



**Ordinary Meeting of the Council held via MS
Teams on Thursday 4th of February 2021
at 6.30 p.m.**

Present : Vice Chairman Adrian Williams, Presided

**Councillors L Evans, M Gough, R Jackson,
R Millington, G Davies, M Donnelly and M Evans.**

Cllr M Allen attempted to join but unable to, due to technical difficulties.

90. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L Phillips and E Evans.

91. MINUTES

Resolved :

a) that the Minutes of the Councils meeting held on the 18th January 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

b) that the following information be inserted under those present: "Cllr R Lock attended for only a very short time due to technical problems and did not participate in any discussion or decision. Participating Members numbered eight."

c) That Minute 89d be amended to the following:

"The Chairman reported that progress was being made to finalise the Heads of Terms between the Charity and the Gough Estates Solicitors. Trustees of the Charity were pursuing all efforts to open a bank account, although there had been some difficulties due to Covid, they would report back on progress accordingly. Once the bank account was in place and the transfer of funds was required, the required documentation would be provided to the Council accordingly."

MATTERS ARISING

92. CASUAL VACANCY – YNYSCEDWYN WARD

Further to Minute 80, the Clerk advised the Council that the Co-option Notice had been advertised on the Town Councils Website and would be displayed within the Ward. The closing date of the beginning of March for responses, would allow for the Town Councils' consideration of applicants at the next Ordinary Meeting.

93. DIAMOND PARK – PATH IMPROVEMENTS

Further to Minute 89c, it was reported that Cllr C Nickels had inspected the issues and that costings for works had been requested from the Town Councils contractor to make the improvements in the 2021/22 financial year. Once available, final costings/estimates would be brought back to the Town Council for consideration.

94. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved that the accounts detailed be agreed and paid.

95. COMMON LAND SWAP

Further to Minute 86 from the meeting on the 18th January 2021, Members had received a response from the applicants' solicitor in the Meeting papers. A discussion followed concerning whether the initial objection still stood in light of the response.

Resolved to request, in line with COVID restrictions, a site meeting between Cwmtwrch and Ystradgynlais Ward representatives and the Land Swap applicant to discuss, visit and survey the area proposed to be swapped at the Patch, with findings to be reported back to the Town Council.

The general consensus of opinion based on the document received from the solicitors was that the majority of the Town Council objections had been satisfied. Concern was still expressed over the failure of the landowners solicitors to consult the Town Council on this matter.

96. BRYN Y GROES FOOTPATHS

An email from Sian Barnes at Powys County Council had been received which had been circulated among members and the Clerk read it aloud at the meeting for the benefit of Members. Ms Barnes explained that site meetings would be arranged to inspect the path network at the site and that the Town Council would be notified in due course. Position noted.

97. CHRISTMAS FESTIVE LIGHTING

Further to Minutes 34, 47 and 89 of the October 2020 and January 2021 Minutes, the Clerk updated the Council on the following matters:

a) Cwmtwrch Ward had appointed Centregreat to supply and install all timers/ sockets and to supply the festive lighting display.

Compensation package offered by the company has been accepted.

b) Abercrave Ward had advised of their decision not to accept the companies quotation and compensation package which the Clerk had recommended. The Ward further advised that they would sort their own Christmas Festive Lighting display for 2021.

c) Ystradgynlais Ward Members had advised that they were currently considering the options available for this years Festive Lighting Display at Ystradgynlais Town Centre.

Resolved that the various actions/decisions agreed by the respective Wards as detailed above be confirmed.

98. VALLEYS TASK FUND

As the Transforming Towns Grant had been replaced by the Valleys Task Funding, a withdrawal of offer letter had been received concerning the Transforming Towns Grant for the purpose of Audit. Cllr Millington provided an update to clarify that the process would now continue between Powys County Council and the business owners directly. The Town Councils involvement going forward would be a supporting role where needed. Position noted.

CORRESPONDENCE

99. YSTRADGYNLAIS MINERS WELFARE HALL

An email from the Welfare Hall Trust had been received detailing the financial threats, activities and projects planned for the Welfare. At present the Welfare was financially stable due largely to the furlough extension and the grant and support received from the Ystradgynlais Town Council.

Resolved to review the situation following the end of the financial year and invite Board Members to a meeting at a time deemed appropriate.

100. UPPER BRIDGE

The Deputy Clerk advised the Town Council that notice had been received in October of 2020 from the Town Councils Website administrator at Upper Bridge, of his retirement on 31st March 2021. The Chairman and Vice Chairman had been informed at the time. As there was no ability to hand over the Town Councils account to anyone else within the company, the Clerk had agreed that the Deputy Clerk undertake training to take over the Website Administration from the 1st of April 2020. A discussion took place on the position.

Resolved:

- a) to resume the Website Working Group activities to review options available to the Council regarding its' internet presence.
- b) to temporarily increase the Deputy Clerks' working hours from the 1st April 2021 to 17 per week to account for the increase in duties. Matter to be reviewed at an appropriate time by the Working Group initially.

101. GOROF CEMETERY LOAN UPDATE

Information had been obtained from the Town Councils Lender against the Gorof Cemetery Works regarding an early settlement figure. This showed an outstanding capital amount of £33,600. The early resettlement figure stood at £44,960, which included both capital and interest.

The Town Council reviewed the information, and it was agreed that the figure received did not offer good value and would render

an early settlement non-beneficial to the Town Council and the community. The terms of the loan were queried by members and the Clerk explained that as a Public Authority, securing a lender was a very different process than private or commercial and there are no other organisations offering loans to local authorities.

Resolved that:

- a) Cllr G Davies inspect the documents and terms of the original Loan.
- b) the Clerk return to the lenders to request a more favourable settlement figure.

CORRESPONDENCE

102. HERITAGE TRAIL

An email had been received by the Chairman and circulated to all members prior to the meeting from a representative at the Josef Herman Foundation. This informed the members that the Foundation had secured Lottery Funding to create a self-guided walking trail around Ystradgynlais. Along with a book and app, they were also developing an information board which they wished to place in the Welfare car park near the bike rack. The Foundation were seeking the Town Councils views on the matter.

Resolved to refer the matter for determination to the Welfare Hall Board who were responsible for the Car Park, via Cllr Millington representing both the Town Council and the Welfare Hall Board.

103. 2021 CENSUS

Correspondence was received from Gareth Jones at Powys County Council regarding the census for 2021. He was requesting the Town Councils support in engaging with certain groups within the community that for different reasons may find it difficult to complete the census.

Resolved to respond to discuss further ways the Town Council may be able to assist and advertise the census on the Town Council Website using media supplied.

104. PLANNING

Resolved:

- a) to accept Planning as detailed.
- b) to note the position regarding the LPG consultation for Newtown and Llanhaiarn.

104. MEMBERS AND OFFICERS REPORTS

- a) Cllr Gough advised the members of speeding issues on the A4068. Contact had been made with Dyfed police who would be implementing enforcement steps in the near future.
- b) Cllr Millington requested that as meetings were now being conducted virtually, that the press and public be allowed to attend. Resolved that public and press be allowed to attend and the Notice contradicting this be removed from the Website.
- c) Cllr Millington advised the Town Council that notices regarding the Covid related parking restrictions had been attached to lampposts throughout the Town Centre. These were now detaching in the rougher weather and causing a litter problem. It was requested that any members recalling where notices had been placed, remove them to prevent this.
- d) Cllr Millington led the Town Council in thanking Cllr Williams for standing in and chairing the meeting in the absence of the Chairman.
- e) Cllr L Evans raised an issue with a potential landslide at Ffordd Y Glowr. Resolved that the Deputy Clerk draft an email with Cllr Evans to Martin Jones at Powys County Council regarding the concerns.
- f) Cllr M Evans informed the members of an issue with surface field water flooding across the path at Min Y Rhos, resulting in a particularly dangerous surface in icy weather. The Town Councils contractor had inspected and quoted for work needed to divert the water, however responsibility for this had not been ascertained. Resolved that the Clerk contact Powys County Council to ascertain responsibility for the works and if it lay with the Town Council, the requirement for a ground survey prior to commencement of the work.
- g) Cllr M Evans spoke of the poor condition of the waiting room at the Bus Station, to the point that those using the bus services would

rather stand out in inclement weather than use the waiting room. Resolved that the Deputy Clerk contact Powys County Council to advise and convey the Town Councils request for improvements for the Community.

h) A query was raised regarding who the Town Council representative for the Ystradgynlais Volunteer Centre was. It was clarified to be Cllr G Davies. Cllr Millington advised that due to being on the volunteer list he had received a notification of the organisations' AGM, which he would forward to Cllr Davies for attendance if he wished.

Meeting concluded at 8.35 p.m.

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

**Planning matters to be considered by the Town Council for the month of
January 2021**

1.0 Applications granted consent

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

20/1237/FUL	Mr Richard Northey 24 Palleg Road, Lower Cwmwtrch, Swansea, SA9 2QE	Demolition of existing building and construction of new replacement dwelling and detached garage including retained access and services and new landscaping
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2.0 Applications refused consent

From information available on the Powys CC web site 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:-

21/0038/DIS	Mr Andrew Morgan 58 Bethel Road Lower Cwmtwrch Swansea SA9 2PT	Application to discharge condition 3 of planning approval 20/1137/HH
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Resolved ***No Observation***

21/0117/REM	Proposed Solar Farm Bryn Henllys Cwmtwrch Swansea	Section 73 application to vary condition 24 from planning permission P/2015/0176 in relation to rewording regarding operational life
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**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

Resolved

20/2094/FUL	No Observation Mr E Chilcott Dyfnant 123 Heol Tawe Abercrave SA9 1XR	Subdivision of dwelling to create two dwellings, with two-storey extensions and parking area
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Resolved**No Observation**

20/2098/HH	Miss D Davies Bryneglur School Road Abercrave SA9 1XD	Proposed double storey domestic rear extension and balcony to the front, demolition of garage and coal shed
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Resolved**No Observation**

20/2102/HH	Aubrey Hopkins 14 Heol Maes Y Dre Ystradgynlais SA9 1HA	Erection of a replacement rear extension and formation of a new off street parking area
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Resolved**No Observation****4.0 Miscellaneous**

No matter to report