

Hay Town Council

Hay Town Council
Council Offices
Recreation Facilities
Brecon Road
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Draft Minutes for the meeting of Hay Town Council on Monday 13th April 2026 at 6.00pm in the Council office, Brecon Road, Hay on Wye, HR3 5DY.

1. Apologies for absence.

Present: Cllr F Howard, (Chair) Cllr J Morgan, Cllr G Williams, Cllr A Bielski, Cllr W Bielska, Cllr B Paul, Cllr K Elleson.

Also present: Clerk C Bunton, Cllr G Ratcliffe and a member of the public.

Apologies for absence:

Cllr A Powell,

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr P Jenkins (approved leave under Section 85, LGA 1972)

2. Declarations of Interest & Code of Conduct.

None.

3. Questions from Members of the Public.

Thank you to all of the Cllrs for the support with the allotments, all 15 plots have been booked and there will be an opening event that Cllrs will be invited to.

4. Minutes of the meeting dated 2nd March 2026.

RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed that the minutes previously circulated of the Town Council meeting held on the 2nd March 2026 be accepted as a true and accurate record and signed.

5. Report from County Cllr.

Approached by a resident trying to get on Housing, Herefordshire have refused as no local contact. Has written to Hfd should reflect that as all the amenities in Hay. There is flexibility from Powys point of view. Pre-election period.

6. 50 years Independence of Hay. Anniversary 1st April, £5000 has been precepted. Something was meant to be happening with other major organisations however nothing has come forward. A suggestion is that Lyndy Cooke and Richie are approached to ask them to organize an event. Decision to be made at the next meeting.

Clerk to circulate Town of Culture EOI to Cllrs.

7. Town of Culture. EOI has been submitted. Hay Town Council would like to thank Lyndy and Richie for all the work they did on this.
8. Access for Cash. GR met with the officers who came back and explained that the ratio for visitors and residents per ATM was being met in compliance with Access to Cash review criteria. Hay is too small for a banking hub. Ask Chamber if they would give us the names of shops that do cash back to put a poster up next to the ATM of shops that do.
9. Safety. BP thanked Gareth for sharing the contact details, BP, AP, & GR did a walk around Hay with local police highlighting local issues. Speeding past the Catholic Church and St Mary's Church, Broad street. Is holding a surgery once a month in Pavilion, she is going to get the traffic police out. Invite to a Council meeting. People don't realise how dangerous it is to park next to the trough. GR to contact Highways to discuss.
10. Annual Report. All reports to be in by 1st May ready to publish at the AM.
11. Place Plan. Has been on hold this month as been so busy with other projects. Survey to be completed and published. Public consultation will be planned for at a Thursday Market. Clerk to share the date with Cllrs once confirmed.
12. Surveys.

Councillors were reminded of the importance of completing their monthly surveys in a timely manner, as these form part of the Council's insurance requirements and due diligence processes. Members were requested to ensure ongoing compliance to support governance and risk management obligations.

Brecon Road Play & Tennis Courts

A syringe was left in play area, was collected disposed of and reported to the police. Split in Tennis Courts is getting worse and needs treatment soon. Also two person roundabout very stiff.

Railway Line & Bailey Walk

The Victorian railings have show no deterioration.

Low level littering and problems with excessive amount of rubbish being put into dog waste bins.

Invasive species are starting to be noticed along the footpath, Hay CWG to tackle.

Pot holes filled in at Brecon Road recreation facilities and The Gliss.

25-3-26 Work started by OTM on Duty of Care tree work, completed.

26-3-26 Noticed barn owl carving had fallen off their perch, stump rotted. Danny Thomas has repainted and reinstalled them, FOC, in a new location close to the footpath.

3-4-26 GR reports bollards taken out of OR footpath junction at Warren track, replaced

5-4-26 Noticed latch is broken on gate at Gypsy Castle playground, unable to stay closed.

Gipsy Castle Playground

Gate is broken, fence is showing more signs of disrepair. Red mini Wehopper still squeaking.

Warren Close & The Meadows

All currently satisfactory.

13. Cemetery extension. Concerns raised that most cemeteries are now full around Powys and that people wanting to be buried are sent to Hay. GR to write to Powys to check if this is accurate.

A suggestion has been made to use the area as a temporary as a bike park. There are many for's and against, approx. It was noted that out of the 52 respondents to the survey, 35 of them were asking for a bike park. Play Team to investigate, look at costings, sizing's and potential sites to evaluate.

14. Festival Parking.

Friday 22 nd	Light Up Hay	Wednesday 27 th	Hay Bowls Club
Saturday 23 rd	Hay St Mary's Football	Thursday 28 th	Hay St Mary's Football
Sunday 24 th	Hay Summer Show	Friday 29 th	Light Up Hay
Monday 25 th	Hay Bowls Club	Saturday 30 th	Hay Youth Club & Hay Primary PTFA
Tuesday 26 th	Hay Youth Club & Hay Primary PTFA	Sunday 31 st	Hay Summer Show

It was noted that Cricket originally declined the annual charity cricket match they may now want to do it, they have been directed to communicate with Bowls Club. Clerk to Circulate dates.

15. Cllrs Training Plan.

Cllr AB has completed his training.

Clerk to resend out training modules. Cllrs requested to complete before next meeting as needs to be approved at AM.

16. Parish Hall.

The diocese don't want to manage the Parish Hall, however they don't want to sell it. There has been some money spent on the roof. It's the only large hall in the centre of town. FH to arrange a meeting and send to all Cllrs.

17. Drains.

We have had another incident of toilets being blocked both at Craft Centre and at the Pavilion. Only toilet paper to go down the toilet. Signs to go out. Drains have been cleared both craft centre and Pavilion.

A low res investigation camera was put down the drains, however they are sending quote for high res camera investigation.

18. Play Area Vandalism

There has been some recent vandalism at Gipsy Castle Playground. Recommendation sign, no ball games, no bikes. JM Propose sign GW seconded, unanimously agreed.

19. Cllr Projects:

- a) Play Area Team.

Have met with 3 different companies, have decided that we would like to work with Wickstead, there is still currently a problem with one of the new pieces from Kompan.

- i) Questionnaire /survey feedback

Gap for younger children, nothing for toddlers, a zip wire had a lot of interest. Are planning consultation with primary school. GW to share summary of responses with Cllrs.

b) Town Enhancements.

Need to get banners permission, clerk has spoken to Powys and tweaks needed to form.

Suggestion to do a competition for quote to go on book bench.

c) Remembrance

Town Crier outfit is being taken to tailor in Brecon and guestimate £750 plus materials decision to be made via email FH Propose sign BP seconded, unanimously agreed..

CB to order lamppost poppies and AB to arrange handover.

20. Subcommittee Reports / Minutes:

a) Finance.

i) Barclays Mandate Form

Electronic mandate did not work, so physical mandate needed and Signing tonight

ii) Asset Register

Clerk to circulate to everyone, to be amended and approved at the AM.

iii) Scribe – Costs would be £450 to start and then £55 a month there after. GW proposed that it is precepted for next year, JM seconded, unanimously agreed.

b) Estates

i) Pot holes have been started, there are a couple to do need a couple of bags of cold bags tarmac and scalping's.

ii) Duty of Care was started on 25th March and completed by the end of that week. Taking out trees that were considered diseased or dangerous.

iii) Disabled fishing platform – has its annual winter debris and needs to be cleared in the next month. Up to value of £575 proposed JM, seconded GW unanimously agreed.

iv) Railway line carvings – stump had rotten away, JM retrieved, Danny repainted and re fitted. Press release due tomorrow. There is a company has done a walking tour of the Old Railway Line.

Member of the public left the meeting.

c) Premises.

Box for delivery being delivered on Wednesday.

All Utility contracts have been renewed

Cleaners contract is due.

Grant application has been submitted.

Meeting this coming Thursday.

I) Clock Tower Toilets.

Electrical Inspection was due on 5th Aug 25, need to be updated.

a) Replacement Card Reader

Card reader is a 2g one and they are starting to fail. May need upgrading.

II) Oxford Road Toilets.

a) Grant application to Pride in Place managed by Powys CC has been submitted.

b) Replacement Card Reader 3G is being switched off this year. Quotes have been received from Danfo for replacements. Also a hardwired broadband line has been suggested by the engineer. Clerk to order broadband. Proposed GW, seconded AB and unanimously agreed.

c) Cash collections to be arranged in pairs as per procedure agreed with insurance. KE to arrange.

d) Electrical report received classes Oxford Road toilets as dangerous, access to the Note Machine area will need to be secured for remedial work to be undertaken. Estimate received for circa £500

KE proposed to address the electrical repair work . BP seconded, unanimously agreed.

III) Pavilion.

Signage needs addressed at the Pavilion, KE to investigate.

Gas meter box is falling to prices. WB proposed that a replacement box is purchased, seconded BP, unanimously agreed.

Working party to clear up round the back of the building to be arranged.

IV) Recommendation to purchase: Man hole cover keys, drain rods, 50m hose
FH, proposed, AB seconded, unanimously agreed.

Recommendation to buy a coin counter
BP proposed, FH seconded, unanimously agreed.

V) Recommendation that remaining funds from last year's precept for Premises goes into Premises reserves.
Add to the next agenda for all sub items.

d) Light Up Hay

At the Easter Event at Hay Castle TO kindly tried to sell bulbs on a Light Up Hay stall. FH to talk to businesses. Feedback was if they can see on a map they might potentially buy. Need help with the car parking during the festival.

Hundred Club idea.

21. Report of the Clerk / RFO

a) My Training.

Clerk completed PIALC course on 31st March. Recommendation for Clerks salary to increase a pay spine point from 1st April 2026. Proposed JM, seconded GW, unanimously agreed.

b) Schedule of Monthly Accounts

The Schedule of Monthly Accounts was presented for consideration. It was **RESOLVED** that the Schedule of Monthly Accounts be approved.

c) Bank Reconciliation Statement

The Bank Reconciliation Statement was presented. It was **RESOLVED** that the Bank Reconciliation Statement be approved.

d) Adjustment of January Minutes.

e) Major Correspondence:

i) Sustainable Powys – No Cllrs able to attend.

ii) Summer Show Advert – Programme has already been submitted so too late.

iii) BML Invite – FH to attend.

iv) Users access to fuseboard in Pavilion – suggested that another key safe is installed inside with a key to the fuseboard cupboard. Proposed JM, seconded KE, unanimously agreed.

v) Twinning – unfortunately this is not within the Town Council remit however please do a friends of with our blessing.

22. Reports of HTC Representatives:

a) Gwynne's Almshouses – Thursday AGM.

b) Dial a Ride - Emailed

c) Dyfed Powys Police – Will soon start monthly drop in sessions.

- d) One Voice Wales – None.
- e) Cheesemarket – Eliza’s story, dogs all round Hay.
- f) BBNP – None.
- g) Chamber of Commerce – None.
- h) Hay Summer Show - £224 at Quiz
- i) Hay Primary School – Meeting Thursday.
- j) Warren Close Allotments – Opening thing was quite good.
- k) HADSCAL currently doing consultation, have 2 organisations interested in joining the project, its all moving forward. Quarterly report will be provided to the Council.

23. In Camera: Cllr Co-option

24. Date and time of next meeting:

It was suggested that the meetings for the next few months are moved. The first Monday in May is a bank holiday, so May would be moved anyway. June’s meeting would only be 3 weeks later, also having the meeting later in July would mean a smaller recess for summer holidays as there is no meeting in August.

11th May 2026

15th June 2026

13th July 2026

7th September 2026

Back to first Monday of the month from here.

Proposed WB, seconded FH and unanimously agreed.

Jane Howard