



Meeting Reference : Full Town Council : 21st January 2026

Council Response to Questions

In response to questions raised during the public participation session of the Full Town Council Meeting on Wednesday 21st January 2025, the Town Council provides the following clarification as requested.

1. Appointment of Permanent Clerk

Under the Local Government Act 1972, the appointment of a Clerk (Proper Officer) is a statutory function of the Town Council. Responsibility for recruitment, appointment, employment, and management of the Clerk rests solely with the Town Council as the employing authority. Powys County Council has no statutory role in the appointment of town or community council clerks.

2. Councillor Status

The last ordinary election for Llanfyllin Town Council took place in May 2022. At that election, seven [7] candidates came forward for twelve [12] available seats and were therefore returned uncontested. An uncontested election means that there were fewer candidates than seats available and, as a result, no ballot took place and no votes were cast by any member of the public. According to Powys CC who managed the election process, those elected uncontested in 2022 were as follows:

- Jacqueline Langston
- Jane Carrington
- Lynette Kretchmer
- Peter Lewis
- Margaret Ann Williams
- Ian Jones
- Sophie Nazar

Since the 2022 election, a number of councillors who were returned uncontested have subsequently resigned. These vacancies have been filled on several occasions over the past few years through the statutory co-option process.

Ordinary elections for town and community councils in Wales take place every five years. The next ordinary election will be held in May 2027.

At that point, all serving town councillors automatically cease to hold office. There is no automatic continuation of membership.

Elected vs Co-opted Powers

Once appointed, councillors—whether elected at an ordinary election, returned uncontested, or appointed by co-option—hold the same legal status, rights, duties, and authority. There is no distinction in law between elected and co-opted councillors in respect of attendance at meetings, voting, or the validity of decisions made by the Council.

With no legal differences, there is no statutory requirement for Council minutes to record or distinguish the method by which a councillor was appointed.