Cyngor Tref Trallwng Welshpool Town Council

Welshpool Town Council, The Vicarage Gardens, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7DD
Tel: 01938 553142 Email: office@welshpooltowncouncil.gov.uk

Document / Report #900

Author	Kimberly Wright Events & Markets Manager
Title	Cuppa with a Councillor
Date	25th August 2026

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

1. **Agree to introduce a monthly 'Cuppa with a Councillor' community engagement session.**
2. **Agree that the sessions will initially be held on Monday 14th September 2026 in the Corn Exchange fom 6:30pm to 7:30pm.**
3. **Nominate two councillors, representing different wards, to attend each monthly session.**
4. **Agree a monthly councillor rota, together with alternative councillors to provide cover where necessary.**
5. **Review the initiative after an initial period to assess attendance, public feedback and whether any changes to the format are required.**

1. Purpose

1. To consider introducing a new monthly community engagement initiative, 'Cuppa with a Councillor', providing residents with an informal opportunity to meet with their local councillors, share their views and raise matters affecting their community.

   The initiative would provide a friendly and accessible way for members of the public to engage directly with Welshpool Town Council outside of formal council meetings.

2. Proposed event format

1. It is proposed that 'Cuppa with a Councillor' is held once a month in the Town Hall, with two councillors attending each session.

   To ensure representation from across the town, the two councillors attending should represent different wards. The councillors would be available for residents to drop in, have a cup of tea or coffee and have an informal conversation.

The sessions would provide residents with an opportunity to:

- Share their views about the town and local services.
- Ask questions of their elected representatives.
- Raise local concerns or issues affecting their neighbourhood.
- Hear about upcoming projects and events being organised by the Town Council.
- Find out more about the role of Welshpool Town Council and how residents can become involved.

The sessions would be informal and would not replace the existing formal procedures for submitting complaints, requests or representations to the Council.

'Cuppa with a Councillor' would provide a simple, informal and approachable way for residents to engage with their Town Council.

3. Proposed first event

1. It is proposed that the first 'Cuppa with a Councillor' session takes place on Monday 14th September 2026 at 6:30pm till 7:30pm in the Corn Exchange. Tea, coffee and biscuits would be provided free of charge.

4. Councillor attendance

1. It is proposed that two councillors attend each monthly session, with councillors representing different wards where possible.

2. The Events Committee is asked to consider and agree:

    1. Which two councillors will attend the first session on Monday, 14th September 2026.
    2. A rota of councillors to attend future monthly sessions.
    3. Alternative councillors who can step in where an appointed councillor is unable to attend.
    4. Whether councillors should rotate every month to provide residents with opportunities to meet different elected representatives.

    A rota would provide consistency while ensuring that the responsibility for attending is shared among councillors.

5. Recommendation

1. Agree to introduce a monthly 'Cuppa with a Councillor' community engagement session.
2. Agree that the sessions will initially be held on Monday 14th September 2026 in the Corn Exchange fom 6:30pm to 7:30pm.
3. Nominate two councillors, representing different wards, to attend each monthly session.
4. Agree a monthly councillor rota, together with alternative councillors to provide cover where necessary.
5. Review the initiative after an initial period to assess attendance, public feedback and whether any changes to the format are required.

6. Decision

1. To resolve to adopt the recommendations as above.