



Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at The Welfare, Ystradgynlais on Thursday 2nd of September 2021 at 6.30 p.m.

Present : Vice Chairman M Donnelly, Presided

Councillors L Evans, M Allen, L Phillips, W Thomas, T Davies, S Thomas, E Evans and C Nickels

71. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G Davies, R Jackson, R Lock, M Gough, R Millington, M Evans and A Williams.

72. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Councils meeting held on the 1st of July 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

73. TOWN VALLEYS INITIATIVE GRANT

Further to Minute 57, Members and Officers discussed whether there had been progress during the recess period regarding the possible Vendor Kiosk in Gorsedd Park and ascertained the matter was unknown.

Resolved to await further information.

Councillor L Phillips, entered during the following item

74. CORONATION PARK DRAINAGE WORK

Further to Minute 64, it had been advised that appropriate consultants and engineering firms were inundated with work and would not be able to attend the site for some months. It was suggested that the current contractor deals with the issue as a maintenance matter rather than a capital project.

Resolved to organise a site meeting for Members with the Town Councils contractor, Powys County Council Land drainage representative, Ward Members and Powys Councillor for the area, to gain clarification of permissions and works required to address the drainage concerns.

75. HIMALAYAN BALSAM

Further to Minute 67, the members were updated that the Councils contractor had worked for three days eradicating the invasive plant within the Diamond Park area.

Resolved to note the position and keep it under review.

76. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

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

77. YSTRADGYNLAIS WELFARE SPORTS GROUND - LEASE

The Council members reviewed the media information that had recently been released within the community from the Ystradgynlais Community Welfare Ground Association, which was publicising the need to raise funds to secure the lease on the land, with the Target set at £100,000.

Some members were concerned about the reflection upon the Town Council, regarding the lack of acknowledgement in this media of the £25k pledge previously agreed.

A meeting had been arranged by the organisation, for the 7th of September for invited parties concerned in this matter to discuss

and appraise the facts. Cllr W Thomas advised the members that the lease was anticipated to be finalised before the end of September.

It was again re-emphasised by the Clerk that the organisation had yet to make a formal request for funds from the Town Council as well as provide documentation concerning the organisations' charity status, constitution and financial arrangements and the pledge could not be honoured until, for governance and audit reasons, those requirements were satisfied.

Resolved

a) to await the full progress update at the meeting on the 7th of September 2021.

b) that following receipt of the documents as above as well as a copy of the draft lease, an Extraordinary Meeting be scheduled in order to approve the release of the previously pledged £25,000.

78. CWMTWRCH WELFARE HALL FUNDING

Cllr L Evans had requested this item to be added to the Agenda, following personal concerns regarding the financial affairs at the Cwmtwrch Welfare Hall.

According to Cllr Evans, these concerns were based around a reasonable sum of money apparently being held in an account for the Hall and he wanted to ensure that funds requested from the Town Council in recent times had been used for expenditure as applied for. These concerns were the subject of a lengthy and tense debate.

It was also raised by Cllr Evans as to whether Cllr W Thomas as a Board Member for the Cwmtwrch Welfare Hall, could be considered as having a conflict of business interest due to the nature of his employment with CISWO.

Resolved to defer the matter back to the Cwmtwrch Ward to ascertain more information and discuss at a Ward Meeting, before returning to full Council to review the findings.

79. CORONATION PARK – FUTURE USE

Cllr L Evans opened the discussion by stating his concern that recent focus on the park and future use not fall by the wayside, and

recommended the Council set up a group to actively develop a plan.

Resolved to set up a Working Group to focus on the future of Coronation Park.

80. ACTIVE TRAVEL ROUTES PROPOSAL

New Active Travel Route Proposals had been received from Powys County Council and maps and papers had been circulated.

The members discussed the information but felt more time was needed to evaluate it.

Resolved to place on the agenda for the October meeting

81. ASH DIEBACK DISEASE

The Town Council Site Inspector had contacted the Officers to inform them that there were trees on Town Council land that had deteriorated as a result of Ash Die-back disease. The Inspectors recommendation was to appoint an arboriculturist to carry out a survey and give a qualified report on the health and risks of the trees, concentrating initially on Footpath 110.

Resolved to arrange a meeting of Members and the Site Inspector to obtain more information and guidance.

82. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD – TOWN COUNCIL 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

The Powys Public Service Board had contacted the Town Council to thank it for the submission of the Annual Report for 2021. It had advised of two contacts that could support the Council in delivering improvement and pandemic recovery.

Resolved that the Deputy Clerk communicate with the contacts supplied.

83. CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS – UPDATE

Ystradgynlais and Cwmtwrch Ward Members advised the Town Council that all illuminations had now been finalised and ordered for the 2021 Christmas Season.

Abercrave Ward had yet to finalise and place its order.
Position noted.

84. CAERBONT FLOODING CONCERNS

Cllr E Evans advised the members that there had been a number of concerned residents in Caerbont contacting him regarding the works at the Open Cast site at Nant Helen. This had now received approval to start groundworks at the site for a Global Centre of Rail Excellence. The residents wanted reassurance that the drainage scheme for the site would be sufficient to carry away all surface water and in preventing flooding, as there had been in recent years from the site.

Resolved to request a meeting with Powys County Councillors and Nant Helen site representatives to discuss the issue further.

85. SWANSEA BAY – NHS RESTRUCTURING PROPOSALS

Information had previously been circulated to members regarding the proposed restructuring of Hospital Service provisions under the Swansea Bay University Health Board. Local engagement was being undertaken to obtain public viewpoints. Position noted.

CORRESPONDENCE

86. GWYS ROAD ACCESS

The Town Council had received reports of a resident obstructing access and parking vehicles on Town Council Land.
A site meeting had been carried out and the matter investigated.

Resolved to issue a notice to the resident to remove the vehicles within a three-month period.

87. SCHOOL GOVERNORS

It was advised that Cllr T Davies had completed his term of Community Governor at Ysgol Bro Tawe and that Cllr S Thomas had been nominated by the Ward.

Also, that Cllr A Williams had been re-nominated as Community Governor for Ysgol Golwg Y Cwm.

Resolved:

a) to appoint Cllr S Thomas as Community Governor Ysgol Bro Tawe.

b) to appoint Cllr A Williams as Community Governor at Ysgol Golwg Y Cwm.

88. LITTER ISSUES

Correspondence was received from a local resident alerting the Town Council to on-going litter issues at Diamond and Coronation Park following wild camping.

Resolved to advise the resident that a working group would be set up to address matters at Coronation Park, and refer them also to the local community Litter Action group.

89. LOCAL ELECTIONS 2021 DRAFT CONSULTATION

Consultation documents had been received regarding the Draft Elections 2021 Legislation. This had previously been circulated to members for information and members were advised by the Clerk that they could independently complete and return the attached survey. Position noted.

90. PLANNING

Resolved to accept Planning as detailed in Appendix 2.

91. MEMBERS & OFFICERS REPORTS

- a) Cllr W Thomas thanked Members for coming to a satisfactory resolution with regard to the Gwys Access issue.
 - b) Cllr L Evans requested further information regarding funds given by Cllr W Thomas out of the Chairmans' Allowance. It was agreed this would be discussed further at the Cwmtwrch Ward meeting to be arranged.
 - c) Cllr L Phillips thanked the Town Council for its support and understanding over the previous year whilst dealing with personal matters.
 - d) Cllr M Allen enquired as to the current situation with the large planters donated to the community by Powys County Council. Cllr M Donnelly informed the members that arrangements were being made to place these planters in positions as previously agreed by the Wards as follows:
 - 5 - Ynyscedwyn Ward
 - 5 - Abercrave Ward
 - 5 - Cwmtwrch Ward
 - 2 – Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall
 - 2 – Additional locations to be determined
- Agreed to resolve the issue by the next meeting of the Council.

Meeting concluded at 8.50 p.m.

**YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF YSTRADGYNLAIS**

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

1.0 Applications granted consent

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

21/1097/FUL	Asbri Planning Ltd Pont Aur Ystradgynlais SA9 1BP	Temporary construction access to facilitate construction of planning approval 20/1696/FUL for a period of 3 years
21/0964/HH	Mr N Williams 40 Tan-Y-Farteg Ystradgynlais SA9 2JU	Erection of a single storey extension
21/0813/HH	Mr & Mrs Dobson 8 Weavers Road Ystradgynlais SA9 1PQ	Erection of a 2 storey side extension
21/0278/HH	Mr Davies 1 Railway Terrace Neath Road Ystradgynlais SA9 1PT	Erection of a sunroom to front of property

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: -

21/1491/DIS	Mr J Davies Plot off Brecon Road Ystradgynlais SA9 1QX	Discharge of condition no.4 attached to planning approval P/2016/0123 (specification for Gas Protection Measures including verification plan/ methodology)
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Resolved ***No Observations***

21/1499/FUL	Ms J Searl 76 Brecon Road Ystradgynlais SA9 1HH	Change of use from a disused shop back to a domestic use and internal alterations
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Resolved ***No Observations***

4.0 Miscellaneous

The following planning application was WITHDRAWN

20/1844/DIS	Mr A Vaughn 89 Gorof Road Lower Cwmtwrch SA9 1DS	Discharge of Condition 4 (highways and highways drainage details) and condition 24 (drainage scheme)
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