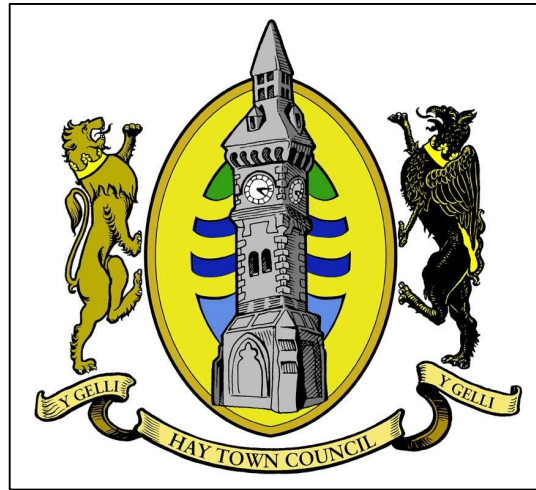


Hay Town Council

Hay Town Council
Council Offices
Recreation Facilities
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Minutes for the meeting of Hay Town Council on Monday 1st December 2025 at 6.00pm in the Council office, Brecon Road, Hay on Wye, HR3 5DY.

Please note, under the new Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Councils are required to provide access to remote meetings for members of the public and the press. If you would like to access the meeting remotely, please see details at the bottom of the agenda on how to join via the Teams platform

1. Apologies for absence.

Present: Cllr F Howard, Cllr S Morris, Cllr A Powell, Cllr G Williams, Cllr A Bielski, Cllr W Bielska, Cllr B Paul, Cllr T Owen.

Also present: Clerk C Bunton, Cllr G Ratcliffe.

Apologies for absence: Cllr J Morgan,

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

2. Declarations of Interest & Code of Conduct.

KE item 13.

FH item 13.

3. Questions from Members of the Public.

None

4. Minutes of the meeting dated 3rd November and 25th November.

Minutes 3rd November agreed as a true and accurate record

Minutes 25th November agreed as a true and accurate record however noted the spelling Suds.

5. 50 years Independence of Hay.

Postponed to next meeting.

6. Social Media and Engagement plan.

Overview about engagement, there has to be rules of engagement. BP has been reviewing other Council's Policies. Document to be shared with all Cllrs tomorrow.

7. Safety.

Safety encompasses everything, concerns raised about state of the tarmac at Memorial Square, it was raised with Powys pre Covid, concerns also raised about public wandering past honest bookshop, there was risk assessment, risks were minimized and people asked not to go that way, barriers in place. Concerns also raised about drivers speed driving through the town. BP & GR to meet with police. Operation Snap – police give a number of concerned residents to work in teams of 3. This has been tried before in Hay and received threats of violence. Concerns raised on the pedestrian crossing / turn at the Blue Boar. There is a near miss nearly every day.

8. Town Plan.

Guide from BBNP to be shared. Research from January 2025 can still be used.

9. Mobile Dentist.

Request for the mobile dentist to come from 15th December. Noted that water and electricity have increased and will need to ensure remuneration covers the costs incurred from it.

10. Cllr Remuneration.

It was explained to Cllrs that there are 2 different remuneration categories, one for general expenses and one for printing. Cllrs to notify Clerk if they do not want the payment. It will be paid pro rata for new Cllrs.

11. Town Crier. FH propose in CAMERA, seconded SM. Unanimously agreed.

The confidential minute is held separately.

CAMERA session closed.

12. Report from County Cllr.

Car parking issues – Powys have offered discussion regarding making memorial square a pedestrian area. Concerns raised for people being able to get prescriptions easily. It was noted that offer should come to the Town Council directly and not via the County Cllr. Concerns raised about visitors to the town parking on top of junctions and making visibility low.

GR has asked for clarification of the calling process with regard to the planning process / development at Gipsy Castle estate.

Backfold - GR has been working hard on identifying ownership of the footpath.

13. Gipsy Castle Development.

Concerns were raised eg they had no evidence of local flooding, water to be pumped up hill. 84 houses, expected to be adopted by Powys Council and not a private company, sewerage will be connected to main sewerage works next to the Warren.

Water does come across to the farmers drainage and should go to the river, however it doesn't as it's blocked and comes back. KE has been in touch with Simon Crowther Powys, who is supposed to mediate between local land owners.

Did request a supermarket, would have to be allocated as A1 area, units are currently classified as B2.

Concerns to be send,

Sewage flooding, vehicles, car parking, services, entrance and egress into the estate. Speeding.

14. Christmas Meal.

9th December. Cllrs maybe a buffet, ask at Old Black Lion. TO to ask. Cllrs will be paying for their own meals.

15. Possible Projects for 2026

- a. Black Lion Green – seated area. – Health and Safety concerns raised on the trees. To be considered for next precept.
- b. New carving for 50 years of Independence. – Eg Green man with Richard’s face on it or carving of open book, also previously suggested throne. Discussed put a brief together and turn into residents engaged.
- c. Asset transfer for Recreation Facilities. – FH & CB to sort and submit.
- d. Consultation Brecon Road Play Area. – Estates sub committee to take over – agreed.
- e. Consultation Pavilion. – Prems sub committee to take on
- f. Easter Event. – HSS to run organizing of it.
- g. Remembrance 2026. Thank you Alex for all the hard work.
- h. Fund for events £500 eg Fringe

16. Cllr Projects

- a) Play Area Team – Saturday 13th December. SM & GW to remove fencing. GW to open. 1.30pm CB to sort hot choc, ask co-op for mince pies. Big sponsors to be invited and put a note into schools and poster on fb. Gazebo, table. BP TO to marshall.
- b) Allotments – Still waiting to hear from Steve Butcher.
- c) Town Enhancements – GR has the form that needs to be completed for the lampposts.

17. Subcommittee Reports / Minutes

- a) Finance
 - i) Precept – to be clarified January meeting.
- b) Estates
 - I) Estates survey – areas re-allocated, survey to be resent. Fence to be treated, see what its like when its dry.
 - II) Watkins Trough – booked.
 - III) RoSPA
 1. 4 base swing, has come to the end of its working life. Approx. £5k to repair with new matting. Recommendation to investigate new 4 bay swing in next precept. SM proposed, BP seconded to investigate cheaper options. Unanimously Agreed.
 2. Recommendation: Get a couple of A4 signs saying under refurbishment for next year. BP Proposed WB seconded 1 abstain consensus agreed.
 3. Recommendation: Temporary repair Dig out and get rubber matting urgently with top soil for broken mats
SM proposed, BP seconded, unanimously agreed.
 - IV) Duty of Care Tree Survey – submitted and approved.
 - V) Environment Act 2016 – Section 6 Reporting & duties. JM has been working on the section 6 report, it was noted that this does not just include the environment, but also things like cleaning products, toilet paper made from recyclable materials, printing paper. Council need to look at how this effects the Council across the board.
 - VI) Recommendation: All sub coms are responsible for their own budget and can re-allocate funds as needed if surplus. Capped at £500. To be reviewed at 6 months starting for new financial year. TO proposed, AB seconded, 1 abstention and consensus agreement.
- c) Premises
 - I) Clock Tower Toilets
All pretty good at the moment, no issues
 - II) Oxford Road Toilets

Paddle gates failed on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, numerous times.

Discussed various ideas regarding resetting the paddle gates vs leaving them open. It was noted that proceeds from the takings of the toilets do not cover the full cost of the running of the toilets. It was suggested that could asked Chamber members to help with restarts. A Reset video was shared to all Cllrs.

- III) Assest transfer for toilets to be able to get grants. CB to organize.
 - a) Development one quote so far received, CB chasing other possible businesses.
- IV) Pavilion
 - Look for consultation in next financial year, previously have asked as a Council what Cllrs would like, awaiting responses.

18. Report of the Clerk / RFO

- a) Major Correspondence
 - i) BT Kiosk phone – BT are carrying out consultation to see if they can remove the kiosk. As it is not an old red phonebox but a modern kiosk it can only be used for Defibrillator storage. There is already a Defib at the clock tower.
 - ii) Access for Cash – Again understandable concerns have been raised about the lack of access to cash. NoteMachine have been contacted recently and it was emphasized that if they wish for the contract to renew in May 2027 something would need to be done. It was noted that Hay Town Council do not own any land where an additional ATM could be placed.
 - iii) Bus Stops – Both bus stops now have updated timetables. HTC thanks Francoise for all her work on this project.

19. Reports of HTC Representatives:

- a) Gwynne's Almshouses - None
- b) Dial a Ride - None
- c) Dyfed Powys Police - None
- d) One Voice Wales – None
- e) Cheesemarket - None
- f) BBNP - None
- g) Chamber of Commerce – Meeting Wed TO resigning as Chair and Director.
- h) Hay Summer Show – Event 21st Dec Santa Run Sunday 7th Quiz Night @ Globe 7.30pm
- i) Hay Primary School – None.

20. Date and time of next meeting:
5th January 2026

Meeting closed at 8.41pm

