

Hay Town Council

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

01497 808019
townclerk@haytowncouncil.gov.uk
www.haytowncouncil.gov.uk



Draft Minutes for the meeting of Hay Town Council on Monday 3rd March 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.

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

Apologies: Cllr A Powell.

Cllr Owen was welcomed to the Council. It was confirmed that Cllr Owen's declaration had been signed, code of conduct training and new Cllr induction training booked and The Good Councillor Guide to be shared.

2. Declarations of Interest & Code of Conduct

FH Electrical works

RG Prejudicial to Estates 8d & Zurich.

SM Access for cash

3. Questions from Members of the Public

Are we going to do anything to the railings behind the cattle market.

We can not comment on anything as it is currently with the insurance company and we need to hear back from them.

Is there any timeline?

We are waiting to hear back from the Insurance company.

It was noted that the land is owned by BBNP the other side of the railings.

4. Minutes of the meeting dated 3rd February

Signed as a true and accurate record.

5. Bus Shelter & timetables

The bench has been repaired, will look to see about painting in the better weather. After speaking with Traws Cymru they have stated that the timetables are Powys' responsibility. GR has had confirmation that the boards will be replaced. GR to investigate.

6. Welsh Water Roadworks
Residents were notified, unfortunately letters were not legible. Meeting went well, the roadworks are now on Bridge Street, timescales are being kept to. Condition of road have been discussed. A number of businesses that are chamber members have put in successful claims and can claim again if they have been affected again. We did ask for a donation towards play equipment.
7. Cattle Market Parking
No further updates on the Xmas Market parking. Concerns raised about the height restrictions. There are also a number of vehicles have been there for a number of weeks, including one with flat tyres. At the moment it is a civil matter as its not an official car park.
8. Meeting with Cusop Parish Council reps
FH & SM met with representatives. It was a very positive meeting. They would like more meetings to facilitate joint projects. They would like a social meet and greet of all Cllrs. CB to arrange.
9. Cllr Projects
 - a) Play Area Teams – going to go into schools to push it. Need to discuss timescales, ideal scenario would be to have the playground complete by the summer, realistically it may be the start of next year.
 - b) Land at Warren Close – SM met with Powys rep who is quite in favour of allotments but they will not be able to help. BBNP have confirmed that it is under permitted development. Grants may be available from Welsh Government.
 - c) Town Enhancements
Not expecting to hear about the grant application until April. GR has written a project plan. The grant does not allow for VAT.

FH Left the room

 - i) Wholy Cow Milk Bar
CB to contact and see if they can mitigate the cost of the electric installation.
FH rejoined the meeting.
 - d) Future Remembrance Events
AB had a meeting with GR and DP for VE day. Planning an event, invites will be circulated the same as Remembrance. Shops encouraged to do windows. Readings from VE day by Scouts and Cadets. Cusop will also be invited. Chamber offering to fund best dressed window prize.
 - e) Easter Event
TO is happy to take on planning. Possible date to be confirmed. More of a quiz style for the older young people.
10. Subcommittee Reports / Minutes
 - a) Finance
 - i) Update on Estimated Reserves
Only a month away from year end, the accounts are looking quite healthy.
Date of next meeting - TBC
 - b) Estates
 - i) Estates survey - BBNP have been to the footpath the other side of the cattle market and have cut back the hedging and over hanging trees.

- II) Trees by pumping station – continuing to deteriorate, nothing has been done. There are otters in the area, otter survey is needed.
- III) Railway footpath – water issue with the spring. Has not been done yet. As a short term measure where the water is pooling is less than an inch deep, could build up the ground and channel down the one side of the footpath. Use pea gravel or clean stone gravel.
- IV) Warren Steps – still got one hand rail up, no further movement so far.
- V) Rec facilities sign – dog signs and large Welsh language signs have been delivered.
- VI) Tree Poppers – Have been received and work very well. Invoice has been received.
- VII) Pedestrian Gateway – GW to investigate grass mats.
- VIII) Concerns raised to Estates
 - a) Fencing at The Gliss – some rotten poles and supports. 5 at far end by fishing platform need replacing. JM to go through and mark up all ones that need replacing. Handyman to be asked if he can do.
 - b) Carlsgate fly tipping onto the former railway embankment – CB to write to Wales and West with concerns and also consider the state of front gardens.
 - c) Bench on Login Brook road bridge – GR believes that the bench belongs to Powys

CC, it has been reported.

- d) Recommendation to install signs on Fence back of cattle market. – Discussed In Camera at the end of the session.

Discussed 2 planters need to be moved by 1st April. Not voted on.

c) Premises

- I) Clock Tower Toilets
- II) Oxford Road Toilets – we have received a number of comments that people can not find the toilets. The motors have stopped working in the paddlegates. Quote has been received to install new motors.
It was suggested that we could request volunteers are provided by the festival to man the toilets during the festival period or request a donation to open them free. CB to find out how many people use the toilets during the festival period. TO has been asking for shop owners to consider making a donation towards the running costs of toilets.
Another option is to turn the store cupboard into a third toilet. To be considered.
 - a) Signage
Proposed 3 signs to give direction to the toilets.
Proposed: GW Seconded JP and unanimously agreed.
 - b) Follow up with CC Gareth Ratcliffe – There has been no response from Welsh Government or Powys CC yet.
- III) Pavilion
 - a) Heater back office & Heaters in Pavilion
2 Quotes received. Selected cheaper quote.
Proposed AB, Seconded JP Unanimously agreed.
 - b) Solar panels – add to next agenda.
 - c) PAT Testing – Booked 12th March.

11. Report of the Clerk / RFO

- a) Major Correspondence
 - i) One Voice Wales Membership is due for renewal.

GW proposed to renew PJ seconded and unanimously agreed.

- ii) 20 mph review
Feedback comments to be logged by the end of the month are: Is never monitored in Hay. Useful past in which case it is meaningless.
 - iii) Clerk's personal phone number being shared with the public
Discussed options around getting an office mobile. It was noted that there is a land line with answerphone. Clerks personal number not to be shared.
 - iv) Access for cash
There are 10 shops that offer cash back who are Chamber members. Chamber kindly offered to provide a list of the businesses. TO to provide list. CB Invite Card Zone to a meeting
 - v) Charity parking during festival
A couple of local organizations have been intouch requesting a slot for this years charity parking. Clerk to contact others and compile.
 - vi) VE Bench
Being placed in the Craft Centre, they have asked if they can have power from the store room to run a PA system. August 3rd. 2nd bench on the pavement by the entrance to the car park over looking the mountain. All Council have been invited. AB to wear the chain.
 - vii) Meeting with Hay St Mary's football club – SM, JM, GW, to attend 6pm on a Friday. Clerk to organise.
 - viii) Youth club extra day – for music, purchased equipment, speakers, PA & amp system, extra evening once a month. Friday, It was unanimously agreed the youth club could have an extra slot using the Pavilion.
 - ix) Tennis Courts
Complaint had been received that Bowls were throwing cuttings onto the Tennis Courts. FH spoke to Bowls Club representative who assured that it had been cut off and then cleaned up.
- b) Bank Reconciliations
- i) Card reader – Discussed the possibility of buying a card reader. It was agreed that any transactions completed using the card reader would have to include the transaction fees.
WB Proposed that a card reader is bought, AB seconded and unanimously agreed.

12. Reports of HTC Representatives:

- a) Gwynne's Almshouses – none. Would be good to have a public record to understand how they work.
- b) Dial a Ride – JP & GR attended the event for the new bus. Hay Happy Hopper. Good event well attended.
- c) Dyfed Powys Police – Fire station have not been notified that the police may share the facilities. Concerns raised about confidentiality. Police are never in Hay. Not a criticism to on the ground police force, the issue is the hierarchy.
- d) One Voice Wales – Cost of living webinar coming up.
- e) Cheesemarket – Turned down the request for ATM.
- f) BBNP – none.

- g) Chamber of Commerce – Saved some money on Xmas, Bob has expressed a strong interest that he does not want to do it again. Website is being changed to put the minutes online.
- h) Hay Summer Show – Very successful bingo. Elvis is coming up later this month.
- i) Hay Markets – None.
- j) Hay Primary School – None.

13. Date and time of next meeting:

7th April 2025

14. In Camera: Zurich

AOB – Report from CC Gareth Ratcliffe

Fire station would like us to visit – follow up date see if we could visit fire boys. Lots of concerns over Fire stations.

Police Station has been raised with Powys Commission.

Powys CC have been in Hay today and done cemetery checks, 40 stones in Hay have been marked unsafe. Thank you to Gareth for weeding around the Council Offices and Pavilion.

Meeting closed 8.35pm

