



Cyngor Tref y Trallwng | Welshpool Town Council

Welshpool Town Council, Tourist Information Centre, The Vicarage Gardens, Welshpool, SY21 7DD
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DRAFT

Minutes of the Events & Planning Committee held on 07/01/2026 6:30pm in Council Chamber, Welshpool Town Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillor Chris Davies
Councillor Jackson Quarrell
Councillor Morag Bailey
Councillor Phil Owen
Councillor Sally Fitzgerald
Councillor Revd William Rowell

Apologies for absence:

Councillor Nick Howells

Absent:

Councillor Julie Arnold

Also in attendance:

Councillor Phil Pritchard
Kimberly Wright - Events & Markets Manager
Wendy Lewis - Community Services Manager
1 member(s) of the public / press

EP070126/1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and residents to the meeting, and wished everyone a happy New Year. Apologies were received from Cllr Nick Howells.

EP070126/2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

None.

EP070126/3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No questions were raised

EP070126/4. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

EP070126/4.1 Previous Minutes

The Councillors approved the minutes as an accurate record of the previous meeting.

RESOLVED

To approve as a correct record, the minutes from the meeting of the Events and Planning Committee on 5/11/2025

WTCM433 - Proposed by Cllr Sally Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

EP070126/4.2 Matters Arising

The Events and Markets Manager let the Committee know that the meeting to discuss the budget 2026/2027 has taken place.

EP070126/5. TOURISM

EP070126/5.1 Tourist Information Centre

The Community Services Manager updated members and explained that December was steady. January is now starting to pick up again, with people buying holidays. Handbag sales are also picking up.

A query was raised regarding more stock - the Community Services Manager agreed that more stock was needed, and has been ordered.

EP070126/6. BUSINESS PLANNING & FINANCIAL MATTERS

EP070126/6.1 Budget and Committee Finance (Month 8)

No comments were received.

RESOLVED

To note the current spending position against the budget.

WTCM434 - Proposed by Cllr Sally Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr Jackson Quarrell

EP070126/7. BUDGET 2026/27

A request was made regarding enquiries for 'Welcome to Welshpool' signs. The committee agreed to discuss the item at the next meeting.

RECOMMENDED

That Full Council adopt the Committee Budget for 2026/2027.

WTCM435 - Proposed by Cllr Sally Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr Phil Owen

EP070126/8. EVENTS

EP070126/8.1 Fireworks

The Committee discussed the P.A. system in more detail. Members agreed that wireless microphones would solve the P.A. issues. The Council already own wireless microphones, so these should be tested and used at the next event, where necessary.

RESOLVED

To note the report on the annual Fireworks event;

To approve:

- Increasing the number of pre-show activities, possibly including an expansion of the music provision e.g. live acts prior to the event.

- Exploring ways in which to resolve the sound issues.
 - To continue strong focus on safety and accessibility and consider external first aid provision.
 - To increase the budget for a better fireworks display; and
- To instruct officers to use the wireless microphones at events going forward.

WTCM436 - Proposed by Cllr Revd William Rowell, seconded by Cllr Sally Fitzgerald

EP070126/8.2 Winter Festival

The Committee agreed that it was a great event, but the attendance was not as good as it could have been, if it had not been for the weather warnings put in place on the days leading up to the event.

Correspondence was received from a stall holder (Tony's Meat Wagon) that they would like to donate 10% of its profits, made at the Winter Festival, and donate it to the committee's chosen charity.

RESOLVED

To note the report on the annual Winter Festival;

To approve:

- Shortening the event, peak times were around the Christmas lights switched on, seeing numbers drop again, once the lights had been turned on.
- Allowing more time between stage performances to avoid overlapping.
- Utilising the Assembly Room for further craft stalls.
- Exploring opportunities for additional seating or sheltered areas, in case of poor weather.
- To consider who uses the Corn Exchange to sell hot drinks/sweet Christmas treats.
- Increasing marketing efforts in the weeks leading up to the event.
- Reviewing stall charges
- Maintaining the successful mix of free and paid attractions to ensure accessibility for all families; and

To approve the 10% profit share from Tony's Meat Wagon should be divided between Parkinson's UK and Parkinson's Welshpool Group.

WTCM437 - Proposed by Cllr Sally Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

EP070126/8.3 Flicks in the Sticks

Monday, 5th January, Flicks 'Brassed off' had to be cancelled, due to the weather. This has been postponed to Monday, 6th April.

The Events and Markets Manager also informed the Committee that the Christmas screenings for Welshpool Church in Wales School, and Ysgol Gymraeg Y Trallwng went very well - it was agreed to add this as an agenda item at the next meeting, so it can be organised again this year.

EP070126/8.4 Walking Festival

Nothing to update.

EP070126/8.5 Dance Festival

Nothing to update.

EP070126/8.5 Continental Market

Members discussed the Continental Market and agreed that they would like to see it return again this year. Councillors requested that officers find alternative providers of road closures and also explore the

licencing process to see if the Council could close the road independently.

EP070126/9. PLANNING - NEW APPLICATIONS

EP070126/9.1 25/1819/LBC

Members considered the planning application and provided the following response:

Response: Support

Comments:

No comment.

RESOLVED

To respond to the planning authority in respect of 25/1819/LBC with the above response and comments.

WTCM438 - Proposed by Cllr Revd William Rowell, seconded by Cllr Sally Fitzgerald

EP070126/10. PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

The Committee noted the planning determinations. A query was raised regarding 25/0848/LBC. The Events and Markets Manager will enquire as to why it was refused.

EP070126/11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Events & Planning Committee will be held on 4th February 2026 at 6:30pm

The meeting finished at 19:30.

Signed:

Dated:

Councillor (Chair)

Decision/Action Log

ID		Assigned
WTCM433	RESOLUTION EP070126/4.1 Previous Minutes To approve as a correct record, the minutes from the meeting of the Events and Planning Committee on 5/11/2025	Events & Markets Manager
WTCM434	RESOLUTION EP070126/6.1 Budget and Committee Finance (Month 8) To note the current spending position against the budget.	Events & Markets Manager
WTCM435	RECOMMENDATION EP070126/7 Budget 2026/27 That Full Council adopt the Committee Budget for 2026/2027.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

ID		Assigned
WTCM436	RESOLUTION EP070126/8.1 Fireworks To note the report on the annual Fireworks event; To approve: - Increasing the number of pre-show activities, possibly including an expansion of the music provision e.g. live acts prior to the event. - Exploring ways in which to resolve the sound issues. - To continue strong focus on safety and accessibility and consider external first aid provision. - To increase the budget for a better fireworks display; and To instruct officers to use the wireless microphones at events going forward.	Events & Markets Manager
WTCM437	RESOLUTION EP070126/8.2 Winter Festival To note the report on the annual Winter Festival; To approve: - Shortening the event, peak times were around the Christmas lights switched on, seeing numbers drop again, once the lights had been turned on. - Allowing more time between stage performances to avoid overlapping. - Utilising the Assembly Room for further craft stalls. - Exploring opportunities for additional seating or sheltered areas, in case of poor weather. - To consider who uses the Corn Exchange to sell hot drinks/sweet Christmas treats. - Increasing marketing efforts in the weeks leading up to the event. - Reviewing stall charges - Maintaining the successful mix of free and paid attractions to ensure accessibility for all families; and To approve the 10% profit share from Tony's Meat Wagon should be divided between Parkinson's UK and Parkinson's Welshpool Group.	Events & Markets Manager
WTCM438	RESOLUTION EP070126/9.1 25/1819/LBC To respond to the planning authority in respect of 25/1819/LBC with the above response and comments.	Events & Markets Manager