



TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT TEAM – YSTRAD MYNACH TOWN CENTRE

BRIEFING NOTE: UPDATE ON YSTRAD MYNACH TOWN CENTRE AUDIT

DATE: JANUARY 2025

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1. BRIEFING NOTE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this briefing note is to update Elected Members and Town/Community Councillors on progress made against the Ystrad Mynach Town Centre Audit as of January 2025.
- 1.2 This briefing note contains details of recently completed actions and the work being progressed against the remaining action points.

2. TOWN CENTRE AUDIT

2.1 Tree pits - Bedwlwyn Road (outside Pak Sing Takeaway and former opticians)

Tree roots have uplifted the concrete around the base of the trees at both locations. Advice has been sought from the Arboricultural Team and these works are hold until a suitable budget can be identified.

2.2 Penallta Road Lane - commercial and residential waste

Waste colleagues have held a site visit and engaged with nearby businesses and residential properties regarding the buildup of loose waste in this location. The situation has now improved and no further issues have been reported.

2.3 Junction box at Bedwlwyn Road mini-roundabout

The junction box requires re-setting. Highways will contact the utilities supplier to ask them to inspect and address.

2.4 Planting/green maintenance

Snowdrop planting is being arranged for the green space next to the Beech Tree Pub. Parks intend to carry this out w/c 03/02/25.

2.5 Weeding and cutting back - across town

Cutting back to the banking and steps at Oakfield Street Car Park took place in October 2024. A request was also received at the October stakeholder meeting for weeding across town, particularly along Penallta Road, and these works have since been carried out by the Parks and Countryside Team.

Parks will revisit the town to carry out another weed spray during Spring 2025.

2.6 Rat sightings - Oakfield Street Car Park

Reports of rat sightings at the rear of the car park, near commercial waste bins, were forwarded to Environmental Health, who arranged to investigate and speak to relevant businesses regarding open bin receptacles. The baiting measures along the banking have been removed as these had a low success rate.

Stakeholders are asked to report any rat sightings directly to CCBC by emailing crm@caerphilly.gov.uk or telephoning 01443 866544. Prompt reporting will assist Environmental Health in identifying problem spots and any possible food sources causing the issue.

2.7 SPF Enhancements – garden space next to Lucas Estates

The Parks and Countryside Team have confirmed they have some SPF resources available to enhance this area for community schemes such as Wales in Bloom. This is a one-off offer for 2024-25 which has been made possible under the SPF programme. The Town Centre Team have discussed options with the Clerk to Gelligaer Community Council and a further meeting will be arranged with the Parks Team. Works will commence if time permits.

2.8 Ramp access enhancement - Oakfield Street Car Park

As part of the SPF programme, to improve accessibility, a feasibility study was completed to provide ramp access from the north of the town to the car park. Unfortunately, due to time restrictions, this scheme is unlikely to go ahead.

2.9 Town Centre Events

Feedback has been received regarding the layout of town centre events. The Town Centre Team have met with a local nursery to discuss potential activities in a location that will encourage migration across town during the event. We have discussed options with the Events Team and the layout will be reviewed for 2025 events.

2.10 Interpretation Boards

As a result of stakeholder meeting feedback, wayfinding signage in Ystrad Mynach town centre has been audited to determine its condition, location and relevance. As a result, new locations are being identified for additional interpretation boards, and a consultancy firm (Cowshed Communications) have been instructed to design clear, comprehensible town centre maps that highlight town centre amenities to encourage footfall and increase dwell time. CCBC Procurement Services are in the process of sourcing suppliers and installers for the interpretation board frames.

Consultees: Jo Hillier-Raikes – Principal Officer Town Centres and Business Support
Gavin Barry - Highway Operations Manager
Jonathan Davies - Parks and Countryside Operations Manager
Paul Hudson - Business Enterprise Renewal Team Leader
Nathan J Jones – Waste Operations Manager
Ian Jones - Technical Assistant/Relief Supervisor
Lorna Reed – Principal Regeneration Project Officer
Ian Shephard - Assistant Engineer
Dean Smith - Principal Engineer, Traffic Management
Joe Williams - Network Contracting Manager