

# Hay Town Council

Hay Town Council  
Council Offices  
Recreation Facilities  
Brecon Road  
Hay-on-Wye  
HR3 5DY

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Draft Minutes for the meeting of Hay Town Council on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 at 6.00pm  
in the Council office, Brecon Road, Hay on Wye, HR3 5DY.

1. Apologies for absence

Present: Cllr F Howard, Cllr S Morris, Cllr J Morgan, Cllr G Williams, Cllr J Prothero, Cllr P Jenkins, Cllr W Bielska; Cllr A Bielski, Cllr R Golesworthy, Cllr T Owen, Cllr A Powell.

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

Apologies: None

2. Declarations of Interest & Code of Conduct

FH and SM both including Hay Navigators, SM removed Scouts and Explorers. SM declared on Tennis courts.

3. Questions from Members of the Public

Hay Community Resilience Initiative gave a talk to Cllrs introducing their Hay Resilience Cooperative. They have worked with Powys to set up a South Powys food loop to increase locally produced food. The Hay model would be to get households to buy locally produced food and energy in order to create a wealth fund, to subsidise food, own our own energy, welfare and wellbeing. They are launching 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2pm @ The Swan, Hay on Wye. This initiative has been backed by Future Generations and mental well being assembly. Whole model is built on kindness. The objective is that it looks after the entire community, less well of being subsidised. It is a 3 pillar model; Town and growers providing sustainable food & drink with sustainable land use; Wellbeing providing hope, purpose, belonging and Energy being sustainable with wealth redistribution. Everyone was invited to attend the Swan on 10<sup>th</sup> May.  
Member of the public left.

4. Minutes of the meeting dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Signed as a true and accurate record.

5. Bus Shelter & timetables

Powys are going to change the signs in the new financial year and do the bus shelter on the car park side. GR to follow up.

6. Meeting with Cusop Parish Council reps

Have postponed until May.

7. Future Town Crier

Current town crier would like to retire, we need to advertise. George has been very good, Council would like to thank George for everything he has done. Advertise locally and nationally, needs to be a Welsh speaker. George did say that he would help train the new person.

8. ATM

There is still an issue as we do not own a location where one could go that would be beneficial to the town, however clerk has been in touch with a company to investigate possibilities.

9. Annual Reports reminder

Reports need to be in by 14<sup>th</sup> April to be in the May edition of Wye Local. FH, SM, GW, JM. To complete. CB to compile.

10. EV Charging point

FH suggested investigating installing an EV charging point at the Pavilion. The ones at the car park are full. Suggested at the end of the building.

Proposed: FH Seconded JM and unanimously agreed.

11. Pathway Gypsy Castle Brecon Road

Number of complaints received recently for the path that runs along side Cartref that is starting to become a trip hazard. GR to highlight to Powys CC. There has been a rat problem also.

12. EOI – Recreation Facilities

SM, FH and CB have prepared an EOI for the area to be able to develop the site as needed. Concerns raised re the cricket nets which may be are on a separate lease to cricket club.

Proposer GW, seconded AP, unanimously agreed.

13. Charity Parking

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Youth Club

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Bowls

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Hay Summer Show

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Hay Summer Show

Tues 27<sup>th</sup> PTFA & Youth Club

No Overnight parking.

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Cricket

Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Football

Fri 30<sup>th</sup> PTFA

Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Football

Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Bowls

No requests from the Festival for minibus parking as yet.

14. Spraying of roots

Complaint received re roots being sprayed by Park Run to identify trip hazards. JM has seen products and confirmed they are environmentally friendly.

Powys CC have been spraying around the trees, question asked if it was harmful, GR confirmed that no, all harmful chemicals have been banned.

15. Cllr Projects

- a) Play Area Team – CB has applied for National Lottery, Welsh Water has confirmed £1k Still need to raise appropriately £20k for Gipsy Castle Play area. CB has written to MS to ask about the extra funding from Welsh Government that has recently been advertised.
- b) Land at Warren Close – As BBNP have stipulated an ecological assessment to be undertaken. Quotes received for ecological assessment. It was noted that precepted

money would pay for the surveys not money received from an anonymous donation.  
Council thank the anonymous donator for supporting this project.

FH proposed that we employ the cheapest of the quotes, JM seconded, 6 agree, 3 abstain.  
3 quotes received for fencing.

Concerns were raised over cutting of the hedges, it will be in contracts for allotmenters to keep inside hedges trimmed. Life expectancy approx. 25 years at approx. 1.5m / 1.6m height.

Will also need to fit, quotes reviewed 1.5m

AP proposed that the cheapest fence quote is ordered, seconded AB and unanimously agreed. SM to arrange fitting quotes.

c) Town Enhancements

FH, SM, GR have had confirmation on grant application, for audio trail, 2 x book benches and flags on lampposts to Hay. Thank you to Powys' Brilliant Basics Project.

i) Wholy Cow Milk Bar

Very successful, only regular complaints is that it runs out of milk. 1 complaint that tasted processed.

d) Future Remembrance Events

Starts at 6.30pm with 40s tunes, live singer at 7pm food and drinks stands tbc, military vehicles and memorabilia, service starts at 8.45pm couple of wreaths, readings one from Navigators and Cadets. Meeting RBL on 23<sup>rd</sup>. RBL dress in 40s clothing. COC are doing a shop window competition. AB has notified the police. Use HTC gazebo. Markets have 3m x 3m gazebos. Agreed that the event could borrow the wicker chairs. AB to wear the chain.

e) Easter Event

13<sup>th</sup> – next Sunday, posters are up and out, Castle are happy to have market stalls, markets are 11 – 3am Shops are not interested this time. Concerns raised that charities have not been approached yet. Poster to be shared on Council Communications.

16. Subcommittee Reports / Minutes

a) Finance

I) Recommendation to open High Interest Savings account for reserves

Savings is only 1.5% interest on. Other well-known accounts that can get up to 3 or 4%. Would leave 6 months running costs in the main account and move balance into a high interest.

Proposed: AB Seconded PJ and unanimously agreed.

II) Recommendation: Go Fund Me for Play Area to be run through the Council

Having had received advice from OVW it would be easier than to start a CIC.

Whatever is raised has to be used on play.

Proposed: FH Seconded JP and unanimously agreed.

III) Recommendation: Appoint David Jones as internal Auditor

Proposed: FH Seconded TO, 1 abstention and remainder agreed.

IV) Date of next meeting - TBC

b) Estates

I) TPO's – TPOs were historically applied for in August 2022 and came through middle of last month. There will be more paperwork for Welsh water as some of the trees listed are now dangerous.

- II) Estates survey – one has been completed. Need to scroll right to the very bottom and press submit.  
Concerns raised at length of time the Cricket trench is taking. Someone needs to come in and connect the pipes. CB to contact and ask for an update.
- III) Padel – gentleman came in and asked for a padel court in Hay. There are padel courts in Hereford and Cwmbran. JM happy to meet and discuss.
- IV) Planters – quote received to remove and dispose £150. Parents of Clifford School have offered to take, if not removed by the end of this week then will need to go with quote.

Proposed: FH Seconded JM and unanimously agreed.

V) Gliss

- a) Recommendation to install 2 new A4 disabled parking signs.

Proposed: JP Seconded WB and unanimously agreed.

- b) Recommendation to replace 5 posts and 12 rails that are unsafe.

Proposed: WB Seconded AB and unanimously agreed.

- c) Recommendation to precept for 26 / 27 to replace whole fence with recycled plastic. Refused, JM to investigate other options. Concerns raised over plastic longevity.

VI) Railway footpath – the spring has now dried up for the summer, to be looked at in the autumn.

VII) Warren Steps – No progress, there is currently one hand rail. Decision to leave as one.

VIII) Pedestrian Gateway – matting installed. Invoice not yet received.

IX) Concerns raised to Estates

- a) Fencing at The Gliss – please see above.
- b) Carlsgate fly tipping onto the former railway embankment – we wrote to Wales and West who has spoken to tenants.
- c) Bench on Login Brook road bridge – GR has contacted Powys and awaiting a response.

RG left the room.

- d) Recommendation to install signs on Fence back of cattle market.

TO proposed do not install SM seconded unanimously agreed.

RG joined the meeting.

c) Premises

I) Clock Tower Toilets

II) Oxford Road Toilets

III) 2 cases of vandalism Friday and Saturday. Disabled toilet door lock has been forced and broken, 24 hr toilet coin receiver has been broken. CB to report to the police. Due to the uproar over the weekend SM proposed is to return all toilets to Powys CC. It was noted that Powys will only maintain toilets on trunk roads. Chamber of Commerce have been asked to help with the running costs of the toilets as they are mostly used by tourists. Proposal not decided on.

JM Propose that Chamber donation for Xmas lights is reduced by £1500 to cover half the cost of the necessary parts. Seconded FH, 1 abstain 8 agreed.

FH propose order the parts, JP seconded, 1 abstain 8 agreed.

FH Proposed changing the opening hours 9.30am – 4pm to see if that cuts down on the vandalism. Increase 50p. seconded TO and unanimously agreed.

SM has declared he will no longer have anything to do with the toilets.  
GW Proposed employ someone a couple of hours a week. Buy a hose as previously agreed.  
JM Suggested that Council investigates macerators.

CB to arrange a plumber to fit a tap in the store room and a 40m hose. Also to put public message out explaining the situation.

- a) Follow up with CC Gareth Ratcliffe – GR waiting to here.
- IV) Pavilion
  - a) Heater back office - done
  - b) Heaters in Pavilion – done
  - c) Solar panels – to be discussed at prems.
  - d) PAT Testing – everything has been checked apart from the lead for the laptop.  
CB to arrange.

#### 17. Report of the Clerk / RFO

- a) Major Correspondence
  - i) Dark Skies Presentation – thank you but not at this time.
  - ii) Footpath by St Mary’s Church – forward email to GR
  - iii) Police re vandalism – all reports of vandalism and anti social behaviour to be sent in. Add the report details to our website.
  - iv) BWBP Position Paper 3 – nothing from us.
  - v) Road Closures – 3 sets of lights all on green at the same time. Ask for another meeting and ask for a general compensation. Everyone has been disrupted.
  - vi) Unveiling of benches of commemoration – Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>. All Cllrs please attend.
  - vii) Netball / Basketball Hoop – 3<sup>rd</sup> tennis court may be used. Youth Club to investigate possibilities. If an organisation wants to install an item they can write and ask HTC.
  - viii) Radnor House Planning – No objections.
- b) Bank Reconciliations – No questions.

#### 18. Reports of HTC Representatives:

- a) Gwynne’s Almshouses - none
- b) Dial a Ride - none
- c) Dyfed Powys Police - AP & SM attended a meeting. Concerns were raised that information is not being passed back. Did ask them for a general newsletter, report and a regular but varied police presence. They have requested that any concerns are reported. If you do line then get a crime reference number immediately.
- d) One Voice Wales – meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> April.
- e) Cheesemarket - none
- f) Hay2Timbuktu - remove
- g) BBNP - none
- h) Chamber of Commerce – have launched a Hay Fringe website.
- i) Hay Summer Show – Meeting this Thursday. Elvis nice went well.
- j) Hay Markets - none
- k) Hay Primary School - none

19. Date and time of next meeting:  
12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 after Annual Meeting.

20. IN CAMERA – As this was added after the agenda was published & therefore for information only.

AOB

Powys have a grant of £340,000 proposed details are not out yet. Whereby each County Cllr may have an allowance of £5k in order to help tackle poverty.

Meeting Closed 8.45pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Howard'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.