

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



Minutes for the meeting of Hay Town Council on Monday 4th September 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 Zoom platform

1. Apologies for absence

Present: Cllr F Howard, Cllr R Golesworthy, Cllr S Morris, Cllr J Morgan, Cllr P Jenkins, Cllr G Williams, Cllr J Prothero, Cllr Alan Powell.

Also present: Clerk C Bunton. Cllr G Ratcliffe.

Apologies for absence: Cllr J Hall, Cllr A Bielski, Cllr W Bielska.

2. Carer Friendly Hay Presentation from Credu

Council were joined by Jenny O'Hara Jakeway and Liz Meyers.

There are at least 35,000 carers in Powys, which equates to 1 in 4 people. At least 1 in 12 children become young carers. Unpaid carers do 96% of all caring, equivalent of £8.1 billion in Wales each year. 50% of carers experience worse health, over 80% stress and 55% depression. 29% are in poverty. Young carers can fall behind in school, on average have 9 grades lower at GCSE.

Credu listens and supports carers of all ages, small grants, respite, courses.

Liz Meyers shared her story.

Hay Town Council are keen to support and collaborate with Credu. CB to contact and arrange specifics.

3. Declarations of Interest & Code of Conduct

AP – The Warren, Hay Woodland Group

FH – HADSCAL, Cheesemarket, Castle Trust, The Warren & proposed cycleway, Christmas lights testing, North Wier Trust, Gwynne's Almshouses, Tourist Information, Clifford Primary School.

RG – The Warren.

JP – Hay Woodland Group, Member of St Mary's Church.

SM – 1st Hay on Wye Scout Group, Radnor Explorers, Hay Summer Show, Country Supplies & Post Office.

JM – HADSCAL, Hay Woodland Group, Hay Warren Anglers, Repair Café.

JH – Hay Pride.

PJ – Hay Primary School, North Wier Trust.

AB – Repair Café.

WB – Chemist.

GW – Hay & Brecon Farmers, Payroll.

4. Questions from Members of the Public

None.

5. Minutes of the meeting dated 3rd July 2023

Agreed as a true and accurate record and signed.

6. Publishing of Minutes from Sub Committee Meetings

Legal requirement is to publish full council minutes.

SM proposed not to publish sub committee minutes, AP seconded. 3 votes to agree, 3 abstentions.

7. Phone box on Broad Street

Is being vandalised regularly, it is an eye sore that does not work. Are unable to adopt 1970's phone boxes. HTC tried previously to adopt and turn into Defib or library and both turned down.

RG proposed to write to BT and ask for it to be removed, SM seconded. Unanimously agreed. GR to write to Powys and request.

8. Hay Summer Show donation

SM, GR and CB left the room. Cllr PJ took the minutes.

Open meeting on 14th September at Conservative Club 7pm to try and get more volunteers. It was noted that more fundraising is needed for the Summer Show.

FH proposed that HSS has a donation in line with Christmas lights as it is a town event JP proposed £3000 for summer 2024. Seconded RG. Unanimously agreed.

RG proposed that that some certainty of finance is available moving forward, so that finance is agreed for the life of this council £2000 for summer 2025. JM seconded. Unanimously agreed.

SM, GR and CB entered the room.

9. Healthmatic

Have been in touch regarding the outstanding invoice. They have been replied to regarding the outstanding repairs that they did not complete.

To be placed on the next agenda.

Healthmatic are currently the level 1 operator for the Nayax, Nayax don't deal with end users, to become a level 1 operator we would need 25 units. Danfo are happy to become level 1 operator.

Nayax need written permission from Healthmatic that they are no longer our level 1, however Healthmatic are currently not replying to that email.

CB & SM to write to Healthmatic stating they have a duty of care. Other ways of taking card payments to be investigated.

10. Possible sale part of Railway line bank

Asked if resident could buy part of the Railway bank that backs onto their property, near the bridge. There has been a precedent set with Warren Close that we will not sell any land.

Whole council to have a site meeting Wednesday 20th September 6pm, meet at the bridge.

11. Accessibility Walk Around

JM, JP, GR and John Evans attended from Hay with the two representatives from Accessibility Powys looking at disabled access on 8th July.

There were a number of issues highlighted, the ladies said they would send a list of priorities.

Some of the issues in no particular order :-

1. Closed disabled toilet, Oxford Road. – *Has been re-opened since then and vandalised. New door is needed. RG to source a new door.*
2. Paddle gate toilet needs a crutches sticker on the ladies' sign to show there is an accessible toilet. – *To be added during refurb.*
3. Disabled toilet, clock tower, door opens outward making it difficult for someone in a wheelchair to gain access.
4. Various other toilet related issues, radar keys needed, lack of grab rails inside & outside, alarm pull cord where is it monitored? *Alarm pull cord goes to a light outside and an audible signal which is monitored by Goleworthy's staff. Radar keys have been discussed within last 6 months.*
5. No signs to disabled toilets. *Choice of language to be all access.*
6. Around the town, various trip hazards, edges of some steps & pavements need painting/repainting with white or yellow edging. *This is Powys responsibility.*
7. Drop kerb near clock tower, should be one on the opposite pavement.
8. Lack of disabled parking spaces at clock tower.

Powys portfolio holder to be invited for a walk around to discuss issues and have a look at the shop. Complimentary of Town Council for what they have achieved.

12. High Town One Way Access

Powys CC have confirmed that there would be a price of £4300 to keep High Town as a one way system. CB to contact Powys and ask for a meeting. It is felt that the one way system is much safer as it is.

13. Oxford Road Car Park

Due to have a meeting at the end of September. 4G was installed in May, however this has not improved the situation. Signage is very confusing and sometimes evening when language selection English is selected it continues in Welsh. Numerous complaints have been received. App purchasing will be discussed. Hay Town Council would be happy to adopt the car park and potentially share the profit with Powys CC.

14. Powys Local Toilet Strategy

Concerns were raised over Powys expectations in the Local Toilet Strategy and what that means for Hay Town Council although it was noted that this is not a requirement at present. Would need to potentially include changing places, facilities for colostomy bags. RG proposed the bins are changed to be able to take colostomy bags.

Add to next meeting Sanitary Waste as an agenda item. £663 a year is spent on bin collections per year. Sharps Collection £112 per year.

15. Sub Committee Terms of Reference

Recommendation: Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk to produce.
Proposed JP, seconded AP, unanimously agreed.

16. Subcommittee Reports / Minutes

a) Finance

I) Reserves Policy

Recommendation: To adopt theoretical Reserves Policy with figures to be agreed.

Proposed JP, seconded JM, unanimously agreed.

II) Date of next meeting to be confirmed.

b) Estates

I) Cemetery

Has been completed, awaiting a response from Nia Hughes, Powys CC to finalised. Container to be ordered as previously agreed.

Recommendation: Grass is cut and composted on Eastern site in the corner. GW to see if he can sort some sheep to go onto the area. AP and JM have spoken to some but nothing available. If GW can not find any sheep by 12th September it was agreed to cut the grass.

Proposed RG Seconded PJ 6 agreed, 2 abstained.

II) Sports clubs parking area

Recommendation: Fence including vehicle and pedestrian gate to be installed as a starting point from the end of the Bowls Club fence to the cemetery wall.

3 quotes to be obtained from, with a view to work being completed in the next financial year. Sports Clubs to be asked to contribute.

Fly tipping is becoming an increasing problem in the area.

Sports clubs were written to in July warning them that the area would be cleared of grass cuttings and organisations would need to find a place for it within their curtilage.

It was noted that sports clubs were historically charged £1500 rent which was stopped at Covid. Council to review this.

III) Tennis Courts

Shrubs around the Tennis Courts need maintenance work on them. Quote has been received.

RG Proposed, FH seconded 6 agreed, 2 abstained.

IV) Ash Die Back Trial

Tree selected is not within HTC responsibility. GR to arrange a meeting on site with Powys CC to discuss.

V) Date and time of next meeting – to be confirmed.

c) Premises

I) Toilets

a) Door

RG to sort a new door.

b) Entry Charge

Recommendation: to increase entry charge to 50p

Due to the amount of vandalism received, circa 90% of users are tourists.

Currently the precept is subsidising the toilets to the value of circa £14,000. This is equivalent to £14 per household council tax to break even at the current service level. The toilets need to cover their own costs.

Concerns were raised that Council have exhausted all other options before raising the costs. GR will write to Powys CC to ask them to help.
CB to write to Narbeth Town Council asking what the response has been to their price increase. It was agreed to hold any decision until a response has been received from GR's email to Powys CC.

c) Sanitisers

Recommendation: to remove.

Not being used so much, no legal requirement to have them anymore. There is antibacterial soap in the wallgates.

Use the sanitisers we have in stock, we currently have 10L of sanitizer in store. To be reviewed later in the year.

d) **Recommendation:** Purchase a retractable hose that will reach all manholes from store room.

Also to install a tap the other side that a hose can be connected to.

Proposed RG Seconded JP, unanimously agreed.

II) Pavilion

a) **Recommendation:** Install Combi on demand boiler.

Would negate the need for legionella, and save money however would not run the number of showers currently in the build. This would not be installed until after Football have their new building.

b) **Recommendation:** to install a stud wall and door on the beam.

3 businesses have been approached to quote, 2 have refused. 1 quote received.

Proposed PJ Seconded JP, unanimously agreed.

c) **Recommendation:** Pavilion toilets to have mini toilet roll holders installed.

Recommendation changed to be Maxi toilets the same as the other public toilets.

Proposed RG Seconded JP, unanimously agreed.

d) Pavilion Usage

Changing rooms left unlocked. Referee room locked but lights and extractor fan left on. Cricket confirmed they had left the changing rooms unlocked, apologised and ensured it will not happen again.

CB & SM to write to all the clubs highlighting the problem, request that each club dedicates a person to locking up. Another option would be that someone is employed to open and lock the premises and these costs passed on.

III) Date and time of next meeting to be confirmed

d) Communications

I) Communications Guidance

Recommendation: To adopt Communications Policy

Proposed JP Seconded SM, unanimously agreed.

Recommendation: To adopt Social Media Policy

Proposed JP Seconded RG, unanimously agreed.

- II) Date and time of next meeting – to be confirmed.
- e) Events
 - I) Citizen of the Year
Quite a few nominations have been submitted. Closing date is 1st October.
 - II) Remembrance
Alex is meeting with Dave Pope on 27th September.
 - III) Xmas Lights
No future developments. JH attending a meeting next week. PJ will also attend.
 - IV) Future Events
Recommendation: to hold Quarterly Events for the Town
Proposed, Xmas Lights, Easter Egg Hunt, Summer cream tea and Halloween.
As Hay Summer Show was agreed earlier in the meeting,
JH represent the Council on as sponsored events to work with other organisations.
Proposed RG Seconded JP, unanimously agreed.
 - V) Date and time of next meeting to be confirmed.

17. Report of the Clerk / RFO

- i) Bank Reconciliations
Previously circulated. No questions were raised.
- ii) Major Correspondence
1st Hay on Wye Scout Group have requested permission to site a storage container at the end of the Pavilion. Discussions have been had with Estates how this would work. JM Proposed,
- iii) Playground Questionnaire Results – moved to October meeting.
- iv) Scouts have requested being able to install a storage container.
Proposed JM Seconded PJ, 6 agreed, 1 abstain.
- v) By The Wye is a fantastic facility. FH proposed sending them a letter thanking them for the work they have done and the fantastic facilities.
- vi) Letter received from the Castle, they are having a winter market on 9th December having 2 reindeer with elves, Castle are asking local businesses to support. The Castle is a commercial enterprise and while HTC would like to support financial support is not possible at this time.

18. Report from County Councillor

Castle Street is level with the pavement which is a safety concern. CC to follow up.
People cuing on the road, which is a safety concern.

Welsh Water are coming back on 25th September for a meeting.

Interesting meeting with relevant members of the public and the portfolio holder for social housing. Discussed homes and the impact on the town, invited them to come back in November for another walk around to see Hay out of season.

They are investigating why they have not taken on the old community centre site and cattle market.

19. Reports of HTC Representatives:

- a) Gwynne's Almshouses - nothing
- b) Dial a Ride – FH awaiting disability training
- c) Dyfed Powys Police - nothing
- d) Hay School Governors - nothing
- e) One Voice Wales - nothing
- f) Cheesemarket – Meeting on 27/09
- g) Hay2Timbuktu - nothing
- h) BBNP - nothing
- i) Chamber of Commerce – planters, 2 by Golesworthys are being maintained. 1 not being maintained. CB to write to relevant shop owners.
- j) Hay Summer Show – Meeting on 14th September 7pm Conservative Club
- k) Hay Markets – not running a market after turning on of the lights.
- o) Hay Sports Clubs – remove from list.
- p) Hay Youth Club – starting back tomorrow evening.

20. Date and time of next meeting:

Monday 2nd October at 6.00 pm – agreed.

21. In-Camera

- a) Clerk's Annual Appraisal.
- b) Tennis Courts.

Jane Howard