

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 23 MARCH 2026 AT 7.00 P.M.**

**674/25 PRESENT**

Councillor M Matthews (Mayor in the Chair) (left at 7:31pm)  
Councillor M Dorrance  
Councillor J Powell  
Councillor T Fretten  
Councillor M Thapa  
Councillor C Walton (remote)  
Councillor R Thomas (remote)  
Councillor S Morgans (remote)  
Councillor M Perry (remote)  
Councillor D Meredith  
Councillor S Drinan (remote)

**In Attendance:** Fiona Williams (Town Clerk) (remote)  
Rhys Ridge-Evans (Administrative Officer)

**675/25 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Stone, Rijnenberg, Walsh, and Davies. Apologies were also received from Mr Gillard and Miss Jones the Youth Representatives.

**676/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Meredith declared an interest in agenda item 13. Councillor Matthews declared an interest in agenda items 20 and 21.

**677/25 YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Councillor Walton provided an overview of the works that the newly appointed Youth Representatives have been involved with since they have been appointed.

**678/25 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor provided Members with updates about various events she had attended since the last meeting.

**SECTION A**

**679/25 FULL COUNCIL – 23 MARCH 2026**

## **Council Meeting 27 April 2026**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held 23 March 2026 (Pages 178 – 185) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered.

### **IT WAS RESOLVED**

**THAT the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 23 March 2026 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.**

### **680/25 PLANNING, GUILDHALL AND STAFFING COMMITTEE – 13 APRIL 2026**

The Minutes of the Planning, Guildhall and Staffing Committee held on 13 April 2026 (pages 189 – 191) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered.

### **IT WAS RESOLVED**

**THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Guildhall and Staffing Committee held on 13 April 2026 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.**

### **681/25 FINANCE AND COMMISSIONING OF CONTRACTS COMMITTEE – 13 APRIL 2026**

The Minutes of the Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee held on 13 April 2026 (Pages 195 – 198) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered

### **IT WAS RESOLVED**

**THAT the Minutes of the Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee held on 13 April 2026 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.**

### **682/25 ENVIRONMENT AND EVENTS COMMITTEE – 14 APRIL 2026**

The Minutes of the Environment and Events Committee held on 14 April 2026 (Pages 201 – 205) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered

### **IT WAS RESOLVED**

## Council Meeting 27 April 2026

**THAT the Minutes of the Environment and Events Committee held on 14 April 2026 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.**

### **683/25 ANNUAL REPORT 2026/27**

Submitted **C(A)** draft Annual Report for 2026/27. The Town Clerk informed those present that she is awaiting the report from the Environment and Events Committee to include within the Annual Report and also noted that some of the figures have not yet been updated pending completion of the year end accounts. It was noted the Vice Chair, Councillor Davies has agreed to work on the Environment and Events Committee report in the coming days.

#### **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**That Draft Annual Report for 2025/26 be approved as drafted, and published once the outstanding information is available.**

### **684/25 EMAIL RECEIVED FROM WELSHPOOL TOWN COUNCIL – FREE SATURDAY PARKING – WELSHPOOL TRIAL AND POTENTIAL POWYS-WIDE APPROACH**

Submitted **C(B)** email received from Welshpool Town Council concerning free Saturday parking, and Welshpool trial and potential Powys-wide approach, dated 20 March 2026. Members discussed this item in detail, and it was

#### **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**THAT a response be drafted in relation to the questions that have been asked and forwarded to Welshpool Town Council.**

### **685/25 INTERIM RESERVES REPORT**

Submitted **C(C)** interim reserves report prepared by the Town Clerk dated 18 April 2026. Members discussed this item in detail, and it was

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT all the reserves as noted within the report be retained for 2026/27.**

### **686/25 Y GAER QUARTERLY REPORT**

Submitted **C(D)** Y Gaer quarterly report.

## **Council Meeting 27 April 2026**

### **RESOLVED**

**THAT this information be taken as received and noted.**

#### **687/25 LIST OF DIRECT DEBITS 2026/27**

Submitted C(E) list of direct debits 2026/27.

### **RESOLVED**

**THAT this information be taken as received and noted.**

#### **688/25 SHOP FRONTAGE SCHEME UPDATE**

The Town Clerk notified Members that the Offer has been received and accepted from Powys County Council in relation to the shop front scheme and that all businesses that have applied have had their sub-offer via this Council. There are 31 businesses on the list at the moment. The Town Clerk confirmed to Members that the administration support via Antur Cymru has now ceased and that it will be this Council's responsibility to monitor and process the claims as they proceed. The Town Clerk confirmed that the value of funding that the businesses will benefit from is £219,000.

### **RESOLVED**

**THAT this information be taken as received and noted.**

#### **689/25 UPDATE PRIDE IN PLACE FUND**

As Councillor Meredith declared an interest in this agenda item, he left the Chamber and took no part in discussion. It was queried whether Members who had been involved in the project ought to declare an interest, and the Town Clerk confirmed that in her view this does not constitute a personal interest, and unless there is some other personal interest she did not consider this necessary.

The Town Clerk informed Members that an application has been applied for in the sum of £100k with the split being £40k to the market hall, £25k to the Westenders, and £35k for seating at the Pavillion at Penlan playing fields. It was noted that if successful, the owner of the market hall would match fund the project for the market hall. The Town Clerk informed Members that she has subsequently received correspondence from Powys County Council requesting that the application be reduced in value to £83,000 in total, being the maximum available for Brecon. Discussions took place about alternative grant funding sources.

## **Council Meeting 27 April 2026**

### **RESOLVED**

**THAT this information be taken as received and noted, and that a paper be prepared by the Town Clerk for the next meeting in regard to potential additional grant funding for the scheme.**

Councillor Meredith returned to the Chamber at this point.

### **690/25 PR OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM THE MEETING**

The shop frontage scheme.

### **691/25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Mayor informed Members that she had met with visitors from Saline who had presented her with a 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary letter and certificate.

### **692/25 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

#### **SECTION B**

### **RESOLVED**

**THAT in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted whereby matters of a possible personal nature might be discussed in relation to the finances or staff of the Council, and matters of a sensitive nature, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and that they be instructed to withdraw from the meeting.**