Cyngor Tref Trallwng Welshpool Town Council

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Title	Tidy Welshpool 2026
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1. Purpose

1. To inform Members of Spring Clean Cymru 2026 and to seek approval to work with Powys County Council and Keep Wales Tidy to deliver a town-wide “Tidy Welshpool” week, encouraging residents, schools and community groups to take part in coordinated litter-picking and environmental improvement activities.

2. Background

1. Spring Clean Cymru is the Welsh element of the Great British Spring Clean, the UK’s largest mass-action environmental campaign. The 2026 campaign will take place between 13 March and 29 March 2026.
2. The campaign is led by Keep Wales Tidy, with local authorities across Wales supporting events through equipment loans, publicity materials, guidance and waste collection arrangements.
3. In 2025, over 6,600 volunteers across Wales took part, collecting more than 6,600 bags of litter and recycling. The campaign is promoted as a simple, inclusive way for communities to make an immediate and visible difference to their local environment.
4. Powys County Council and Keep Wales Tidy have indicated support for local initiatives aligned with Spring Clean Cymru, including advice, resources and coordination.

3. Advice

1. It is proposed that Welshpool Town Council formally participates in Spring Clean Cymru 2026 and launches a local “Tidy Welshpool” week within the campaign period.
2. The concept would be to designate a focused week where each day targets a different area or theme, for example:
    1. Town centre streets and gateways
    2. Parks, open spaces and play areas
    3. Canal and riverside paths
    4. Residential estates

5. Schools and youth-led clean-ups
6. Community-nominated hotspots

3. Local schools, community groups, sports clubs, businesses and individual residents would be encouraged to take part, either by joining organised sessions or running their own registered clean-ups.
4. Activities would be supported by Powys County Council and Keep Wales Tidy through the provision of equipment (litter pickers, bags, gloves), risk assessment templates, promotional resources, and coordination of waste collection where required.
5. The Town Council's role would focus on coordination, publicity, liaison with partners, and helping to match volunteers with locations and dates.

4. Aims and Benefits

1. The proposed initiative would aim to:
    1. Improve the cleanliness and appearance of Welshpool.
    2. Encourage civic pride and community participation.
    3. Support environmental responsibility and awareness.
2. A visible programme of daily activity would also provide opportunities for positive press coverage and engagement through the Council's communication channels.

5. Delivery

1. Subject to Committee approval, officers would:
    1. Register Welshpool Town Council's interest with Keep Wales Tidy.
    2. Liaise with Powys County Council regarding equipment, waste collection and health & safety arrangements.
    3. Develop a draft programme of themed days/areas.
    4. Invite schools, community groups and councillors to lead or sponsor individual sessions.
    5. Prepare publicity materials and an online sign-up process.

6. Resource & Legal Implications

1. Keep Wales Tidy and Powys County Council typically support Spring Clean Cymru events with free resources and equipment loans.
2. Any direct cost to the Town Council is expected to be minimal and limited to publicity, printing, or small consumables if required. These could be met from the existing community event budget.
3. Activities would be carried out under Keep Wales Tidy and Powys County Council guidance, including risk assessments and safeguarding requirements where children and young people are involved. Waste handling and disposal would be coordinated with the County Council to ensure compliance with environmental regulations.

7. Recommendation

1. The Events & Planning Committee is asked to:
    1. Approve Welshpool Town Council's participation in Spring Clean Cymru 2026.

2. Support the development of a local “Tidy Welshpool” week within the campaign period.
3. Appoint a liaison councillor for the project who can act as a source of advice for officers.
4. Authorise officers to work with Powys County Council and Keep Wales Tidy to develop and deliver the programme.

8. Decision

1. To resolve to adopt the recommendations as above.