



Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at The Welfare, Ystradgynlais on Thursday 1st of July 2021 at 6.30 p.m.

Present : Chairman A Williams, Presided

Councillors L Evans, R Millington, M Donnelly, M Allen, S Thomas, E Evans, C Nickels and M Evans

52. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G Davies, R Jackson, R Lock, M Gough, and L Phillips.

53. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Councils meeting held on the 10th of June 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman with the statement from Cllr Millington inserted into Minute 40c as follows:

“Collecting H&S statements and Risk assessments from contractors is a purely administrative matter that I was surprised that the Clerk had not be doing as routine. As we are relying on the contractor’s expertise in this area this does not need a Technical specialist, we merely need to reassure ourselves that they are completing these tasks”.

MATTERS ARISING

54. ANNUAL MANAGEMENT RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW 2021/22

Further to Minutes 40c and 53 the Clerk reiterated his concerns regarding the Town Council's decision not to employ a Technical Advisor and read the following guidance regarding the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and 2005, to ensure the Town Council understood the reason for his concerns and previous recommendation to fill the Technical Advisor post which is on the Town Council's organisational structure:

“The employer is responsible for risk assessments within a workplace, meaning that it is their responsibility to ensure it is carried out. An employer can appoint an appropriate individual to carry out a risk assessment on behalf of the organisation, as long as they are competent to do so and must appoint someone with the relevant knowledge, experience and skills to do so.”

55. APPROVED LIST OF CONTRACTORS

The Deputy Clerk recommended that an application form be constructed for contractors to join the Approved Contractor list. This would require applicants to detail qualifications and specific skills, Insurances and any matters that may compromise them as a reputable contractor, e.g., details of any payment of damages, termination of or withdrawal from contract occurring within the last three years, as well as a declaration of compliance with certain conditions.

Resolved that the recommended application and declaration form be constructed and submitted for approval by the Town Council.

56. WERN PLEMYS – DIAMOND PARK

Further to Minute 42, Cllr S Thomas updated the members regarding a site meeting that had taken place with a representative of the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales and appraised the members of assurances given at the meeting.

Resolved to allow the access to the Wern Plemys site through Diamond Park under conditions as detailed in the correspondence dated the 16th of April 2021, and that the organisations insurance policy and public liability cover be assessed.

Also, the Clerk was instructed to pass over an access key to the organisation to allow a works vehicle to take tools and machinery to the site

57. TOWN - VALLEYS INITIATIVE GRANT

Further to Minute 47, Cllr Millington updated the members regarding a conversation he had with a Powys County Council representative. It had been confirmed to Cllr Millington that all traders had been afforded the same funding opportunity during the process and that it was due to the location of the business in question that the owners had not been able to apply for a similar benefit.

Cllr Millington advised that the Business owner had now proposed a coffee/ice cream stand in the Gorsedd Park and was asking that the Council ascertain the procedure for establishing/siting his business at the park.

Resolved that the Clerk obtain the relevant information from the Powys County Council in relation to this request.

58. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved that the accounts detailed in Appendix 1 be agreed and paid.

59. ANNUAL WELL BEING REPORT

A draft of the Annual Wellbeing report had been circulated to members for consideration. This had been produced as a combined effort with the assistance from Mr John Owens of the Ystradgynlais Language & Heritage Society.

Resolved that: -

- a) the Annual Well-being report be approved and adopted for forwarding to the Powys Public Service Board and to the Councils External Auditor.
- b) the Chairman and Vice Chairman determine and approve an appropriate payment to Mr Owens for his assistance in this project.

60. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

The Town Council received and considered the financial assistance applications received.

- a) Resolved that the grants in the sums indicated be made to the organisations as follows:

Beulah Chapel Cemetery	£300
Bethania Chapel Cemetery	£300
Ystradgynlais Community Car Scheme	£500
Ystradgynlais Bowls Club	£500
Girlguiding Ystradgynlais	£500
Ystradgynlais District Heritage & Language Soc.	£400
Ystradgynlais Ladies Bowling Club	£100
Ystradgynlais Welfare Sports Ground Assoc.	£500
Ystradgynlais Litter Action	£500
Ystradgynlais Welsh OAP's	£200
Penrhos Allotment Assoc.	£300
St. Cynogs Cemetery	£400
Abercrave Regeneration Group	£500

- b) Resolved that in accordance with the powers conferred under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1974 that grants in the sums indicated be made to the organisations as follows:

Ainon Chapel Sisterhood	£200
St. Cynogs Church Hall	£200

- b) Resolved that due to the remaining funds in the budget for financial assistance, that the grant scheme continue to be advertised upon the Council Website until further notice.

c) Resolved that should any further grant applications be submitted over the recess period, that plenary powers be awarded to the Chairman and Vice Chairman to decide on any previously awarded organisations.

61. SKATE PARK

Further to the discussion at the June Ordinary Meeting, the proposal from Powys County Council that the Town Council early termination of the existing lease on the Skate Park, for the facility to be added onto a lease currently being arranged between the Ystradgynlais Community Centre with Powys County Council was reconsidered.

Resolved to agree to the early termination of the Skate Park lease and hand the skate park back to Powys County Council on a date to be agreed.

62. ABERCRAVE DERELICT BUILDING

Correspondence had been received from the Happy Helpers advising that arrangements to purchase the derelict building had not been finalised in time for the auction, therefore no purchase had been made.

The organisation had a new proposal, that being the purchase of land adjacent to the building which had been in principle agreed with the landowners.

The organisation wished to turn it in to a garden with benches, a memorial and an area demonstrating the history of the village to enhance the village for residents and visitors.

The organisation would forward an initial project plan in due course.

Resolved to agenda the item for the September Ordinary Meeting.

63. A4068 SPEEDING GROUP

Cllr L Evans updated the members regarding a meeting had with a Powys County Council representative. It had been suggested at this meeting that the Town Council might wish to purchase speed

detecting and awareness signs. The Town Council discussed and agreed that this matter did not fall within the Town Councils responsibilities.

64. CORONATION PARK DRAINAGE WORK

At the previous meeting the members had received costing information regarding an example of drainage at the above park. The Vice Chairman updated the members that an engineering firm had been consulted on the project and that feedback was being awaited. A solution was being hoped for, for the next Town Council meeting.

Resolved to await the update at the following meeting, with the Town Councils contractor being asked to maintain the culvert and ditches at the park in the meantime.

CORRESPONDENCE

65. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – COUNCIL ACCOUNTS TO 31ST MARCH 2021

The Town Council received the Internal Auditors report on the Accounts for the year ending the 31st of March 2021.

The main findings of the report confirmed that

a) the financial control objectives tested proved to be satisfactory and as a result there were no matters which needed to be brought to the Councils attention.

b) the auditors' conclusions were reflected in the Internal Auditors report on pages 6 and 7 of the Annual Return and based on the financial tests conducted by the Internal Auditor.

Resolved to accept the Internal Auditors report on the audit of the Town Councils accounts for the years ending 31st of March 2021.

66. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Clerk circulated copies of the Budget Monitoring report attached as Appendix 2. Position noted.

67. HIMALAYAN BALSAM

Correspondence was received from a local resident alerting the Town Council to the presence of Himalayan Balsam, an invasive plant species, in several areas at Diamond Park and Path 8, Ynyscedwyn Ward.

Resolved to request an approved contractor with the relevant knowledge to clear the relevant areas.

68. CLERKS QUALIFICATION CONSULTATION

Correspondence from Welsh Government had been circulated notifying members of a consultation taking place between 28 June and 24 September 2021, regarding the intention of Welsh Ministers to specify, in regulations the qualifications or description of qualifications that the clerk to a community council must hold for the community council to meet the second of the three eligibility conditions to become an 'eligible community council as per The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act. Position noted.

69. PLANNING

Resolved to accept Planning as detailed in Appendix 3.

70. MEMBERS & OFFICERS REPORTS

a) Cllr E Evans alerted the members to overhanging trees from PCC land into Caerbont Park and requested that contact be made with PCC to remove these nuisance trees.

b) Cllr E Evans requested that consultation with the Councils site inspector be arranged regarding the prospective replacement or repair to Caerbont Park equipment.

Meeting concluded at 8.40 p.m.

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

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

1.0 Applications granted consent

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

21/0891/NMA	Miss R Welch 18 Alder Avenue Ystradgynlais SA9 1AQ	Non-material amendment following planning permission 20/0474/HH regarding a change to the approved plans
21/0757/NMA	Mr & Mrs R Northey 24 Palleg Road Lower Cwmtwrch Swansea SA9 2QE	Application for non-material amendments to planning permission 20/1237/FUL in respect of approved plans
21/0381/HH	Miss J Gannon Woodlands Tanyrallt Abercrave SA9 1XD	Erection of a two-storey extension including demolition of existing single storey garage
21/0356/HH	Ms R Davies 94 Wind Road Ystradgynlais SA9 1AH	Erection of a ground floor rear extension

2.0 Applications refused consent

From information available on the Powys CC web site no application has been refused consent.

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

3.0 Applications for consideration

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

21/0906/FUL	Ms C Esteban Land at Cwmtawe Uchaf Farm Abercrave Swansea SA9 1SW	Proposed holiday let development, installation of a sewage treatment plant and associated works
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Resolved

Observation as follows:

The Ystradgynlais Town Council wishes to support comments made by Welsh Water. There is concern that due to flooding in the area, connection to the mains sewerage system would be recommended as far as possible.

21/0923/HH	Mr K Battenbough 44 Bethel Road Lower Cwmtwrch SA9 2PT	Creation of a drop kerb
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Resolved

No Observation

21/0964/HH	Mr N Williams 40 Tan Y Farteg Ystradgynlais SA9 2JU	Erection of single-storey rear extension
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Resolved

No Observation

21/1097/FUL	Mr Liam Griffiths Asbri Planning Ltd Pont Aur Ystradgynlais SA9 1BP	Temporary construction access to facilitate construction of planning approval 20/1696/FU for a period of 3 years
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Resolved

No Observation

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

21/0486/HH	Mr B G Price 42 Tan Y Farteg Ystradgynlais SA9 2JU	Two storey side extension
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Resolved ***No Observation***

4.0 Miscellaneous

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

21/0697/HH	Mr H Watkins 2 Cwm Tawe Road Penrhos SA9 1QU	Construction of rear two-storey extension
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21/0174/HH	Mrs V Owen 1 Cwm Tawe Road Penrhos SA9 1QU	Erection of an extension and garage, to include some demolition
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