Welshpool Town Council, The Vicarage Gardens, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7DD
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Document / Report #346

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Title	Remembrance meeting report
Date	26th September 2025

1. Purpose

1. To receive the information/suggested changes given by members of the public, veterans and local group/organisation leaders.

2. Background

1. A meeting held on 25/09/25 in the Corn Exchange, to gather opinions on the Council's current Remembrance services.
2. There were 30 people in attendance; most have left their names and contact details for future correspondence.
3. Some veterans have agreed to address the Events & Planning Committee meeting on the 1st October.

3. Recommendation

1. **Marching Band:**

- Consensus that the parade needs a band
- In the absence of a band, the parade needs a base drummer
- Base drummer will assist Graham in keeping everyone in step - officers to contact bands and see if a drummer would be available.
- To keep everyone together, the march needs to be slower (dependent on music) to accommodate all abilities.
- A Welshpool Town Silver Band could be setup, but this would be outside of the Council's remit to do so.

2. **Protocol and order**

- Those in attendance were unhappy with changes made to the order of the parade post-COVID - it was suggested in the meeting to follow original guidelines and protocols. Cllr Estelle Bleivas highlighted that several of the councillors are very familiar with the traditional order of parade used in Welshpool.

3. **Planning and events meeting**

- Graham Moore (Parade Marshall) to be invited to future planning and events meetings regarding remembrance
- Veterans to be invited to future Events & Planning Committee meetings regarding remembrance.
- Communication between the Council, veterans, RBL and the Parade Marshall needs to be improved

4. **Parade**

- Flag bearers to hold Welsh Flag, Union Jack and Town (Council) Flag, as previously.
- Brownies, Guides, Cubs, and Cadets rehearse the week before the parade, at Saint Mary's Church, to understand what is required. Veterans are also invited to help guide those who have not taken part before.
- Veterans split during the parade at Red Bank, allowing Councillors to walk through as a mark of respect.
- Following the parade, refreshments will be held in the Assembly Room with a post-parade buffet for all those in attendance. There is enough in the Civic Events budget to facilitate this.
- Original parade procession order: Band, Standards and Colours, Veterans, Armed forces, ATC, Army cadets, Young fire fighters, Beavers, Scouts, Cubs, Ranger Guides, Guides, Brownies, Lord Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Mayor, Mace Bearer, Deputy Mayor, Town Clerk, MP, Town Councillors, Town Crier, MS, County Councillors.
- Laying wreath order is as follows: Mayor, Town Clerk, RBL, Uniformed Groups including veterans, County Councillors, members of the public.

5. **Promotion**

- Formal invitations should be sent to a wider pool of people, now to be dispersed through emails collected at today's meeting
- Publicise through all media - local press,schools, local groups, social media, formal invitations and posters.
- A complete list of all the Remembrance services will be published once finalised.

6. **Any other Business**

- Royal British Legion need support from councillors with the Poppy Appeal beginning 23rd October.
- It was raised that the Church service needs more attention and a return to standard service - the Council will work with Rev Pawley to facilitate.
- As part of Welshpool Remembrance Services, the Council with the RBL, each year holds a ceremony at the memorial gardens located at Howell Drive, Welshpool, on Friday the 7th of November. The service begins at 2:00 pm and is likely to finish by approximately 2:30pm. This is to facilitate school children.

- On Tuesday, the 11th of November at 11 a.m., a two-minute silence and the reciting of the Exhortation and the Kohima Epitaph will be held outside the Town Hall in Welshpool.

4. Decision

1. Council to decide a way forward.