



Cyngor Tref y Trallwng | Welshpool Town Council

Welshpool Town Council, Tourist Information Centre, The Vicarage Gardens, Welshpool, SY21 7DD
Tel: 01938 553142 Email: town.clerk@welshpooltowncouncil.gov.uk

DRAFT

Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 16/04/2025 7:15pm in Council Chamber, Welshpool Town Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillor Julie Arnold
Councillor Morag Bailey (Chair)
Councillor Phil Owen
Councillor Revd William Rowell
Councillor Sally Fitzgerald

Apologies for absence:

Councillor David France
Councillor Dr Ben Gwalchmai

Absent:

Also in attendance:

Councillor Carol Robinson
Richard Williams - Town Clerk & Proper Officer
Vanessa Voysey - Responsible Finance Officer

F160425/1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr David France and Cllr Dr Ben Gwalchmai.

F160425/2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

None.

F160425/3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

F160425/4. MINUTES

RESOLVED

To confirm the minutes of the Finance Committee held on the 19th March 2025 with the following amendment:

- F109.2024 - the reference to 19th April should read 16th April"

Proposed by Cllr Revd William Rowell, seconded by Cllr Phil Owen

F160425/5. FINANCIAL MATTERS

F160425/5.1 Council Accounts (March 2025 - Period 12)

Councillors scrutinised the accounts and asked questions of the Responsible Finance Officer including:

- Resources for Change - £6,000. It was noted that this was for the expression of interest work on the Town Hall and the Skatepark.
- Midland Fencing. A query was raised regarding VAT. It was noted that the fencing cost was to be split with the Bowling Club contributing £6,000.
- Total Energies. It was noted that energy costs for the public toilets seem incredibly high. The RFO explained that she had been approached with a quotation for changing energy suppliers and that this should result in a saving.
- Triangle House. It was noted that the Council is still paying for energy bills at Triangle House. The RFO explained that this will need to be billed to the current occupiers.

RECOMMENDED

To authorise the RFO and the Town Clerk to enter into new energy agreements where appropriate to get the best deal for the Council.

Proposed by Cllr Phil Owen, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

F160425/5.2 Payment of Invoices - April

A query was raised in relation to a payment of £3000 for rent at the Railway Sidings and Dock Loading at the Motte and Bailey site. The Town Clerk explained the current lease arrangements for the site.

RECOMMENDED

To confirm and agree payment of invoices for End of Year 2024/25 and April 2025.

Proposed by Cllr Sally Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

F160425/5.3 Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2025/26

The Town Clerk explained that this item was for information only and is based on the number of electors. The Council does not have any budget for general Section 137 grants in this financial year, however this power is used to pay items where no statutory power exists.

F160425/5.4 IRPW Annual Report 2025/26

The Town Clerk gave an update on the new annual report issued by the IRPW for the 2025/26 financial year. He explained that a report will be presented to Full Council at the Annual Meeting.

F160425/6. THE HUB

The RFO gave an update on banking arrangements for the Hub and asked for authorisation to setup a new charitable account with Lloyds, which the Hub monies, which are primarily cash, can be banked at the Post Office.

RECOMMENDED

To authorise the RFO to setup a new bank account at Lloyds for the Hub.

Proposed by Cllr Sally Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr Julie Arnold

F160425/7. END OF YEAR 2024/25

The RFO updated on the end of year process and explained that whilst being a tough year financially, the Council ended the year with a general reserve balance of £49,995, compared to last year which was £1,332. The Town Clerk expressed his thanks to the RFO and the entire team for getting the Council in a position which it can now continue to grow it's reserves in line with it's agreed Reserves Strategy.

The RFO confirmed that the internal audit was taking place in June, with final report ready to be signed off and certified by the Council prior to the 30th June for submission to Audit Wales.

F160425/8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Due to the scheduling of the Annual Meeting, which is now to be held on the 28th May 2025 the next date of the Finance Committee will be 21st May 2025.

F160425/9. CONFIDENTIAL SESSION - EXCLUSION

RESOLVED
That members of the public and press be requested to leave the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

Proposed by Cllr Morag Bailey, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

F160425/10. SALES LEDGER - DEBTORS [CONFIDENTIAL]

The RFO and the Town Clerk gave an update on debtors.

The meeting finished at 20:48.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Councillor Morag Bailey (Chair)

Decision/Action Log

Item		Assigned	Status
4	RESOLUTION Minutes To confirm the minutes of the Finance Committee held on the 19th March 2025 with the following amendment: - F109.2024 - the reference to 19th April should read 16th April"	Town Clerk & Proper Officer	Completed
5.1	RECOMMENDATION Council Accounts (March 2025 - Period 12) To authorise the RFO and the Town Clerk to enter into new energy agreements where appropriate to get the best deal for the Council.	Responsible Finance Officer	In progress
5.2	RECOMMENDATION Payment of Invoices - April To confirm and agree payment of invoices for End of Year 2024/25 and April 2025.	Responsible Finance Officer	In progress

Item		Assigned	Status
9	RESOLUTION Confidential Session - Exclusion That members of the public and press be requested to leave the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.		In progress
6	RECOMMENDATION The Hub To authorise the RFO to setup a new bank account at Lloyds for the Hub.	Responsible Finance Officer	In progress