



MINUTES

Councillors Present

Cllr A Griffin

Cllr S Cowham

Cllr P Lewis

Cllr A Williams (from 18:50)

Cllr L Kretchmer

Cllr I Jones

Cllr S Wilkinson

Cllr S Nazar (from 18:55)

Cllr Z Allan

In attendance

Cllr J Griffin (Interim Clerk)

1) Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr D Mayor and Cllr F Waldron.

2) Acceptance of Office – New Councillor

It was noted that the newly elected Councillor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Declaration was witnessed at the meeting and formally took office with effect from the date of signing.

3) Declarations of Interest

Cllr A Griffin and Cllr J Griffin declared interests in Item 15 and withdrew from the meeting. Cllr A Griffin confirmed that the Deputy Chair would chair the meeting during his absence.

4) Public Participation Session

Whilst members of the public were present, no requests were made to address the Council.

5) Previous Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 21st January 2026 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the decisions taken.

6) Matters Arising from Minutes

Item 7 (21-Jan-26) Clerk reported that Stuart Danby had been nominated to be put forward to the draw for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

Item 14 (21-Jan-26) Severe Weather Action Plan: Cllr S Nazar to follow up with SP Networks

Item 16 (21-Jan-26) Speed Enforcement: Telemetry data provided by Powys CC indicates average vehicle speeds close to the 20mph limit. Concerns were raised regarding the limitations of telemetry data, and that physical traffic counters may provide a more complete picture. Community Speed Watch was discussed as a non-enforcement deterrent scheme.

RESOLVED that additional speed data be requested for key locations before progressing any community speed awareness initiatives.

ACTION: Clerk to request further data.

7) Reports & Announcements

- a) Mayors Announcements – Focus has been on the face-to-face sessions for the parking consultation. Initial session was well attended; other sessions only had 1 attendee each. Final session is Sunday 22nd Feb 9am to Noon. Will be attending the National Policing Seminar on 4th March.

- b) County Councillor Announcement: It was reported that potholes remain an ongoing issue, with highways and trunk roads continuing to be a priority. Meeting with Matt Perry, Powys CC Chief Officer to discuss the ongoing future of the Llanfyllin depot, staff recruitment was highlighted as a significant issue.

- c) Clerks Report: Clerk advised that the Council will be subject to a full audit, which will require significant preparation. An audit briefing paper setting out the audit timetable will be distributed. It was NOTED that an internal auditor will need to be appointed as part of the audit process.
- Clerk advised that the production of an annual report is a statutory requirement and should be drafted by Councillors. It was recommended that this be progressed via a Councillor working party.
- It was also noted that agenda and minute formats will be revised from April to improve traceability between decisions and related expenditure, in line with best practice.

8) Correspondence

- a) Memorial Benches: The Council considered and approved requests for two memorial benches: one within the Wetlands area (Llanfyllin Group Practice) and one at Cae Bodfach (Royal British Legion, in remembrance of Martin Beddoes), subject to agreement of location and installation details with the Clerk.
- b) Senedd Cymru Hustings Information: The Council considered and approved the publication of factual, non-political information relating to a Senedd Cymru hustings event, in accordance with pre-election guidance. Clerk to print and put on notice board.

9) Councillors Reports

- a) Cllr Kretchmer advised that she completed the One Voice Wales Biodiversity Training and had attended the defibrillator training arranged by Rotaract Welshpool.
- b) Cllr Williams advised that she attended the defibrillator training as well as the Llias meeting held in the Institute.
- c) Cllr S Cowham reported that he has been working to improve the Town Council website to make information and documents clearer and easier for residents to access. Attended training and events relating to biodiversity and resilience and developing skills and knowledge to better understand the Community Asset Transfer process. Exploring practical and low-cost ways to improve Welsh language inclusivity, using available AI tools and external support where appropriate.

10) Finance

- a) **RESOLVED** to approve the schedule of payments presented to the meeting. The invoices were checked by Cllr Nazar and validated by Cllr Cowham.
- b) **RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliation for January 2026 was verified and signed by Cllr Wilkinson.
- c) **RESOLVED** that Cllr Z Nazar and Cllr L Kretchmer be added to the online banking application to widen the authorisation of payments. A revised bank mandate will be presented at the next meeting for signature and approval.
- ACTION:** Clerk

11) Planning

- a) **RESOLVED** that the Town Council issue a letter of support in relation to the planning enforcement appeal and submit a letter of complaint to PEDW, and that Cllr A Griffin raise the matter with Russell George MS.
- b) There were no other planning notices to consider.

12) Bin Provisions & Waste Collection Arrangements

- a) The Council reviewed the current provision and condition of council-owned bins and noted that a number are damaged and that existing provision is insufficient in some locations.
- It was **RESOLVED** to approve the replacement of damaged bins and the provision of additional bins where required. Locations, specifications and costs are to be identified by Clerk and reported back to Council as appropriate.
- ACTION:** Clerk to obtain costs and options for replacement and additional bins.
- ACTION:** Cllr Nazar to map current bin provision across the town.
- ACTION:** Cllr Lewis to liaise with the depot regarding bin provision and collection arrangements.

- b) **RESOLVED** to explore the costs for a private dog waste collection service
ACTION: Clerk to explore potential waste collection options and bring back to council for decision

13) Litter Picking & Community Clean Up

Council noted litter picking within the town is currently undertaken on a voluntary basis, agreed that options to improve litter management (including engagement with Keep Wales Tidy and other local groups) be explored and reported back.

RESOLVED to hold a Councillor Litter Pick on Saturday 7 March at 1.00pm, meeting at the Institute.

ACTION: Cllr Lewis to obtain equipment.

14) Councillor Communication

Councillor email communication and information flow were reviewed, and practical measures to support clear, timely and consistent communication between Councillors were noted.

15) Confidential Session

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, due to the confidential nature of the business to be considered, as defined in Schedule 12A, paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.

Decision: Majority no abstentions.

Cllr A Griffin and Cllr J Griffin left the meeting. Deputy Chair Cllr S Cowham took the chair.

- a) **RESOLVED** to adopt a consistent approach to responding to posts or comments where appropriate, in line with the Council's Social Media Policy, and to use the agreed wording where required.
- b) **RESOLVED** that the One Voice Wales model job description be adopted to ensure a fair and impartial process, that a brief public and press advertisement be issued with the full job description provided on request, and that an external interviewer be appointed to chair the interview panel.