



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

**Minutes of the Strategy, Policy and Development Committee held on 07/05/2025
7:15pm in Council Chamber, Welshpool Town Hall.**

PRESENT:

Apologies for absence:

Absent:

Also in attendance:

Cllr Billy Spencer
Cllr Chris Davies
Cllr David France
Cllr Estelle Bleivas
Cllr Morag Bailey
Cllr Nick Howells
Cllr Phil Pritchard
Cllr Richard Church
Cllr Revd William Rowell
Richard Williams - Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
Kimberly Wright - Events & Markets Manager
3 member(s) of the public / press

SPD070525/1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Phil Owen.

SPD070525/2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

The following interests were declared:

Item	Councillor	Type	Reason
6.3	Richard Church	Personal	A governor at Ysgol Gymraeg y Trallwng

SPD070525/3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

SPD070525/4. MINUTES

RESOLVED

To approve the minutes from the meeting of the Strategy, Policy and Development Committee

on the 2nd April 2025.

WTCM60 - Proposed by Cllr Morag Bailey, seconded by Cllr Estelle Bleivas

SPD070525/5. STRATEGY

SPD070525/5.1 Powys Teaching Health Board Better Together Programme

Cllr Chris Davies joined the meeting.

A discussion took place regarding the consultation from Powys Teaching Health Board. It was suggested that the item be deferred until Full Council so a response can be given from the Council and members can have time to consider what to respond.

RESOLVED

To defer this item to Full Council

WTCM61 - Proposed by Cllr Morag Bailey, seconded by Cllr Estelle Bleivas

SPD070525/6. DEVELOPMENT

SPD070525/6.1 Town Hall / Building Works

The Town Clerk updated members that the quotation had now been accepted and fencing at the Motte and Bailey site had been mapped out. The temporary gents toilets were scheduled to be installed on the 9th June and work on the rest of the Town Hall works would take place after VE Day events had concluded.

SPD070525/6.2 Land at Ardwyn School / Wiggly Path

A discussion took place after the recent decision to not take ownership of the Wiggly Path, that the Council instead look to pursue a formal Public Right of Way over the path. A suggestion was received that exploration of designation of a town green could be pursued.

RECOMMENDED

To authorise officers to engage with Powys County Council over the protection of the Wiggly Path and pursue action to preserve the path for the public.

WTCM62 - Proposed by Cllr David France, seconded by Cllr Morag Bailey

SPD070525/6.3 Car Parking / Barrier System

The Town Clerk summarised their written report and explained that correspondence had been received from the Bowling Club, Cricket Club and Football Club who said the proposal would negatively impact the area. Members discussed the findings and agreed that the risk for the Council of the proposal was not consummate with the income attainable.

RECOMMENDED

To not proceed with the proposal to charge for parking at Maes y Dre.

WTCM63 - Proposed by Cllr David France, seconded by Cllr Morag Bailey

SPD070525/6.4 Skatepark

Cllr Nick Howells and Cllr Billy Spencer left the meeting.

The Town Clerk updated members on the project progress to date and explained that the project is 'paused' until funding streams can be found.

SPD070525/7. COMMITTEE RESTRUCTURE

The Town Clerk summarised their report into committee structures and discussions were had on each section.

RECOMMENDED

That Option B in the report should be adopted.

WTCM64 - Proposed by Cllr Phil Pritchard, seconded by Cllr Chris Davies

RECOMMENDED

That no committees should have delegated powers, except for Events and Planning to spend within their budget allocation (new Option 4) be adopted.

WTCM65 - Proposed by Cllr Phil Pritchard, seconded by Cllr Estelle Bleivas

RECOMMENDED

That Full Council and standing committee meetings should commence at 6:30pm.

WTCM66 - Proposed by Cllr Morag Bailey, seconded by Cllr Chris Davies

RECOMMENDED

That each committee should not exceed seven members.

WTCM67 - Proposed by Cllr Phil Pritchard, seconded by Cllr Morag Bailey

RECOMMENDED

That each councillor should sit on no more than two standing committees.

WTCM68 - Proposed by Cllr Phil Pritchard, seconded by Cllr Morag Bailey

RECOMMENDED

That each councillor should sit on at least one committee.

WTCM69 - Proposed by Cllr Richard Church, seconded by Cllr Morag Bailey

SPD070525/8. STATUTORY DOCUMENTS / POLICIES

SPD070525/8.1 Standing Orders

The Town Clerk summarised the changes to Standing Orders and a discussion was held.

RECOMMENDED

That the revised Standing Orders for 2025-26 be adopted.

WTCM70 - Proposed by Cllr Morag Bailey, seconded by Cllr Phil Pritchard

SPD070525/8.2 Training Plan

The Town Clerk explained the background to the Training Plan and a discussion was held.

RECOMMENDED

That the Training Plan be adopted.

WTCM71 - Proposed by Cllr Morag Bailey, seconded by Cllr Richard Church

SPD070525/8.3 Code of Conduct

The Town Clerk explained that the Town Council had adopted the English Code of Conduct and that the Welsh Code of Conduct would need to be adopted due to the divergence of the two standards regimes.

RECOMMENDED

That the Code of Conduct be adopted.

WTCM72 - Proposed by Cllr Morag Bailey, seconded by Cllr Estelle Bleivas

SPD070525/8.4 Scheme of Delegation

The Town Clerk explained the background to the Scheme of Delegation and questions were asked and answered.

RECOMMENDED

That the revised Scheme of Delegation for 2025-26 be adopted.

WTCM73 - Proposed by Cllr Chris Davies, seconded by Cllr Morag Bailey

SPD070525/8.5 Communications and Engagement Policy

The Town Clerk summarised the draft Communications and Engagement Policy and a discussion was held.

RECOMMENDED

That the Communications and Engagement Policy be adopted.

WTCM74 - Proposed by Cllr Chris Davies, seconded by Cllr Morag Bailey

SPD070525/8.6 Special Leave Policy

The Town Clerk summarised the draft Special Leave Policy and a discussion was held.

RECOMMENDED

That the Special Leave Policy be adopted.

WTCM75 - Proposed by Cllr Chris Davies, seconded by Cllr Phil Pritchard

SPD070525/8.8 Honorary Titles / Community Awards

The Town Clerk summarised the draft Honorary Titles and Community Awards Policy and a discussion was held.

RECOMMENDED

That the Honorary Titles and Community Awards Policy be adopted.

WTCM76 - Proposed by Cllr Chris Davies, seconded by Cllr Phil Pritchard

SPD070525/9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Strategy, Policy and Development Committee will be confirmed at the Annual Meeting.

The meeting finished at 21:00.

Signed:

Dated:

Councillor Phil Pritchard (Chair)

Decision/Action Log

ID		Assigned
WTCM60	RESOLUTION SPD070525/4 Minutes To approve the minutes from the meeting of the Strategy, Policy and Development Committee on the 2nd April 2025.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM61	RESOLUTION SPD070525/5.1 Powys Teaching Health Board Better Together Programme To defer this item to Full Council	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM62	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/6.2 Land at Ardwyn School / Wiggly Path To authorise officers to engage with Powys County Council over the protection of the Wiggly Path and pursue action to preserve the path for the public.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM63	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/6.3 Car Parking / Barrier System To not proceed with the proposal to charge for parking at Maes y Dre.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer Events & Markets Manager
WTCM64	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/7 Committee Restructure That Option B in the report should be adopted.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM65	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/7 Committee Restructure That no committees should have delegated powers, except for Events and Planning to spend within their budget allocation (new Option 4) be adopted.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM66	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/7 Committee Restructure That Full Council and standing committee meetings should commence at 6:30pm.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM67	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/7 Committee Restructure That each committee should not exceed seven members.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM68	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/7 Committee Restructure That each councillor should sit on no more than two standing committees.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

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WTCM69	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/7 Committee Restructure That each councillor should sit on at least one committee.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM70	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/8.1 Standing Orders That the revised Standing Orders for 2025-26 be adopted.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM71	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/8.2 Training Plan That the Training Plan be adopted.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM72	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/8.3 Code of Conduct That the Code of Conduct be adopted.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM73	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/8.4 Scheme of Delegation That the revised Scheme of Delegation for 2025-26 be adopted.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM74	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/8.5 Communications and Engagement Policy That the Communications and Engagement Policy be adopted.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM75	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/8.6 Special Leave Policy That the Special Leave Policy be adopted.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
WTCM76	RECOMMENDATION SPD070525/8.8 Honorary Titles / Community Awards That the Honorary Titles and Community Awards Policy be adopted.	Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer