

Public Document Pack

Bwrdd Gwasanaeth Cyhoeddus Powys Public Service Board

Meeting Venue

By Zoom

Meeting Date

Thursday, 6 July 2023

Meeting Time

10.00 am

For further information please contact

steve.boyd@powys.gov.uk



County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5LG

29/06/2023

AGENDA

1.	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES
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To welcome attendees and receive any apologies.

2.	STEP VERBAL UPDATE - CLIMATE EMERGENCY
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3.	STEP VERBAL UPDATE - HEALTHY WEIGHTS
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4.	STEP VERBAL UPDATE - EVIDENCE AND INSIGHT
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5.	POWYS PSB SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
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(Pages 3 - 12)

6.	YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT - FOR INFORMATION
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(Pages 13 - 34)

7.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
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To consider any matters of urgency as agreed in advance with the Chair.

8.	MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING
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(Pages 35 - 38)

9.	DATES OF FUTURE PSB MEETINGS
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Thursday 28th September 10.00am – 12.00pm
Friday 15th December 10.00am – 12.00pm

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

**Powys Public Service Board
6th July 2023**

**REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor James Gibson-Watt
Leader and Cabinet Member for an Open and
Transparent Powys**

REPORT TITLE: Powys PSB Scrutiny Committee

REPORT FOR: Decision / Discussion / Information

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The report sets out the legislative background to the establishment of the Powys PSB Scrutiny Committee which came into being in 2018, how the membership was originally determined and why this was amended in 2023.

2. Legislative Background

- 2.1 PSBs in Wales were established as a consequence of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Statutory Guidance in relation to Public Service Boards (Shared Purpose: Shared Future – SPSF3) is limited in its commentary regarding the requirements for scrutiny. The main provisions are set out in Chapter 6 – Local Accountability as set out below:

“Chapter 6 - Local accountability

173. Local integrated planning will only be effective if statutory members of the public services board take joint-responsibility themselves for securing improvement, with local democratic processes providing appropriate challenge and support. For this reason, the Act gives the Welsh Ministers relatively few powers and relies predominantly on the role of local government scrutiny to secure continuous improvement.
174. In order to assure democratic accountability there is a requirement for a designated local government scrutiny committee of the relevant local authority to scrutinise the work of the public services board. It will be for each local authority to determine its own scrutiny arrangements for the public services board of which it is a member. For example, existing legislative powers can be used to put in place joint arrangements, such as ‘co-opting’ persons who are not members of the authority to sit on the committee, and where appropriate to appoint joint committees across more than one local authority area.
175. While it will continue to be entirely legitimate for a subject scrutiny committee (such as a children and young people’s scrutiny committee) to scrutinise the public services board’s work in relation to a specific issue, it is important that one committee takes an overview of the

overall effectiveness of the board. This is the reason one committee must be designated to undertake this work.

The functions of the Scrutiny Committee are as follows:

- a) review or scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by the public services board;
- b) review or scrutinise the board's governance arrangements;
- c) make reports or recommendations to the board regarding its functions or governance arrangements;
- d) consider matters relating to the board as the Welsh Ministers may refer to it and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly; and
- e) carry out other functions in relation to the board that are imposed on it by the Act.

178. The designated committee will be provided with evidence in the form of the draft assessment of local well-being and, the draft local well-being plan (both of which they will be formally consulted on) and copies of the final versions of both. It will also be provided with annual reports.
179. In addition, the committee will be able to draw on the published advice provided to the public services board by the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales.
180. The committee can require any statutory member of the board to give evidence, but only in respect of the exercise of joint functions conferred on them as a statutory member of the board under this Act. This includes any person that has accepted an invitation to participate in the activity of the board.
181. The committee must send a copy of any report or recommendation it makes to the Welsh Ministers, the Commissioner and the Auditor General for Wales.
182. The public services board must send copies of its published assessments of local well-being, local well-being plans (including when it is revised) and each of its annual reports to the Welsh Ministers, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales and Auditor General for Wales in addition to the designated local authority scrutiny committee.

3. The Powys PSB Scrutiny Committee.

3.1 The Powys PSB Scrutiny Committee came into existence in 2018. When the Terms of reference for the PSB Scrutiny Committee were being prepared the Scrutiny Manager drew upon knowledge of how one other authority in Wales (Cardiff Council) had established its PSB Scrutiny Committee which was a committee which included representatives from each of the partner agencies (not drawn from the executives but from those exercising a scrutiny function). It was therefore suggested that the Committee should be composed as follows:

- 2 Elected Members of Powys County Council;
- 2 independent Members of, of Powys Teaching Local Health Board;

- 1 non executive and non-County Councillor representative from the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority;
- 1 non-executive representative from the Natural Resources Wales Board.
- 1 non-executive representative from PAVO and is not a representative on the LSB;
- 1 representative of the Police and Crime Commissioner / Dyfed Powys Police;
- 1 non-County Councillor representative from Wales Community Rehabilitation Company;
- 1 non Powys County Council Member of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.

Substitutes: Nominated substitutes will be allowed for the representatives listed above provided that the substitutes are not involved in and have not attended meetings of the PSB.

3.2 From the outset, Natural Resources Wales indicated that they wished to act as observers only as they did not have the resource to commit to all the PSB Scrutiny Committees in Wales. In addition, the Police and Crime Commissioner / Dyfed Powys Police and the Wales Community Rehabilitation Company were not forthcoming with any representatives despite repeated requests.

3.3 The Terms of Reference stated that as a minimum the Committee's work programme should include:

- To scrutinise the evidence base that underpins the Well-being assessment for Powys;
- To scrutinise the arrangements for the preparation of the Powys Well-being Plan;
- To pre-scrutinise the draft Powys Well-being Plan;
- To pre-scrutinise the Annual Report of the PSB;
- To scrutinise the arrangements for the review and amendment of the Powys Well-being Plan

The work of the Scrutiny Committee should be:

- To provide a 'critical friend' challenge to the Public Service Board;
- To scrutinise, evaluate and actively promote improvement in work carried out in line with Public Service Board priorities and its terms of reference and not that of those individual constituent organisations represented on the Public Service Board;
- To develop and deliver a forward work programme which seeks to contribute to the performance management and governance arrangements of the Public Service Board, and its projects;
- To commission Research & Evaluation Group investigations into areas identified on its forward work programme.

- To submit reports to the Public Service Board (as appropriate) and make recommendations for consideration and adoption;

The quorum of the Committee was set as follows:

- 1 representative from Powys County Council;
- 1 representative from Powys Teaching Health Board;
- 2 representatives from any of the following organisations:
 - Natural Resources Wales
 - Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
 - Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations;
 - Dyfed Powys Police / Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner;
 - Wales Community Rehabilitation Company;
 - Brecon Beacons National Park Authority;
 is present at a meeting.

3.4 The attendance of the varying membership of the Committee at 9 meetings between 2018 to 2021 is set out in the attached spreadsheet. This also shows the numbers of meetings cancelled over the period.

3.5 Over the period 2018 to 2021 the PSB Scrutiny Committee issued the following reports:

- 5 x Recommendations / Observations reports to the PSB (2018(1) / 2019(1) / 2020 (1)/ 2021(2)
- 2 x Observations reports to Step Leads (Steps 6 and 10) (2019)
- 1 x comment on the PSB Annual Report (2019)

3.6 No meetings of the PSB Scrutiny Committee were held during 2022 leading up to and following the election of Councillors in May 2022 as very soon after the Council set its budget in 2022 the pre-election period commenced. Following the election there was an extensive period of training new Councillors and with a new administration there was a period of time required for the formulation of new corporate objectives following the compilation of a new Well-Being Assessment which would also impact on the Powys Well-Being Plan (Towards 2040).

4. Council Decision – March 2023.

4.1 The Council was asked to review its Scrutiny Committee structure in March 2023 which included a review of the PSB Scrutiny Committee. There were a number of reasons why it was considered that a review of this committee was required, including:

- Inconsistent / variable attendance at meetings;
- Turnover of Member representation;

- Lack of any tangible outcomes from the meetings resulting in few recommendations to the PSB over the 4 year period (see paragraph 3.5 above);
- 4.2 In addition, prior to the report being prepared a review of PSB Scrutiny Committees in all other Councils in Wales was undertaken. This showed that in all other cases (including Cardiff Council) other than Powys scrutiny was undertaken by Councillors only. The only slightly similar structure to Powys was Bridgend who had a panel which reported to the PSB Scrutiny Committee comprising of Councillors.
- 4.3 The Council emailed all remaining representatives on the PSB Scrutiny Committee in early 2023 advising of the proposed changes and asking for comments. None were received.
- 4.4 Following consideration by the Democratic Services Committee in February 2023, the recommendation to the Council on 2nd March, 2023 was therefore to reconstitute the PSB Scrutiny Committee to comprise:
- 9 Members in total including:
- Vice-Chairs of the 2 Scrutiny Committees, plus
 - 2 additional representatives from each of the scrutiny committees (on a politically balanced basis based on a committee of 6)
- 4.5 The Council approved this change on 2nd March, 2023.

5. Advice

- 5.1 From the experience of operating the multi-representational Powys PSB Scrutiny Committee, it was clear that this body was not operating effectively and that changes were necessary. As the revised committee has not yet commenced its work, it should be given the opportunity to settle into its role following which a further review can be undertaken.
- 5.2 Should the PSB wish to recommend to Council that the previous decision be amended to include other representatives onto the committee, the following needs to be taken into account:
- In order for the decision of Council to be re-considered for amendment or to be rescinded within 6 months of the decision will require a notice of motion to Council signed by at least 10 Members (Rule 4.60.1 of the Constitution). If the proposed amendment is considered following the 6 month period the need for a motion signed by 10 members is removed.
 - Welsh Government Statutory Guidance arising from the Local Government Measure 2011 (issued June 2012) states:

“8.19 In recognition of the democratic mandate of elected councillors it is recommended that the number of co-opted members on a scrutiny

committee should not exceed a third of the total membership of the committee”

- In addition, Rules 7.12.4 and 7.12.5 of the Council's constitution states:

“7.12.4 In addition to co-optees appointed under rules 7.12.1.1 to 7.12.1.3 above, Scrutiny Committees may recommend to Full Council the co-option of other persons as voting or non-voting representatives. In exercising or deciding whether to exercise a co-option, the Authority must, under section 76 of The Measure, have regard to guidance given by the Welsh Ministers and comply with directions given by them

7.12.5 The total number of co-optees on each Scrutiny Committee may not exceed more than one third the membership of the committee” (Paragraph 8.19 Statutory Guidance from the Local Government Measure 2011 (issued by Welsh Government June 2012)

- In accordance with the Terms of Reference for the PSB Scrutiny Committee, any co-opted Members:
 - cannot be drawn from the “executives” of any of the organisations to ensure that there is a split of responsibilities between those who are the “executive” of the organisation and those who undertake a “scrutiny” function.
 - should not include officers from those organisations.
 - should not be a Powys County Council representative on those organisations.

6. Recommendation

6.1 That the report be noted and if the Public Service Board wishes to make a recommendation to the Council at its meeting in October 2023 (following the end of the 6 month period from the original decision being taken) to amend the membership of the Public Service Board Scrutiny Committee to accommodate co-opted Members from other organisations the request will need to comply with the provisions set out in paragraph 5.2 above which are:

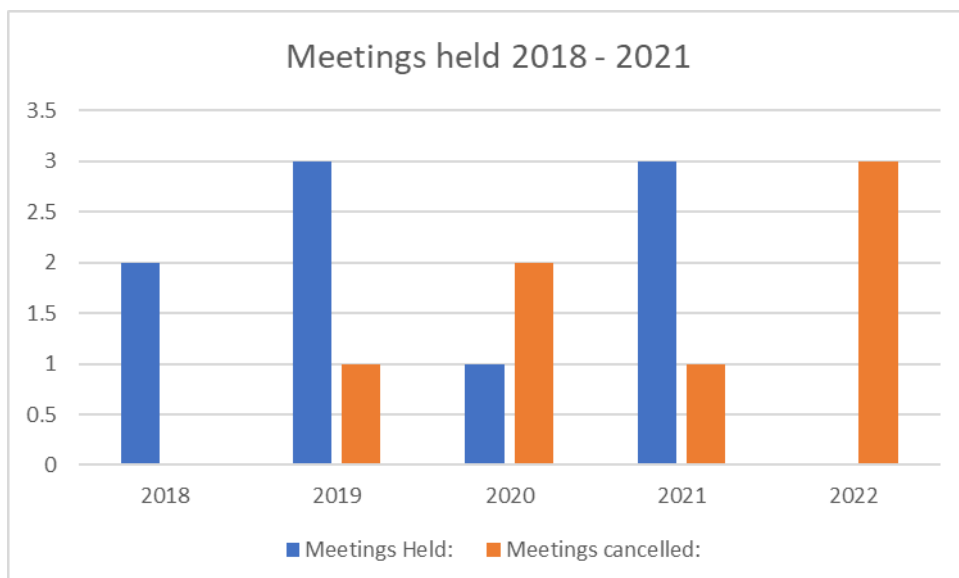
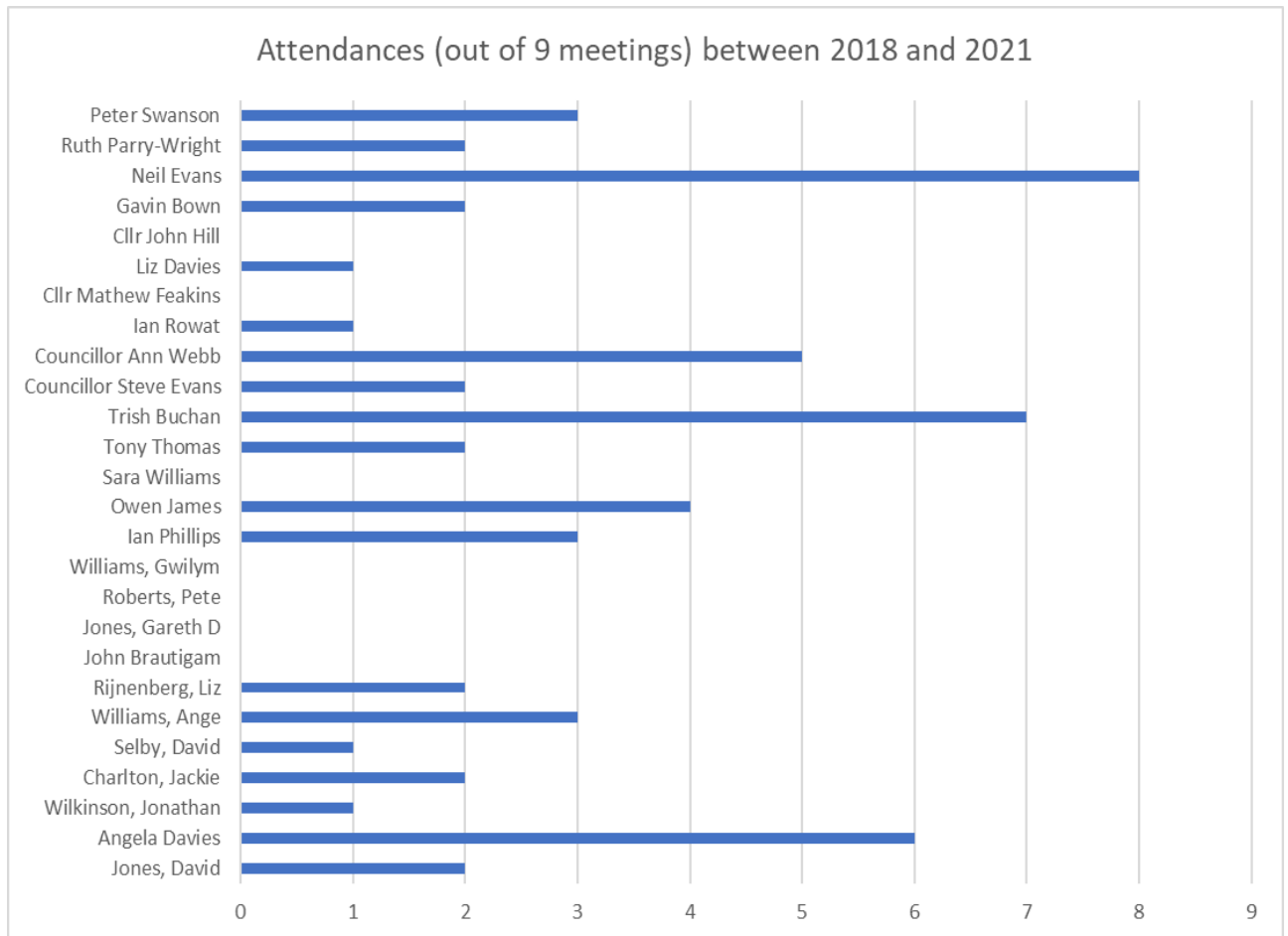
- A maximum of three co-opted Members;
- That those co-opted members can not:
 - be drawn from the executive of the organisation.
 - be officers from the organisation.
 - be Powys County Council representatives on those organisations

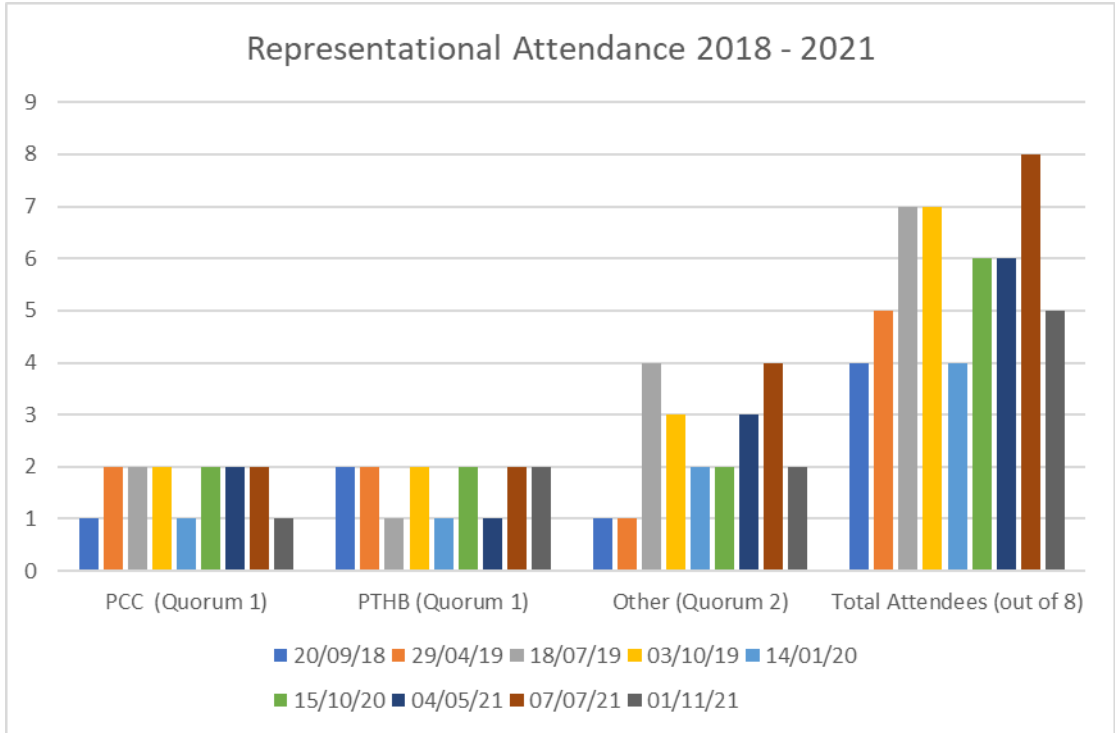
Contact Officer:	Wyn Richards, Scrutiny Manager and Head of Democratic Services
Tel:	01597 826375
Email:	wyn.richards@powys.gov.uk
Head of Service:	Catherine James, Head of Transformation and Democratic Services.

Corporate Director: Emma Palmer, Director of Corporate Services.

CABINET REPORT NEW TEMPLATE VERSION 3

Appendix 1





PSB Scrutiny Committee 20-09-2018 to 01-11-2021				
Individual Attendances				
Public Service Board Scrutiny Committee, 9 meetings				
Member	Attendances	Representing	From	To
Jones, David	2	PCC	2021	2022
Angela Davies	6	PCC	2019	2021
Wilkinson, Jonathan	1	PCC - Reserve	2021	C
Charlton, Jackie	2	PCC	2018	2019
Selby, David	1	PCC - Reserve	2021	2021
Williams, Ange	3	PCC	2019	2020
Rijnenberg, Liz	2	PCC	2021	C
John Brautigam	0	PCC - Reserve	2019	C
Jones, Gareth D	0	PCC	2019	2020
Roberts, Pete	0	PCC - Reserve	2018	2019
Williams, Gwilym	0	PCC - Reserve	2018	2019
Ian Phillips	3	PTHB - Reserve	2020	C
Owen James	4	PTHB	2018	2020
Sara Williams	0	PTHB	2018	2018
Tony Thomas	2	PTHB	2018	2020
Trish Buchan	7	PTHB	2018	2022
Councillor Steve Evans	2	BBNPA - Reserve	2020	C
Councillor Ann Webb	5	BBNPA	2018	2021
Ian Rowat	1	BBNPA	2018	2020
Cllr Mathew Feakins	0	BBNPA	2018	2020
Liz Davies	1	BBNPA	2021	C
Cllr John Hill	0	BBNPA - Reserve	2020	C
Gavin Bown	2	NRW	2021	C
Neil Evans	8	MAWWFRA	2018	C
Ruth Parry-Wright	2	PAVO	2018	2020
Peter Swanson	3	PAVO	2019	C
Year:	Meetings Held:	Meetings cancelled:		
2018	2	0		
2019	3	1		
2020	1	2		
2021	3	1		
2022	0	3		
Representational Attendance:				
Quorum for Meetings:				
1 x PCC Representative				
1 x PTHB Representative				
2 x Other Body Representatives				
Meetings:	PCC (Quorum 1)	PTHB (Quorum 1)	Other (Quorum 2)	Total Attendees (out of 8)
20/09/18	1	2	1	4
29/04/19	2	2	1	5
18/07/19	2	1	4	7
03/10/19	2	2	3	7
14/01/20	1	1	2	4
15/10/20	2	2	2	6
04/05/21	2	1	3	6
07/07/21	2	2	4	8
01/11/21	1	2	2	5

YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL



ANNUAL & WELL-BEING REPORT 2022-2023

YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCIL

Annual & Well-being Report 2022-2023

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

1. Introduction

Ystradgynlais, the southern-most and second largest (by electorate) town in Powys, developed because of the coal and iron industries of the 19th century. These have now been replaced by a number of small industrial units the district. The community is located towards the upper reaches of the River Tawe and its tributaries the Rivers Twrch and Giedd. Habitation is concentrated along the course of the main river valleys in a ribbon development along the main routes followed by the A4067, A4068 and B4599.

Ystradgynlais provides a southern gateway to the Brecon Beacons National Park making the surrounding area a popular venue for outdoor enthusiasts. The town is the area's business, transport and cultural centre with a busy shopping centre where the Welsh language is in common use.

The Town Council has 16 elected councillors with two part time members of staff representing approx. 6,500 electors. The Council is divided into four wards:- Abercraf, Cwmtwrch, Ynyscedwyn and Ystradgynlais and has a current precept raised from Powys County Council of £304,000 (2022-23). The Chairman and Vice Chairman are elected annually in May.

The following documents are attached to this Annual Report and relate to the important details regarding the elected Council Members who serve the community, the Council's Committees and Sub-Committees and Key Contact information.

- (a) A list of Town Councillors, by Ward, is attached as Appendix 1.
- (b) Key contact information as Appendix 2
- (c) Details of the Town Council's Committees and sub- Committees as Appendix 3
- (d) Representatives on outside bodies as Appendix 4

2. Council's Current Responsibilities

The Council is responsible:

- to the local electorate for delivering a range of public services.
- for the provision and upkeep of local amenities.

- for representing the interests of individual members of the public and the wider community.
- for supporting/encouraging members of the community to improve the local environment and services within the community.
- for maintaining and enhancing the area's biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems.

The Town Council vision, as the closest level of government to the Community, is to provide a voice for the Community, representing the area at County and National level. The Council works closely with the Local County Council Ward Members to ensure that County Council, Police, Welsh Government and other authorities take account of the needs of the Community when making decisions that affect local residents. The Council uses the powers and resources available to it to proactively react to the needs of the Community and provide appropriate levels of relevant services to the community of Ystradgynlais.

3. Financial Information for 2022-2023

(a) Annual Income and Expenditure Budget

The Town Council sets its annual budget for the Financial Year 2022-23 in January 2022.

The Council's Financial Year extends from 1st April to the 31st March of the following year.

The Council's agreed budget estimates relating to expenditure, income and reserves are shown below.

Band D properties estimate is an annual Property Tax of **£103.46**

	Estimated Expenditure
Parks, Planning & open spaces	£ 93,700
General Administration	£ 114,500
Gorof Cemetery	£ 20,300
General & Section 137 Grants	£ 32,000
Ward budgets / Path Maintenance	£ 45,000
Community/Welfare Halls Grants	£ 71,000
Council Property Maintenance / Insurance	£ 18,500
Sub Total	£ 395,000
Reserves	<u>£ 80,000</u>
Total Estimated Expenditure 2022-23	£ 475,000

The above Total Estimated Expenditure of £475,000 for the 2022-23 financial year was achieved as;-

Projected Financial Balance as at 31 st March 2022	£ 56,000
Estimated Reserve as at 31 st March 2022	£ 95,000
Estimated income 2022-2023	£ 20,000
Total Estimated Income 2022-23	£ 171,000
Agreed Precept Demand from Powys CC	£ 304,000

(b) Audit Process for the year 2022-2023 accounts

The accounts for the financial year 2022-23 have been produced in draft form and will now be subject to both an internal and external audit process which is carried out in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.

Reports and correspondence relating to this audit process between the Town Council and the appointed Auditors will over the audit period be considered and discussed at various Council Meetings and minuted accordingly in the Council's records and website. The audit process normally takes an estimated six to nine months to complete.

4. Training Plan

The Council is currently involved in the preparation of its Training Plan based on the guidance of One Voice Wales and the Society of Local councils. The plan will enable all roles within the Council to be supported by its approach to training and development needs and will assist the Council in its delivery of quality services to its community. The plan will be reviewed every five years to ensure it remains fit for purpose and accounts for the changing needs of councillors. The Training Plan was adopted in the April 2023 meeting.

The sum of £ 3,000 has been allocated in the 2023-24 budget for training courses.

5. What are the requirements of the Well-being Act?

The Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of Wales. It will make the public bodies listed in the Act think more about the long-term; work better with people and communities and each other; look to prevent problems; and take a more joined-up approach. This will help to create the Wales that people want to live in, now and in the future.

The Act places a duty on community and town councils to take all reasonable steps towards meeting the local objectives included in the local well-being plan that has effect in their areas.

If a community or town council is subject to the duty, it must publish a report annually detailing its progress in meeting the objectives contained in the local well-being plan.

The Act requires public services boards (**PSBs**) to involve community and town councils in the process of improving the well-being of their areas, regardless of whether the duty in section 40(1) of the Act applies to those councils. All community and town councils are classed as "other partners" of public services boards and must be consulted by those boards on the assessment of local well-being and subsequently on the local well-being plan. They will also have the opportunity of engaging with the public services board when invited to do so. The **Powys Public Service Board's Well-being Plan** concentrates on four areas: *Social, Economy, Environment and Culture*.

6. The Act sets seven well-being goals and gives a description of each of them.

Well-being goal	Description
A more prosperous Wales	An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.
A resilient Wales	A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).
A healthier Wales	A society in which people’s physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.
A more equal Wales	A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances).
A Wales of cohesive communities	Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage, and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.
A globally responsible Wales	A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.

7. The Council's response to the seven Requirements/Goals

Powys PSB Plan

y = completed
O = ongoing

Well-being goal	Council's response	Social	Economy	Env'ment.	Culture	2022-23	2023-24	
A more prosperous Wales	<p>The Town Council makes budget provision for Community improvement activities such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Festive Christmas lights in each of the four council wards Provision of bunting for use by local groups and decoration of the town centre and satellite villages. The Town Council continues its work in upgrading its current web site. <i>Town Investment Plan regarding Ystradgynlais</i> . The Plan prepared by consultant employed by PCC is almost complete and is to be made available for public consultation. The Town Council role was to gather information regarding the needs of local businesses. The process began in March 2020 The Town Council has representatives on the Governing bodies of local Primary schools and Maesydderwen Comprehensive school and appoints representatives on local voluntary and charitable organisations. See Appendix 4 Electric vehicle charging points installed at the Heol Eglwys Car Park by Powys CC and at the Old Tredegar Arms, Upper Cwmtwrch Provision of Wi-Fi for the Ystradgynlais Town Centre area and Community Centre has been approved. A joint project with PCC 	O	O			O	O	
		O	O			O	O	
		O	O		O		Y	
		O	O			O	O	O
					Y	Y		
					O			Y

A resilient Wales	Council's response	Social	Economy	Env'ment	Culture	2022-23	2023-24
	<p>The Town Council has responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gorof Cemetery. Grass is mown following a regular programme. Hedges surrounding the cemetery are maintained in good order. Timber and pruned branches from surrounding trees are stacked in the cemetery's expansion plot providing natural habitats for birds, reptiles and small mammals found in the area. The use of pesticides/herbicides is not encouraged except on invasive species such as knotweed. • Drainage work has been implemented at the cemetery to prevent flooding onto neighbouring land. • The first cut of grass is done as late as possible in order to support early pollinators. • In October 2021 the Council commissioned a report regarding Ash Dieback on a number of trees in the district to prioritise recommendations for relevant trees with infestation in particular on footpath 110 (Wind Rd towards A4067). Required work to commence in 2022-23 in this long term project. Further areas may require work and will be addressed as and when finance becomes available. • Children's Playground at <i>Swn y Nant</i>, Cwmtwrch , Playground at <i>Caerbont</i>, Playground at Abercraf • The Skate Board Park lease at Ystradgynlais Community Centre has been transferred to the Ystradgynlais Community Centre at Penrhos. The current lease was surrendered by the Town Council in the Summer of 2022 • There is a regular maintenance programme of grass cutting and tree maintenance during late spring and summer only allowing natural plant, birds and insect life to develop during the remainder of the year. 			<p>O</p> <p>Y</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p>		<p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>Y</p>	<p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p> <p>O</p>

A resilient Wales (continued)	Council's response	Social	Economy	En 'ment	Culture	2022-23	2023-24
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Town Council will always consider biodiversity and associated environmental issues in its projects and annual maintenance programmes. Work in an attempt to eradicate Invasive species (Himalayan Balsam) in the Diamond Park and adjacent land along Footpath 8 has been undertaken <p>From April 2021 to date drainage work has been undertaken at Coronation Park with a view to continue this work on an annual basis to alleviate possible flooding in the area in 2023-24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To address and reduce anti-social issues in the Diamond and Coronation Parks new signage has been erected to outline ownership and permissible activities. The Council has worked in liaison with Dyfed Powys Police regarding this matter. The Council agreed to a request from the Wildlife Trust to undertake a habitat survey at the Diamond and Coronation Parks. Results of the survey are awaited. 	O		O O O		O O Y O	O O O
A healthier Wales	<p>The Town Council owns and maintains four Parks/Open spaces near the town centre. These areas are well used by visitors and members of the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coronation Park covering an area of approx. 13 hectares. The development of this Park commenced in 1980s and is ongoing. <p>The grass and hedges are maintained following a regular programme.</p>	O Y		O Y	Cullture Y	O O	O O

A healthier Wales (continued)	Council's response	Social	Economy	Env'ment	Cullture	2022-23	2023-24
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District War Memorial at Gorsedd Park. Planting of appropriate shrubs/flowers in the immediate area. Refurbishment work was completed in 2017 and additional work in providing floodlighting of the memorial. 	○		○	Y	○	○
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diamond Park covering an area of approx. 14 hectares. Development of this Park on former colliery sites began in 2005. Its facilities have been regularly enhanced eg with the installation of a commemorative bench, based on the mining theme, flower planters art the main entrance alongside one of its many footpaths. Path maintenance and improvement work continues. 			Y	Y		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel Protheroe Memorial Park covering an area of approx. 0.125 hectares. Refurbished the hard landscape as a joint project with the <i>Ystradgynlais District Heritage & Language Society</i>.. Appropriate shrubs and planting have been completed and maintained by <i>Blodau</i> a local volunteer group. 	○		○		○	○
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council intends researching for parcels of land which it owns as well as areas owned by PCC for potential use for allotments. 	○	○	○	○	○	○
	<p>The Town Council maintains these open spaces to a high standard and they provide quiet, contemplating areas close to the town centre and have been appreciated and well used by the members of the community.</p>	○		○		○	○
	<p>The Town Council provides and maintains annually a number of benches in and around the town as well as a series of Heritage Panels erected by the <i>Ystradgynlais District Heritage & Language Society</i></p>	○		○		○	○

A healthier Wales (continued)	Council's response	Social	Economy	Env'ment	Culture	2022-23	2023-24
	<p>Public footpaths. The Town Council maintains to a high standard a network of public footpaths in the area which are well used and appreciated by the members of the community. Regular on- going maintenance of the footpaths in the care of the Town Council is undertaken</p>	O		O		Y	
	<p>A Memorial Tree to be planted in the grassed area between the children's playgroud and Ystradgynlais Hospital, Glanrhyd in memory of members of the community who sadly passed away as a result of the Covid Pandemic. (A specimen purple beech) planted in May 2023</p>	O				Y	
	<p>Sports facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="495 644 1326 852">• The Town Council owns the Tick Tock Bowls Club which is available for use by members of the community. The lease for which has been extend for a period of 25 years from December 2021. The Town Council grants an annual payment of £5k to the Bowls Committee covering maintenance costs etc. <li data-bbox="495 895 1326 1177">• Recreation Ground. The Town Council along with Powys County Council and representatives of local sports clubs have completed negotiating an extension of the lease on this sports field for the benefit of the community. The Town Council has agreed to make a major financial contribution of £25,000 towards a new 50 year lease costing £100,000.00 for this area of land. Charitable status has been obtained for the Group tasked to manage the Recreational Grounds. <li data-bbox="495 1220 1326 1326">• The Skate Board Park lease at Ystradgynlais Community Centre has been transferred to the Ystradgynlais Community Centre at Penrhos The Town Council will continue to support this Facility 	O		O		O	O
						Y	
						Y	
						Y	

A more equal Wales	Council's response	Social	Economy	Env'ment	Culture	2022-23	2023-24
	<p>The Town Council has representatives on the following local organisations promoting well-being and volunteering opportunities. See Appendix 4</p> <p>Cost of Living Crisis The Town Council has facilitated a meeting with local groups who were in a position to assist within the community and to identify the role that the Town Council would play in this initiative. As a result a £10,000 Cost of Living Relief Fund was made available to local charitable and voluntary groups (re COLC) in the Town Council's area. Grants of up to £1500 were made available. To date the groups to benefit are: <i>Abercrave Happy Helpers</i> (£1300); <i>Community Dreams</i> (£1000); <i>Ystradgynlais Volunteer Centre Food Bank</i> (£1500); <i>Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall</i> (£1500, St Cynog's Church Hall (600?)) Friends of Ystradgynlais Library also received £600 from the Fund as part of the 'Warm Spaces' initiative set up by Powys CC</p>	○	○		○	○	○
Wales of cohesive Communities	<p>Council's response</p> <p>The Town Council supports the enhancement of the town centre and its satellite communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financially supporting the work of volunteer groups by contributing finance to provide floral displays along kerbside and strategic areas in the community and bilingual heritage interpretation panels outlining the area's rich cultural and industrial heritage. Speed restrictions. Regular consultations with the police service regarding reported speeding incidents through Cwmtwrch along the A4068. Town Centre toilets. A grant is paid annually (£3,000) to the Town Amenities Society to maintain the town centre toilets. 	○	○	○		○	○
		○	○			○	○
		○	○	○		○	○
		○	○	○		○	○

A Wales of cohesive Communities (continued)	Council's response	Social	Economy	Env'ment	Culture	2022-23	2023-24
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.	<p>Council's response</p> <p>The Town Council generously supports financially the activities at three Welfare Halls and a Community Centre.:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall (<i>The Welfare</i>) which it owns • Abercraf Welfare Hall and Cwmtwrch Welfare Hall by providing operational grants to the Management Committees • Ystradgynlais Community Centre by the provision of grant support • The <i>Welfare</i> has increased its activities program during the past year. It is now open to the public and outside organisations. <p>Members of the Council assist the organisers of the annual St David's Day Celebrations by marshalling the pupils from all local schools whilst parading from St Cynog's Church to the Welfare Hall. The first parade for a number of years due to COVID restrictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town Council has contributed £10,000 towards the purchase of a new film projector for the Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall <p>The Town Council is supportive of the work of local volunteer groups</p>	<p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p>

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A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. (continued)	Council's response	Social	Economy	Env'ment	Culture	2022-23	2023-24
	which provide cultural events, exhibitions and enhancement features to the community. Financial assistance has been provided to the following groups :-	O		O			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ystradgynlais District Heritage & Language Society</i> to provide bilingual interpretation panels alongside public footpaths to illustrate the area's local heritage and provision of associated bilingual information pamphlets. 	O				O	O
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Blodau Ystradgynlais</i> to provide floral decoration in the town centre and surrounding areas of the town centre. 	O		O		O	O
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Abercraf Regeneration Group</i> which as one of its activities has planted flowers along the Abercraf By-pass and placed flower troughs at various points in the Abercraf Ward. 	O		O		O	O
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cwmtwrch Regeneration Group</i> where flower containers have been placed at various points along the A4068 passing through the Cwmtwrch Ward. 	O	O	O		O	O
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Discover Ystradgynlais</i>. The group of volunteers is funded to provide summer and winter events in the town centre, Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall and the Gorsedd Park. 	O		O			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electric power has been provided in the Gorsedd Park to illuminate the Christmas Decorations, Community Christmas tree etc. in the park. Bunting & banners provided to decoration of the town provided. 	Y				Y	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and upgrading of Christmas Light arrangements provided for Ystradgynlais Town Centre and new lights purchased for Cwmtwrch & Abercraf Wards. 		Y		Y	Y	

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. (continued)	Council's response	Social	Economy	Env'ment	Culture	2022-23	2023-24
A globally responsible Wales	<p>Council's response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual maintenance will be provided by the Town Council The Town Council annually maintains the town clock located in the town centre. The Town Council supports local community groups and organisations by providing an annual grants programme to support the organisations' activities. See Appendix 5 The Town Council has erecting two flagpoles at the Welfare Hall Ystradgynlais enabling the flying of flags for celebration and awareness raising for the benefit of the community. The three flagpoles at the Gorsedd Park, adjacent to the District War Memorial, to be reserved for military and national flags only 	<p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<p>○</p>	<p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p>	<p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>○</p> <p>Y</p> <p>○</p>

APPENDIX 1 YSTRADGYNLAIS TOWN COUNCILLORS 2022-2023 and contact details

Abercraf Ward		
Cllr Justin Horrell	07825111786	Plaid Cymru
Cllr. Adrian Williams	07816758813	Labour Party
Cllr. Georgia Burdett	07725911468	Plaid Cymru
Cwmtwrch & Gurnos Ward		
Cllr. Leighton Evans	07866435715	No political affiliation
Cllr. Josh Morgan		Labour Party
Cllr. Nigel Craddock	07423015723	Independent
Cllr. Wayne Thomas	01639 831261	Labour Party
Ystradgynlais Ward		
Cllr. Meurig Evans	01639849983	No political affiliation
Cllr. Michael Allen	07541833515	No political affiliation
Cllr. Carl Williams	07958365676	No political affiliation
Cllr. Martin Donnelly	07984640181	No political affiliation
Cllr. Richard P.G. Millington	07780667209	No political affiliation
Ynyscedwyn Ward		
Cllr. Cenydd Nickels	01639 842181	Plaid Cymru
Cllr. Geraint Roberts	07790046019	Plaid Cymru
Cllr. Martyn Shrewsbury	07592330467	Labour Party
Cllr. Graham A. Davies	01639 845596	No political affiliation

APPENDIX 2 Key Contact Information 2022-23

1. Chairman of the Council Cllr. Martin Donnelly Email: mfdonnelly@sky.com Mob: 07984640181
2. Vice Chairman of the Council Cllr. Graham A. Davies Email: cllrgadavies@gmail.com Tel: 01639 845596
3. Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer Mr. Brian Rees Email: ystradtowncouncil@btinternet.com
Tel: 01639 845269 Mob:07984497084
4. Deputy Clerk Mrs. Jane Conroy Email: deputyclerk.ystradtowncouncil@gmail.com Mob 07726431255

APPENDIX 3 Appointment of Committees

(a) Planning Committee

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 Powys County Council within the prescribed period and reports of the meetings be submitted to the next suitable meeting of the Council.
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 deputy Clerk 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

1. Ward Committees shall be established to include all Council ward members for the following Wards: -

Ystradgynlais Ward	5 Members
Ynyscedwyn Ward	4 Members
Cwmtwrch Ward	4 Members
Abercraf Ward	3 Members

2. Ward Committees shall have plenary powers under the Council's Small Contract Scheme for paths, parks, open spaces maintenance, improvement, and Ward projects.
 - (i) Determine work programs 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.
 - (ii) Carry out the works by engaging contractors identified on the Council's approved list.
 - (iii) Allow any two of the Ward Members and the Clerk or Technical Adviser to issue, monitor and approve the contractor identified on the Council's approved list.
 - (iv) To inform the Council regarding the letting of a contract, the name of the contractor so that the Council can approve payment.

(c) Urgent Action

Resolved that the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and appropriate Ward Members, acting together be given plenary powers to deal with matters requiring urgent immediate action between the Council's Ordinary Meeting.

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 authorized 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 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 Council's 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) In addition to the Chairman of the Council Cllr Martin Donnelly the Ward appointed Members on this Sub Committee for the Municipal Year 2022 23 are Cllrs. R. Millington, G. A. Davies, N. Craddock and A. Williams.

APPENDIX 4 Representatives on Outside bodies

The Town Council is represented on the following outside bodies by the members as listed.

One Voice Wales	Cllrs. G. Davies & M. Evans
Ystradgynlais Welfare & Community Hall	Cllrs. M.Allen & R. Millington
Ystradgynlais Volunteer Service	Cllr. M. Shrewsbury
Tick Tock Community Bowls	Cllrs. G. Davies & C. Nickels
Open Cast Liaison Committee	Cllr. M. Evans
Ystradgynlais Focus on Health Committee	Cllr. M. Donnelly
Discover Ystradgynlais	Cllr. L. Evans
Recreational Ground Steering Committee	Cllrs. W. Thomas & G. Roberts
Nant Helen Open Cast liaison	Cllrs M. Evans
Nant Helen Restoration Committee	Cllrs. M. Eans & A. Williams
Abercraf Welfare Hall	Cllr. A. Williams
Cwmtwrch Welfare Hall	Cllr.L. Evans & J. Morgan
Brecon Disabled Access Group	Cllr M Shrewsbury
Ystradgynlais Community Centre	Cllr. M. Allen
Governor Ysgol y Cribarth	Cllr. J. Horrell
GovernorYsgol Bro Tawe	Cllr. M. Shrewsbury
Ysgol Dyffryn y Glowyr	Tawe Uchaf Council Representative
Ysgol Golwg y Cwm	Tawe Uchaf Council Representative

APPENDIX 5 Grants awarded to local Organizations & Societies 2022-2023

(a) General Grants

1st Ynyscedwyn Scout Group	£400
Blodau	£300
Community Dreams	£500
Cor Dathlu Cwmtawe Male Choir	£300
Cor Y Gyrlais	£500
Glantawe Theatre Company	£500
Joseph Herman Art Foundation	£500
Penrhos Allotments	£500
Ynyscedwyn Pickleball Club	£250
Ynyscedwyn Voices	£500
Thursday Club	£250
Welsh OAP's	£300
Ystradgynlais Amenities and Conveniences Assoc.	£500
Ystradgynlais Community Car Scheme	£500
Ystradgynlais District Language & Heritage Society	£500
Ystradgynlais Girl Guides	£500
Ystradgynlais Hard of Hearing	£400
Ystradgynlais Ladies Bowls	£100
Ystradgynlais RFC Mini/Jrs	£400
Ainon Chapel Sisterhood	£300

Discover Ystradgynlais	£500
Abercraf Happy Helpers	£500
CAB (IT Equipment)	£500
Starry Valleys Family	£300

(b) Warm Spaces Grants

Approved under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972:-

Community Dreams	£1,000
Abercrave Happy Helpers	£1300
Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall	£1500
Friends of Ystradgynlais Library	£ 600
St Cynog's Church	£ 600
Ystradgynlais Volunteer Centre	£1500

(c) Jubilee Grants

Approved under Section 137 of the Local Government Act

Discover Ystradgynlais	£ 433.81
Ystradgynlais Community Centre	£ 433.81
Cwmtwrch Welfare Hall	£ 132.38

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD HELD AT BY ZOOM
ON TUESDAY, 6 JUNE 2023**

PRESENT

County Councillor James Gibson-Watt (Leader PCC) Chair
 Mererid Bowley (Director of Public Health Powys Teaching Health Board)
 Gavin Bown (NRW)
 Claire Bryant (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner)
 Carl Cooper (Chair PTHB)
 Councillor Michaela Davies (Mayor of Brecon Town Council)
 Neil Evans (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service)
 Alison Perry (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner)
 Amy Richmond-Jones (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service)
 Clair Swales (Chief Executive PAVO)
 County Councillor Gwynfor Thomas (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service)
 Hayley Thomas (Interim Chief Executive Powys Teaching Health Board)

Supporting:

Steve Boyd (PCC)
 Carol Davies (Translator)
 Catherine James (PCC)
 James Langridge-Thomas (PCC)

1.	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES
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Apologies for absence were received from Iwan Cray Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Catherine Mealing-Jones Chief Executive Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority, Emma Palmer Director of Corporate Services, Carol Shillabeer Chief Executive Powys Teaching Health Board, Jack Straw Interim Chief Executive Powys County Council, Caroline Turner Chief Executive Powys County Council.

2.	APPROVAL OF POWYS PSB WELL-BEING PLAN
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The Powys Public Services Board (PSB) Well-being Plan set out the Board's new well-being objectives and the steps that needed to be taken to deliver them in support of the new ambition, "*A Fair, Healthy, Sustainable Powys*".

It introduces the three well-being objectives that are its core aim:

- People in Powys live happy, healthy and safe lives.
- Powys is a county of sustainable places and communities.
- An increasingly effective Public Service for the people of Powys.

To support the delivery of these well-being objectives, the following priority steps had been identified:

- Responding to the Climate Emergency.
- Taking a whole systems approach to healthy weight.

- Shaping the future by improving our understanding of what matters to the people of Powys through evidence and insight.

Partners from across the PSB had collaborated to determine the new Well-being Plan. Advice had also been sought from the Future Generation's Commissioners Office. A public consultation took place throughout early 2023, and feedback from all consultation activities (both internal and external) was considered in developing the plan.

Work had been undertaken across the PSB Partners to align this Plan with their own organisational well-being objectives. Alongside this, there has been consideration of how this aligns to other partnership activity, such as the Regional Partnership Board. Natural Resources Wales would be considering the Plan at a meeting the following week and had been recommended for approval.

It was confirmed that that the Plan had been through an accessibility checker and whilst there were no plans to produce an easy-to-read version, the plan on a page diagram would be shared.

RESOLVED that the Well-being Plan is approved for publication, with implementation from June 2023.

The Chair thanked everyone for their work in helping to develop the plan.

3. ANNUAL REPORT - BRECON TOWN COUNCIL

Councillor Michaela Davies, Mayor of Brecon Town Council, presented the Council's annual report for 2022/23. The report set out the wide range of activities undertaken during the year which helped contribute to the well-being goals.

The Board discussed how Town and Community Councils could be encouraged to contribute to achieving the well-being goals. Officers confirmed that they were looking to engage with Town and Community Councils and would welcome any suggestions. It was suggested that it would be more effective to get Town and Community Councils to engage with specific objectives, for example, the programme to tackle obesity. It was also suggested that County Councillors should have a role in promoting the Plan.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was a discussion on scrutiny arrangements for the PSB. Several members expressed disappointment that the County Council had recently changed the arrangements so that in future only County Councillors would be members of the PSB Scrutiny Committee. It was agreed that this would be put on the agenda for the next meeting for consideration.

In response to a question, it was confirmed that the leads for the priorities were:

Powys County Council on evidence and insights
Powys Teaching Health Board on healthy weight

NRW and Bannau Brycheiniog NPA on the climate emergency.

There was a discussion on whether there would be merit in having joint leads to build in more resilience but was felt that it should be left to the planning groups for each as to how they organised their work.

It was agreed to include updates from the Planning and Delivery group on the agendas of future meetings.

5.	MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING
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The minutes of the last meeting held on 27 February 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

6.	DATES OF FUTURE PSB MEETINGS
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The dates of future meetings were noted.

**County Councillor James Gibson-Watt
Chair**

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