



Welshpool Town Council, The Vicarage Gardens, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7DD
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DRAFT

Minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee held on 20/05/2026 6:30pm in Council Chamber, Welshpool Town Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillor David France
Councillor Morag Bailey (Chair)
Councillor Phil Owen
Councillor Phil Pritchard
Councillor Richard Church
Councillor Revd William Rowell

Apologies for absence:

Councillor Alison Davies
Councillor Carol Robinson
Councillor Estelle Bleivas

Absent:

Also in attendance:

Richard Williams - Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

FG200526/1. WELCOME, CODE OF CONDUCT AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and reminded attendees to show respect for all throughout the meeting. Apologies were received by Cllr Alison Davies, Carol Robinson and Estelle Bleivas.

FG200526/2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

None.

FG200526/3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

FG200526/4. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

FG200526/4.1 Previous Minutes

RESOLVED

To approve the minutes from the meeting of the Finance & Governance Committee on 15/04/2026.

WTCM673 - Proposed by Cllr Phil Owen, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

FG200526/4.2 Matters Arising

None.

FG200526/5. BUSINESS PLANNING & FINANCIAL MATTERS

FG200526/5.1 Council Accounts (April - Period 1)

Members explored the cash and bank totals and the income and expenditure reports and noted the overspends.

RESOLVED

To note the bank balances and accounts for Period 1.

WTCM674 - Proposed by Cllr Richard Church, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

FG200526/5.2 Payment of Invoices - May

The Town Clerk summarised the payments and answered queries, including:

- Invoices from 2022/23/24 - the Town Clerk explained that these had been received and were missing from our accounting system.
- Otis - the Town Clerk explained that these were missing from the accounting system.
- Powysland Club - the Town Clerk needs to meet with the Powysland Club to explore further.

RECOMMENDED

To approve payment of invoices for May 2026.

WTCM675 - Proposed by Cllr Revd William Rowell, seconded by Cllr Phil Owen

FG200526/5.3 Scrutiny of Payments

Cllr William Rowell reported back on the scrutiny of payments from April which were successful. Members nominated Cllr Morag Bailey, Cllr Phil Owen and Cllr Richard Church to do the next three months.

RECOMMENDED

To appoint the following members for scrutiny of payments:

- Cllr Morag Bailey for May in June
- Cllr Phil Owen for June in July (quarterly check)
- Cllr Richard Church for July in August

WTCM676 - Proposed by Cllr Morag Bailey, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

FG200526/5.4 Interim Strategic Plan Action Plan

The Chair summarised the report.

FG200526/6. GOVERNANCE

FG200526/6.1 Standing Orders

The Chair and the Town Clerk summarised the report and went through each change in turn. A discussion was held on the changes relating to reporting any conclusion of the Ombudsman and the changes to recorded votes.

An amendment was proposed to amend the new proposed 14(d) to include reference to the Standards Committee and to taking advice of the Proper Officer.

RECOMMENDED

To adopt the revised Standing Orders, incorporating the amendments for 2026-27.

WTCM677 - Proposed by Cllr Revd William Rowell, seconded by Cllr Richard Church. A recorded vote was requested.

For: David France, Morag Bailey, Phil Owen, Richard Church, Revd William Rowell

Against:

Abstain: Phil Pritchard

FG200526/6.2 Financial Regulations

The Town Clerk advised no changes had been made since the last one was adopted in January.

RECOMMENDED

To adopt the Financial Regulations for 2026-27.

WTCM678 - Proposed by Cllr Richard Church, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

FG200526/6.2 Scheme of Delegation

The Town Clerk advised no changes had been made except for the deputisation of the Proper Officer in their absence.

RECOMMENDED

To adopt the Scheme of Delegation for 2026-27.

WTCM679 - Proposed by Cllr Revd William Rowell, seconded by Cllr Richard Church

FG200526/6.4 Investments & Reserves Strategy

The Town Clerk advised no changes had been made since last year besides updating the figures.

RECOMMENDED

To adopt the Investments & Reserves Strategy for 2026-27.

WTCM680 - Proposed by Cllr Richard Church, seconded by Cllr Revd William Rowell

FG200526/6.5 Council Committees

Members discussed the committee structure and responsibilities and delegation.

A discussion was had regarding the delegation of the Events and Planning Committee and amendment made to limit this to just Events and Festivals and Planning and Enforcement.

RECOMMENDED

To adopt the revised Committee Terms of Reference, as amended, for 2026-27.

WTCM681 - Proposed by Cllr Phil Owen, seconded by Cllr Richard Church

FG200526/6.6 Bank Mandate

The Town Clerk explained that this was requested from last month's meeting. Members suggested no amendments and that any review could take place after the next election.

FG200526/6.7 Civility and Respect

The Town Clerk explained that the Council had previously adopted the Civility and Respect Pledge but One Voice Wales had revised it for a Welsh council specific version.

RECOMMENDED
To adopt the Welsh Civility and Respect Pledge.

WTCM682 - Proposed by Cllr Revd William Rowell, seconded by Cllr Morag Bailey

FG200526/7. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA & DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Finance & Governance Committee will be held on 17th June 2026 at 6:30pm

FG200526/8. 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.

WTCM683 - Proposed by Cllr Revd William Rowell, seconded by Cllr Phil Owen

FG200526/9. STAFFING

FG200526/9.1 WIC Staffing [CONFIDENTIAL]

The Town Clerk gave an update on the staffing structure for the WIC and the pending appointments.

FG200526/9.2 Other Staffing [CONFIDENTIAL]

The Town Clerk gave an update and answered queries.

The meeting finished at 20:02.

Signed:

Dated:

Councillor Morag Bailey (Chair)

Decision/Action Log

ID		Assigned
WTCM673	RESOLUTION FG200526/4.1 Previous Minutes To approve the minutes from the meeting of the Finance & Governance Committee on 15/04/2026.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM674	RESOLUTION FG200526/5.1 Council Accounts (April - Period 1) To note the bank balances and accounts for Period 1.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

ID		Assigned
WTCM675	RECOMMENDATION FG200526/5.2 Payment of Invoices - May To approve payment of invoices for May 2026.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM676	RECOMMENDATION FG200526/5.3 Scrutiny of Payments To appoint the following members for scrutiny of payments: - Cllr Morag Bailey for May in June - Cllr Phil Owen for June in July (quarterly check) - Cllr Richard Church for July in August	Finance & Administration Assistant
WTCM677	RECOMMENDATION FG200526/6.1 Standing Orders To adopt the revised Standing Orders, incorporating the amendments for 2026-27.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM678	RECOMMENDATION FG200526/6.2 Financial Regulations To adopt the Financial Regulations for 2026-27.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM679	RECOMMENDATION FG200526/6.2 Scheme of Delegation To adopt the Scheme of Delegation for 2026-27.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM680	RECOMMENDATION FG200526/6.4 Investments & Reserves Strategy To adopt the Investments & Reserves Strategy for 2026-27.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM681	RECOMMENDATION FG200526/6.5 Council Committees To adopt the revised Committee Terms of Reference, as amended, for 2026-27.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM682	RECOMMENDATION FG200526/6.7 Civility and Respect To adopt the Welsh Civility and Respect Pledge.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM683	RESOLUTION FG200526/8 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.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer