Cyngor Tref Trallwng Welshpool Town Council

Welshpool Town Council, The Vicarage Gardens, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7DD
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Title	LDT Working Group - Jan Update
Date	8th January 2026

1. Purpose

1. To update the committee on the working group established to explore the grants available for the Motte and Bailey.

2. Background

1. At its meeting in October, Full Council considered proposals to progress potential grant opportunities aligned to the Interim Corporate & Strategic Plan (ISP) 2025–2028, including actions relating to the Motte and Bailey (Domen Castell).
2. Full Council resolved to:
    1. That a working group of Cllrs Phil Pritchard, Estelle Bleivas, Nick Howells, David France and the Mayor be established to work with the Town Clerk on proposals for possible grant application in relation to the Motte and Bailey and/or other areas of the ISP Action Plan.

3. Working Group

1. The Working Group met on the 19th November 2025 and a summary of its discussions were:
    1. At the meeting, the Town Clerk outlined the Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme, explaining that the fund provides grants of up to £50,000 for regeneration and environmental enhancement projects within five miles of qualifying waste transfer facilities, and that the Motte and Bailey had been identified as a potential opportunity area.
    2. The Working Group discussed the general aspirations for the site, including opening up the space, improving its appearance and accessibility, and exploring ways in which the natural “bowl” area might support outdoor events. Ideas included a permanent or semi-permanent stage, vegetation and tree clearance, interpretation boards and general environmental improvements to make the area more usable by the public.
    3. It was recognised that the level of funding available would not be sufficient to address larger capital elements such as the repair or redevelopment of the former bowls clubhouse, and that such works would require separate, longer-term consideration.
    4. The closing date of the 12th December 2025 was noted.

4. Grant Application

1. Following the Working Group meeting, quotations were obtained and a formal application was developed and submitted to the Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme.
2. The application focuses on:
    1. vegetation clearance and environmental improvements
    2. access and small car park repairs
    3. installation of seating and picnic benches
    4. heritage interpretation boards
    5. provision of portable stage, canopy, lighting and PA equipment
    6. enabling the space to be used for outdoor community events and activities
3. The application seeks the maximum grant award of £50,000, with a proposed delivery period between April and November 2026.
4. The application was submitted and is awaiting assessment and outcome.

5. Links to Strategic Objectives and Interim Strategic Plan

1. MB1, MB2 and MB3 - Redevelop the Motte and Bailey as a historical leisure and recreational space.

6. Resource & Legal Implications

1. None.

7. Specific Implications

1. **Crime and Disorder** - the design of the site would take into account crime and disorder (Crime and Disorder Act 1998).
2. **Biodiversity** - the proposal to enhance the Motte and Bailey contributes to enhancing biodiversity and exploring further usage of the green space at the site (Environment (Wales) Act 2016).
3. **Well-being** - the proposal to enhance the Motte and Bailey contributes to nearly all the Well-being Objectives (Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015).
4. **Risk Management** - N/A.

8. Decision

1. To note for information only.