

**WELSHPOOL TOWN COUNCIL  
BUSINESS FORUM  
MINUTES**

**Of a meeting held in the Council Chamber (1<sup>st</sup> floor) Welshpool Town Hall  
on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018 at 6pm**

**1. Present were:**

Robert Robinson (acting Chair), Cllr F Veenstra, Christine Holmes, Heather Parkes, Alan Crowe, Kay Derwas and Cllr R Church (part)

**2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr S Kaye, Mervyn Parkes, Val Edwards and Freda Davies.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

The meeting approved the minutes of the last meeting.

**4. Town Centre update**

The meeting considered updates as follows:

**i) Around the town – shop lettings and vacancies.**

Most shops have now either been occupied or about to be except for Langfords. A discussion took place around shopping trends which are concerning.

**ii) Markets report.**

An update was given on the markets.

**5. Parking issues**

The meeting rejected the idea of progressing a Business Improvement District to pay for car parking. Mainly due to the low level of income that would be provided from business ratepayers towards the £150,000 approx required to give free parking (even if PCC was happy to allow this approach)

**6. Litter campaign**

An outline was given on the street scene. A change in the Keep Welshpool Tidy Week will take place in 2019 as there is much less litter in the town. This might involve bench painting etc.

**7. Transport Festival**

The meeting was updated on the Transport Festival. Puzzle Square could have a small amount of funding to provide something including an auto jumble.

## **8. New facilities for Welshpool**

The meeting considered an update on:

### **Main Line Railway Station**

First meetings have been held and designs are now being put in place.

### **Bus interchange**

The budget for the new bus interchange in the Berriew Street car park has been allowed for in 2018/2019.

### **One Way System review**

An outline of the changes to the one way system were outlined.

## **9. Promoting Welshpool**

The meeting noted the new leaflets distributed to promote Welshpool.

## **10. Powys County Council Budget Cuts**

The meeting considered the level of budget cuts about to take place. The Town Council will report at the next meeting..

## **11. Date of next meeting**

To note the next meeting to be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 6pm in the Council Chamber.