

Hay Town Council

Hay Town Council
Council Offices
Recreation Facilities
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Draft Minutes for the meeting of Hay Town Council on Monday 11th May 2026 at 6.30pm in the Council office, Brecon Road, Hay on Wye, HR3 5DY.

Cllr Alan Powell addressed the Council and explained that he would be resigning after tonight's meeting. The Council would like to thank Alan for everything he has done. Simon Morris would like to, on behalf of all of the Community of Hay we thank you Alan for your service.

1. Apologies for absence.

Present: Cllr F Howard, (Chair) Cllr J Morgan, Cllr G Williams, Cllr A Bielski, Cllr W Bielska, Cllr A Powell, Cllr K Elleson, Cllr G Ratcliffe

Also present: Clerk C Bunton and 3 members of the public.

Apologies for absence: None.

2. Declarations of Interest & Code of Conduct.

None

3. Questions from Members of the Public

Question asked regarding current local councillor positions. There are two currently registered with Electoral Services, deadline date for the second is today, 11th May 2026. As yet we have not heard from Electoral Services. Cllr Burton Paul resigned over the weekend and Cllr Alan Powell at the end of this meeting. GR proposed that we notify electoral services of the two most recent resignations at the end of the week. Seconded KE and unanimously agreed.

4. Minutes of the meeting dated 13th April 2026.

RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed that the minutes previously circulated of the Town Council meeting held on the 13th April 2026 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

5. Report from County Cllr.

No further update at the moment as everyone has been focused on National Elections.

2 local businesses have been asking if there is any further development regarding bins.

6. 50 years Independence of Hay

Proposed last meeting that Lyndy Cooke and Richie Turner to co-ordinate it was noted that HTC have precepted £5k and they will apply for grants for match funding following the reading of the Town of Culture EOI. It was commented how impressive and professional the EOI is. WB proposed to proceed, seconded AP, Unanimously agreed.

7. Place Plan.

Survey has been launched link is within the annual report, FH to talk to Emily Daw to attend the Market to do a survey after Festival.

8. Surveys.

Brecon Road Play & Tennis Courts: Metal “rocket” still dangerous. JM to get quotes to remove. Grass needs cutting Cllr Morgan has filed the large crack but still needs a lot of work. Milk bar is being vandalized. Wholy Cow are fitting CCTV. Regularly having to collect litter from the site. JM to get quotes to remove

Recreation Field & Car Park: Gas meter cover is still broken. Concrete from drain cover replacement still there. Hedge behind pavilion has been cut but weeds are starting to grow at the base of the wall

Old Railway Line & Bailey Walk: No deterioration in the Victorian railings. Invasive species starting to be prominent this Spring, 10-5-26 Hay Community Woodland Group removed an area of red currant and raspberries that have escaped from a garden. Minor littering.

The Gliss: Fishing Platform has been cleared. Gate still up to stop people going through to dangerous trees, but people had created a path round fencing to get through however this has now been filled.

Warren Close & The Meadows: Some domestic waste against fence outside back of a property.

Gipsy Castle Playground: Red MiniWeHopper is still squeaking.

Black Lion Green: There is part of a wall that is falling down to the right as you enter the green space. 2 long branches that look like they’ve fallen off the tree so could have potential caused harm.

9. Parish Hall.

Diocese want to hand over to an organisation to take on. They currently don’t know the status of roof repairs.

CB to arrange a meeting on site to understand all the options.

10. Play Area Vandalism.

AP has placed sign on gate, no ball games, no bikes.

11. Friends of Hay Town Council.

It has been suggested that there are residents that are interested in helping the Council at events. 2 people have said they are interested. FH CB to arrange a fb post.

12. Haygarth Surgeries

Concerns raised from 2 members of the community have been given incorrect information regarding clarification on important but not 999 calls. Ambulance wait times are greater and clarity is needed around thresholds and protocols for 999 calls. Haygarth and Health Board to be written to.

13. In Post Lockers

GW is to investigate.

14. BML Bench

FH has spoken to a lady who would like to put a bench to commemorate Black Mountain Lions Club. Suggestion at bus stop in Hereford direction. Investigated other places

When Black Mountain Lions closed they requested that the presidents board place somewhere FH proposed placing the board in Pavilion. seconded WB, unanimously agreed.

15. Gipsy Castle

FH was the original mayor when the MEB substation was removed and Hay Town Council at that time turned it into a play area. According to Land Registry it is owned by Powys CC and we have found a licence from Powys to HTC. CB to investigate a CAT

GW proposed applying for CAT for everything that is leased. GR seconded, unanimously agreed.

16. Cllr Projects:

- a) Play Area Team. – AB & WB kindly collected £400 from final accounts of Black Mountain Lions Club. General engagement seems quite keen about a bike park. There are a number of site options. Play team to consider options.
Consultation for Brecon Road park in the schools to be arranged after Festival.
- b) Town Enhancements. – bench is likely to be finished fairly soon. Payment has been sent to Powys for paying. Wording needs to be agreed. Richard Booth “Independent thinking begins with independent bookshops.” “lose yourself in books find yourself in Hay.” FH proposed that the sign is in English, AP seconded, unanimously agreed.
Banners designs – GR to follow up. Banners can be changed. There may be groups putting on events that are happy to have a banner.
- c) Remembrance – Band are confirmed, they have asked if they can park here. Pavilion to be open from 1.30pm onwards, give them a donation, they have a trip to Colorado in September, can we donate before hand. They are also playing sunset for laying of the wreaths. RBL normally providing
AB proposes that we pay earlier. £650 GW seconded, unanimously agreed.
Town Crier – details all give to tailoress, has agreed to do it, she will coat under coat, trousers, hat needs to be quality. AB continuing to find additional items eg hat, socks.
Lampost poppies are in the office, to hand over in Sept and promote.

17. Subcommittee Reports / Minutes:

- a) Finance.
Annual return has been done, we ended last year pretty much on par with the year before.
According to Standing orders monies for sub coms can not be carried forward.
- b) Estates.
 - i) Fishing Platform – has been completed and cleared. Came in under budget at £350
 - ii) Tennis Courts – JM attempted to fill the cracks in the tennis courts, with liquid tar, which did not work. Going to try cold pour next.
 - iii) Pot holes – on going.
 - iv) Updates on Works Completed – dog bin fitted, Gipsy castle playground rails and gate latch, and gate spring on to Rec Grounds. Woodland group met and have started removing invasive species.
- c) Premises.
Cash collection procedure completed, to be reviewed at next Prems meeting. To be formally approved at next full Council meeting. This is cash collection purely from toilets.
Has been a Cllr rota of collectors over last 4 weeks. KE will be away during festival and will produce a rota for cash collection during that time.

Purchased a cash counter and scales.

Hose draining rods and keys have been collected as agreed at last council meeting.

KE is experimenting with scented spray in ladies and DDA at clock tower.

Safe has been purchased.

All old hand sanitisers have been removed. GR has painted over some that have been removed.

Cleaner contract not quite finished, but will be asap.

I) Clock Tower Toilets

Both operation, still have issues with water spill on DDA. By lunchtime there is very often water on the floor. Concerns that the water is squirting out. Could do with Danfo inspecting. Needs a work party to deep clean them, plan after the festival.

II) Oxford Road Toilets

No news on grant application other than they are still processing.

Out of 6 ladies cubicles only 5 are operational, 1 not due to toilet roll holder, which has been delivered today.

There hasn't been any problems so far with the paddle gates.

Electrical inspection with unsatisfactory rating, dependant on access to ATM. Booked

III) Pavilion.

Fire inspection about 3 weeks ago, 3 x bulbs need replacement, £165 + VAT KE proposed the work be undertaken. WB seconded, unanimously agreed.

Key safe for meter board to be completed.

Youth club would like to purchase some tables with a stand, needs to be a bit tidier in there. Have a meeting in there. Kitchen needs to be had a look at.

Gas meter cover at the back to be replaced.

d) Light Up Hay

Have not had a meeting as we have not received a tender quote. Clive Meredith wants to look at lights first and the buildings. Other couple intending to quote. Concerns raised about safety. Do we look at doing something different.

18. Report of the Clerk / RFO

a) Website

Policies are legally meant to be accessible on the website. Clerk request that one of the redundant pages be reused to have policies on. Proposed GR, seconded by FH unanimously agreed.

b) Major Correspondence

i) RoSPA – clerk to book RoSPA inspections through Powys.

ii) Hole between Gipsy Castle Playground & Allotments has been repaired by the allotment society.

iii) Complaint re Grass Cutting – grass is being left at either edge between tennis courts and properties. This was not what was agreed. Clerk to arrange a meeting with football.

iv) Botany invite previously shared with all Cllrs.

v) Pride in Place Grant – They are still working through the applications.

vi) Invitation to Launch of Charter for the River Wye Sunday GR is going.

vii) Filming in Hay - Hallmark Christmas Movie unanimously happy for this to go ahead.

c) RFO:

i) The Schedule of Monthly Accounts was presented for consideration. It was **RESOLVED** that the Schedule of Monthly Accounts be approved. Proposed AB, seconded WB unanimously agreed.

ii) Bank Reconciliation Statement

The Bank Reconciliation Statement was presented. It was **RESOLVED** that the Bank Reconciliation Statement be approved. Proposed FH, seconded AP unanimously agreed.

19. Reports of HTC Representatives:

- a) Gwynne's Almshouses
- b) Dial a Ride
- c) Dyfed Powys Police – clerk to chase the police
- d) One Voice Wales
- e) Cheesemarket
- f) BBNP
- g) Chamber of Commerce
- h) Hay Summer Show – WB requested that bottles to be sent in to the office.
- i) Hay Primary School – going in after festival, waiting to confirm.
- j) Warren Close Allotments - Thank you to everyone that attended the Allotments opening.
- k) HADSCAL
- l) **HADSCAL Hay Community Campus development, 1st quarterly report to Hay Town Council dated 10th May 2026**

The Hay Community Campus project has continued to make positive progress, with key milestones achieved across surveys and site design. Key stakeholder engagement (Hay Dial-a-Ride & Youth Club), as well as other local groups/organisations which will be disclosed when discussions have been completed. Overall delivery remains aligned with our vision of creating a modern, accessible, and sustainable community facility that will support sports, education, wellbeing, recreation, and local services for the community of Hay and District.

Key Progress Highlights, Programme and Delivery

Site development and design have progressed in accordance with the agreed programme, enabling infrastructure surveys to be advanced. Completed surveys to date, trees, ecology, drainage i.e., groundwater and infiltration testing, landscape impact assessment plus a traffic survey detailing the current vehicle movements on Forest Road. The only issue highlighted is that we may require a bat survey as the ecologist felt that, while we have no roosts, we may have commuting bats.

Coordination between consultants, and project stakeholders has remained effective, supporting steady delivery across multiple workstreams.

Engagement with local stakeholders and community has continued throughout the period, ensuring transparency and alignment with community expectations. The first event, involving our engagement consultants, was at the highly successful Easter Egg Hunt organised by HTC.

Sustainability objectives remain embedded within the project approach, including renewable energy, accessibility standards, and long-term operational resilience.

The project remains on track against the current planning delivery schedule, with no major programme delays anticipated at this time. Procurement for remaining surveys is progressing, and risk management measures are monitored through regular project governance meetings involving the trustee project team and all consultants

Financial Position

Expenditure remains in line with approved budgets and forecasts. Ongoing cost monitoring is being undertaken with all surveys maintaining their original quoted figures. Financial viability without compromising our sustainability ethos is at the heart of the project. The £200k drawdown funding methodology is working within the parameters set by PCC, an interest free loan of £50K from a local charity has alleviated any cashflow issues this may have caused.

Next Steps

Progression of remaining planning phases
Continued stakeholder and community engagement
Operational planning and readiness activities

Finalisation of design

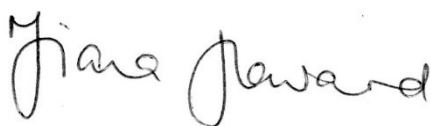
Overall Position

The Hay Community Campus project continues to demonstrate strong momentum and delivery. The project team remains focused on good governance and achieving a high-quality outcome that delivers long-term sustainability as well as social, educational, sporting and community values while maintaining programme discipline and financial oversight. We would be pleased to provide a presentation to the council to show the latest plans and gain feedback.

20. Date and time of next meeting:

15th June 2026

Meeting closed 20.38pm

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