Ordinary Meetings of the Council held at the Welfare Hall
on Thursday 12th May 2016 at 7.00p.m.**

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor J Steadman and R Curry.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Resolved that Councillor Wayne Thomas be elected as Chairman of the Town Council for the ensuing Municipal Year 2016/17.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN.

Resolved that Councillor Meurig Evans be elected as Vice Chairman of the Town Council for the ensuing Municipal Year 2016/17.

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 M Evans, 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 – Mrs B Paulett, Meurig Evans Mrs A Jones, J Steadman, Goronwy Davies.
Ynyscedwyn Ward	-	4 Members – A Davies, C Nickels, Mark Evans, 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 2016/17** shall be Cllr Mr J Steadman, E Evans, R Curry, Graham Davies and the current Chairman of the Council Cllr W Thomas.

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 A Davies & Mark Evans
Ystrad Welfare & Community Hall	Cllrs Mrs P Paulett & Cllr R Curry
Cwmtwrch Welfare Association	Cllr L Evans
Ystrad Sports Management Committee	Cllr E Evans

Ystrad Volunteer Service	Cllr L Evans
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 J Steadman, R Curry

8. CHAIRMAN’S ALLOWANCE.

The Town Council considered and discussed the above matter.

Resolved that the Chairman receives an allowance of £3,000 for the Municipal Year 2016/2017.

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 7.35p.m. following which the Council proceeded with the Ordinary Meeting of the Council.

10. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Councils meeting held on the 7th April 2016 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

11. DANIEL PROTHEROE MEMORIAL PARK REFURBISHMENT PROJECT.

A letter dated 3rd May 2016 was received from the Ystradgynlais Heritage and Language Society detailing the progress made to date with officers from the Town Council in relation to the above project. The Treasurer of the Group Mr John Owens gave a detailed presentation to the Town Council on the content of the letter.

The total cost of the project is estimated at £22,000 excluding VAT.. As part of the funding the Town Council agreed in principle to put £1500 grant towards the project and Powys County Council had agreed to match this amount as part of the asset transfer arrangements. It was also noted that the heritage Society would be allocating £1000 towards the refurbishment project. It was hoped that the remainder of the grant funding required would be obtained from WREN.

The Clerk also referred to a letter dated 14 April from the Powys County Council confirming that the Town Councils Expression of Interest in the land had been supported and the necessary legal documents would now be prepared.

Resolved that:

- 1) The Council enters into a partnership arrangement with the Ystradgynlais Heritage Society to apply for grant funding from Wren for the Daniel Protheroe Park refurbishment project.
- 2) The Council Town Council covers the 3rd Party Insurance Contribution required in relation to the grant funders requirements.
- 3) The Council agrees to allocate £1500 in grant funding in total towards the project (to include the contribution as detailed in 2) above.) Written confirmation to be sought from the Powys County Council in relation to the promised match funding of this £1500 as part of the asset transfer arrangements.

12. FUTURE OF YOUTH SERVICES IN POWYS.

The Town Council received an e mail dated 11th May from PAVO advising that notification had been received from the Powys County Council that it wishes to engage with third party organisations in relation to options for the future of this

service in Powys.

A meeting is to be convened on the 20th June at Llandrindod Wells with representatives of the Powys County Council in order to further consider this matter and an invitation was extended to the Town Council to appoint representatives.

Resolved that Councillors Mark Evans, Aneurin Davies, Mrs Ann Jones and Meurig Evans be appointed to attend the meeting on behalf of the Town Council.

13. 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 190 of the Town Councils meeting on the 7th April 2016 Council Members considered the above proposals in detail. Ystradgynlais Ward confirmed their agreement to the proposed order as it applied in their area. However within the proposals affecting the Cwmtwrch Ward questions were asked about the proposal to extinguish footpath 71.

Resolved that further information be obtained from the Rights of Way department in Powys County Council over the reasoning behind the extinguishment of path 71 and that the full proposals be further considered at the Councils meeting in June 2016. **NOTE ; Cllr Mark Evans declared an interest in this item.**

14. TESCO COMMUNITY GRANTS.

Further to Minute 191 of the Town Councils meeting on the 7th April the Council received further paperwork in relation to the above matter together with contact details of individual Officers within the Tesco organisation dealing with community grants. Councillors were asked to circulate the information within their Wards. It was noted that Tick Tock Community Bowls and the Allotments Group at Penrhos were in the process of applying for these grants. Each Council Ward were asked to submit draft project details to the Clerk prior to the next meeting for possible grant funding consideration.

15. OLD COAL DRAMS – NANT HELEN OPEN CAST.

It was reported that old coal drams had been found following excavations works at the above site. It was suggested that a request be made to possibly acquire

one of the drams and to site it in the Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall grounds. It was agreed that Councillors E Evans and Meurig Evans bring the matter up with the Manager of the open cast site at its next Liaison meeting in two weeks time. Council Members to report back to the Town Council on the position.

16. FENCE TO FOOTPATH 9 ENLOSING COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND AT GURNOS , LOWER CWMTWRCH

Further to Minute 189 of the Councils meeting on the 7th April it was agreed that the total cost of fencing work at the above site be obtained from the Parks and Open spaces expenditure heading of the Councils budget for 2016/17. Matter to be reconsidered should a review of the budget be necessary during the financial year.

17. PUBLIC CONSULTATION OVER LOCAL DELIVERY OF LIBRARY SERVICES.

An e mail dated 15th April 2016 was received by the Town Council advising that the County Council was embarking on community conversations over the future provision of library branches across Powys. Staff members would also be consulted on the position. Meetings have also taken place with Town and Community Councils. Consultations with the public was to take place from the 15th April to the 3rd July 2016.

Resolved to note the position.

18. ASSET TRANSFER YSTRADGYNLAIS WAR MEMORIAL.

The Chairman and Clerk confirmed that they had signed on behalf of the Town Council the Expression of Interest Form in relation to the freehold transfer of the above land . With regard to the refurbishment project the Powys County council had advised that the Town Council had to be the applicant for the grants needed to undertake this project.. The Town Council was asked to confirm this position.

Resolved that :

a) the actions taken by the Chairman and Clerk be confirmed.

b) the Town Council agrees to be the grant applicant for the funds required to undertake the refurbishment project at the War Memorial site at the Gorsedd Park, Ystradgynlais

19. ONE VOICE WALES – LARGER COUNCILS CONFERENCE.

Notification was received that the above Conference would be held on the 6th July at the Hafod a Hendre , Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells.

Resolved that Councillors Mark Evans and Aneurin Davies be appointed to represent the Town Council at the above Conference.

20. ARWIAN – THE LEADER PROGRAMME IN POWYS 2014 – 2020

The Chairman and Clerk advised the Council that they had recently met with the Officer from the County Council who was charged with assisting local councils with grant applications from the above fund. The Council was invited to put in and expression of interest with regard to any projects that they were or had considered in the past. The Council discussed the matter at length.

Resolved that an Expression of Interest be forwarded to the Fund for the undertaking of a feasibility Study in relation to land owned by the Town Council at Coronation Park.

21. ABERCRAVE WELFARE HALL.

The Town Council received a copy of the Abercrave Welfare Hall annual accounts to 31 December 2014, the content of which was noted.

22. INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PV – YSTRADGYNLAIS WELFARE HALL.

An e-mail dated 21 April 2016 was received from Awel Aman Tawe stating that it was planning a co-op share offer for end of May. A request again was made to use the Welfare Hall for the purpose of installing the solar panels. The Council was reminded of the decision taken about two years ago in relation to a similar request.

Resolved that the offer be rejected.

23. SYRIAN VULNERABLE PEOPLE RELOCATION SCHEME.

Further correspondence was received by the Town Council for information purposes, which detailed the work that was being done in relation to the arrival of the Syrian refugees in the area. Councillors were of the general opinion that there was a definite lack of consultation with the public on the issues as detailed in the correspondence and what the anticipated date that the arrival of these refugees was expected. Agreed that the Town Councils concerns on the matters discussed be forwarded to the County Council.

24. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved that the accounts as detailed be paid.

25. YSTRADGYNLAIS WELFARE HALL.

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.

26. TOWN COUNCIL ACCOUNTS TO YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016.

a) Documents were received from the Councils Auditors in relation to the arrangements for the Town Councils audit of accounts. Public notices had been posted in each Ward, in the Councils Notice Board and on the website. Formal Notice was also given that the 6th June had been appointed as the date on or after which interested parties for the area may exercise their rights under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.

Resolved to note the arrangements.

b) The Council received copies of the accounting documents for the Year Ended 31st March 2016 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.

27. FUTURE OF THE YSTRADGYNLAIS SPORTS GROUNDS.

A letter dated 29th April 2016 was received from the Powys County Council stating that there are now only five years remaining on the current lease at the Welfare Ground Playing Fields in Ystradgynlais and that negotiations between the Powys County Council and the Gough Estate, through their legal representatives Cook & Arkwright had at times been long and frustrating. The letter then gave a detailed account of the process and a summary of the discussions that had taken place over the past two years. In conclusion it was stated that if the Ystradgynlais Town Council feel as a statutory body that it was dissatisfied with the current efforts employed by the Powys County Council then an offer was made for the Town Council to take over the lead negotiating role between the Gough Estate and the Welfare Grounds Sports Association. The Town Council discussed the position and proposals in depth and a number of options were considered.

Resolved that all documentation be obtained in relation to this matter from the Powys county Council including a copy of the original lease so that the Town Council can then further consider the proposals as detailed in the correspondence.

28. 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.

29. MEMBERS AND OFFICERS REPORTS.

a) Cllr L Evans reported that a small landslip had occurred near No 8 and 9 Heol Tredeg. Agreed that the local highways section at Caerbont be advised of the safety problem.

b) Cllr A Davies asked as to what was happening to Jad's supermarket building in Glanrhyd as no planning application had been received. Agreed that the Technical Adviser looks into the matter on behalf of the Town Council.

c) Cllr Mark Evans asked for an item to be placed on the next Council meeting relating to 'Facebook'. Request agreed.

d) Cllr Meurig Evans advised that the Powys County Councils appointed Contractor to carry out grass cutting at Pen y Bryn Estate had had the contract of Works suspended as the contractor did not have the proper equipment for the work. In the meantime Powys County Council had taken over the contract on a temporary basis until the appointed contractor got himself organised.

e) Cllr Mrs A Jones informed the Council that she had heard that there was a local petition going around the area supporting the retention of the recycling centre at Gurnos as there were possible plans by the County council to cease the operation as it was currently looking to reduce the number of Centres in Powys from five to three. Members were informed that the Town council had already through the Technical Adviser submitted an objection to any proposed closure plans for the site. Position noted and that the Councils support for the petition be confirmed.

f) Cllr W Thomas advised of his concern over the continuing problem over the fact that local resident was on a regular basis accessing the dual carriageway at Brynmorgan Bridge, Upper Cwmtwrch. This action was causing a road safety hazard to user of the carriageway. It was noted that the local County Councillor had taken up the problem with the County Council officers. Agreed that the problem be reported to the Highways Dept of the County Council.

The meeting terminated at 9.20pm

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Planning matters considered by the Town Council on Thursday 12th May 2016.

1.0 Applications granted consent

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

P/2014/1133	Mr M.Evans Brynygroes Farm Ystradgynlais	Outline (all matters reserved) : Demolition of existing buildings to allow for residential development (up to 138 dwellings) and associated works.
P/2016/0184	Mr A. Paulman Land south of Tai Gwalia Upper Cwmtwrch	Erection of a single detached, four bedroom dwelling and detached garage. Associated access, parking and landscaping
P/2016/0194	Mr & Mrs Everett 7 Glantawe Row Ystradgynlais	Proposed single storey extension
P/2016/0204	Mr R.Lopez Cynlais Primary Heol Giedd	Removal of Condition No.5 of planning permission P/2015/0191 relating to the discharge of water.
P/2016/0268	Mr & Mrs Roberts 4 Glantawe Row Ystradgynlais	Erection of an extension
P/2016/0304	8 Palleg Road Lower Cwmtwrch Ystradgynlais	Erection of a rear two storey extension (revised proposal to planning permission P/2015/1105)
16/13248/FUL (BBNPA)	Asbri Planning Land adj. to A4067 Former Cynlais School Ystradgynlais	Proposed access over land within BBNPA to service new residential development of 10 dwellings outside BBNPA boundary, and closure and diversion of of existing residential access.

2.0 Applications refused consent

From information posted on the Powys County Council web site the following applications have been refused consent.

No matter to report

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3.0 Applications for consideration

P/2016/0339 Mrs J Faith Brown Erection of an extension.
18 Heol Twrch
L Cwmtwrch

Resolved: No observation

P/2016/0392 Mr. N. Craddock Change of use of land to residential curtilage and
1 Midland Terrace erection of log cabin for use as ancillary
Gurnos accommodation.

Resolved: No observation

P/2016/0409 Mr D. Hopkins Demolition of lean to and proposed erection to dwelling
7 College Row and garage.
Ystradgynlais

Resolved: No observation

P/2016/0442 R. Steel Section 73 application: removal of conditions 5, 6 and 7
Gurnos Youth Centre (code for sustainable homes) in relation to approved
Spencer Terrace planning application P/2011/0307.
Cwmtwrch

Resolved: No observation

P/2016/0450 Mr W. Davies Creation of access and driveway
29 Heol Maes y Dre
Ystradgynlais.

Resolved: No observation

P/2016/0473 Mr. K. Burke Proposed new dwelling.
Land opp. 24 Rhestr Fawr
Ystradgynlais

Resolved: To offer concerns regarding the increased use of this highway.

P/2016/0477 Mrs C. Hosford Construction of first floor single storey extension.
2 William Street
Ystradgynlais

Resolved: No observation

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P/2016/0488

N. Poulton
Presbyterian Church
47 Commercial Street
Ystradgynlais

Change of use from open learning centre to a single dwelling.

Resolved: To offer concerns regarding the need for rear parking to be provided.

4.0 Miscellaneous

Information letter received on the Powys LDP examination is appended.

Resolved : To note the contents of the letter.

J.G. Jones - Technical Adviser