Welshpool Indoor Market Traders' Meeting – Meeting Minutes

29th June 2026

The Corn Exchange

Chair: Kimberly Wright

Summary Minutes

Attending: Andy, Sam S, Catt, Sue, Cllr Howells, Corrinne G

Staff/Other: Alex J, David G

Welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees and opened the meeting.

Market Byelaws updates

A lengthy discussion took place regarding dogs being allowed into the market but only with short leads, adoption of the byelaws was agreed.

Upcoming Events

Members were updated on the programme of events planned for the remainder of the year, including:

- Continental market
- 1940’s Weekend
- Halloween Parade and Party
- Memorial Garden Service
- Fireworks Display
- Remembrance events
- White Ribbon Day
- Winter Festival
- The Longest Yarn Exhibition (September)

The White Ribbon Day event was discussed, with members noting its focus on raising awareness of domestic violence. It was agreed that awareness should encompass all victims whilst recognising the campaign's primary focus.

The Longest Yarn exhibition was highlighted as a significant attraction expected to bring additional visitors to the market throughout September.

Welshpool Indoor Market Traders' Meeting – Meeting Minutes

Farmers' Market Proposal

A lengthy discussion took place regarding proposals for introducing a farmers' market.

Traders expressed concerns that:

- Similar initiatives had previously been unsuccessful.
- Existing market traders already sell many locally produced goods.
- Public engagement with the proposal has been very limited.
- Demand for a separate farmers' market does not appear to exist.
- Introducing duplicate businesses could negatively affect existing traders.

Several members felt resources would be better invested in supporting the current market rather than creating a competing event.

The Chair advised that traders' comments would be included in a report to the relevant council committee.

Market Maintenance

Updates included:

Window repairs have been completed, and cleaning will follow once putty materials have fully cured.

General building maintenance continues.

A request was made to improve visibility of the step within one changing room using high-visibility tape or paint to reduce the risk of trips.

Action: Operations Team to mark the changing room step with appropriate safety markings.

Market Signage

Concerns were raised regarding recently installed external signage.

Issues identified included:

- Poor visibility from the car park.
- Lettering considered too small.
- Low colour contrast affecting readability.
- Accessibility concerns for visually impaired visitors.

Recommended reviewing the design and replacing or modifying the signage to improve visibility.

Welshpool Indoor Market Traders' Meeting – Meeting Minutes

Action: Feedback to be passed to the Town Clerk for consideration.

"Made in Welshpool" Initiative

A proposal was made to create a "Made in Welshpool" exhibition to showcase products created by local artists, craftspeople and makers.

Suggestions included:

- Rotating themed displays.
- Temporary pop-up exhibitions.
- Encouraging local businesses and creators to participate.
- Using the initiative to attract additional visitors into the market.

The proposal received positive interest and will be explored further.

Soft Play Area Proposal

A substantial discussion took place regarding proposals to convert the former salon unit into a children's soft play area.

Concerns raised included:

- Traders had not been consulted before approval.
- Potential increase in noise levels.
- Supervision and safeguarding responsibilities.
- Health and safety considerations.
- Possible impact on neighbouring businesses.
- Risk of children entering trading areas or accessing nearby roads.
- Effect on customers' shopping experience.

The Chair acknowledged the concerns and confirmed they would be reported to the Town Clerk. It was also explained that details of supervision and operational arrangements had not yet been fully communicated.

Traders unanimously agreed they would have preferred consultation before any decision was made.

General Business

Further discussion covered:

- Continuing improvements to market facilities.
- Promotion of local businesses, including Trader of the week which was praised.

Welshpool Indoor Market Traders' Meeting – Meeting Minutes

- Pop-up opportunities for new traders.
- Increasing visitor numbers and supporting existing businesses.

Actions Agreed

Report traders' views on the proposed farmers' market to E&P Committee - Kimberly

Review external market signage - Rich

Apply high-visibility marking to changing-room step – Ops Team

Explore "Made in Welshpool" promotional initiative - Kimberly

Report traders' concerns regarding proposed soft play area – Kimberly

Meeting Close

The Chair thanked everyone for their contributions and confirmed that updates on outstanding actions would be provided at the next traders' meeting on Monday 27th July 2026