

Cyngor Tref **RHUDDLAN** Town Council



Minutes of the meeting of Rhuddlan Town Council held at Community Centre, Parliament Street, Rhuddlan on Thursday 10th December 2015 at 6.30pm.

Present: Cllr A Roberts (Mayor in the Chair), Cllr A Davies, Cllr W R Davies, Cllr G Williams, Cllr M Kermode, Cllr A Smith, Cllr J Burnham, Town Clerk.

Four members of the public were present.

105 APOLOGIES: Cllr G Rowlands, Cllr S King.

106 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

107 POLICE MATTERS - Apology received from PCSO R Evans who was not available to attend.. Verbal report read out by Town Clerk.

*'15/11/15 – Criminal Damage – Damage caused to window – Suspect identified, enquiries ongoing
18/11/15 – Drugs – Stop search conducted and person found to be in possession of drugs. Awaiting sentence at Crown Court.*

21/11/15 – Criminal Damage – Damage caused to bus shelter by passing car. No suspects identified

27/11/15 – Burglary other than dwelling – Damage caused to a number of touring caravans in storage. Enquiries ongoing.'

108 APPROVAL OF NOTES OF MEETING 12 NOVEMBER 2015

The notes were approved with minor amendments.

Matters Arising:-

Cllr A Davies has specifically requested that her comments are noted as follows:-

'Admirals playing field was gifted to the Parish Council of Rhuddlan by Admiral Rowley Conwy.

Do we have enough evidence to show the Town Council has the authority to transfer part of this land to the county council?

I reminded members of the letter that was sent to town council by the solicitor advising that the Deputy Mayor and the clerk should sign these legal papers, as the Mayor had a conflict of interest in the land.

I suggested the issue should be deferred as this could potentially place the Mayor and the council in a vulnerable position.

The Town Clerk received authorisation from the Council to sign the necessary paperwork in relation to the transfer of the land.

The Clerk also reported that she had consulted the Solicitor concerned to seek the legal position regarding who should sign on behalf of the Town Council with the Town Clerk as the Deputy Mayor was not happy to do so. Gwyn Lloyd Jones confirmed that it was in order for the Mayor to sign on behalf of the Council providing that this had been agreed and minuted. That being the case, the Mayor was not signing as a private resident. Clarification is to be sought as to whether a Declaration of Interest needs to be voiced in every meeting if the subject matter is the same and has already been declared at the outset – Town Clerk to clarify.

In addition, three Councillors had been tasked with reviewing the documents and their acceptance is duly noted in the minutes of 12 November.

109 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are initial discussions in place to hold a Charity Dinner on 22 April to commemorate the renowned Rhuddlan resident, Phillip Jones Griffiths and his contribution to the world stage of photography. In 2016, he would have celebrated his 80th year.

110 CORRESPONDENCE

From the Mayor: (This report had been pre-circulated as per the revised Standing orders)

Gweithgareddau y Maer. The Mayor's activities.

'21/11/15 - joined the "Hafan Deg" stalwarts who organised a trip to the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth to see the exhibition to remember Philip Jones Griffiths. The Mayoress and I really enjoyed the experience. Many thanks to the officers of "H D" for organising this trip especially Mr Richard Thompson.

25/11/15 - accompanied the Clerk to County Hall Rhuthun :- chance to meet the vice chair of the county and the county officers.

28/11/15 - visited the Dyserth Community Centre money raised for N.S.P.C.C.

29/11/15 - another pleasing experience was the visit to the Mayor of Towyn and Kinnel Bay Civic Sunday. That night was the Mayor's concert in Rhuddlan's Parish Church, a success even though the weather wasn't on the Mayor's side. Quote from St Mary's Sunday Sheet. "MAYOR ARWEL'S CHARITY CONCERT WAS ONE OF THE BEST WE HOSTED ALTHOUGH IT DIDN't get the turnout it deserved, the wind obviously had an effect." Many thanks to those of you who supported especially our Clerk. The money raised has reached £940.

2/12/15 - joined the Christmas Dinner festivities in Ysgol y Castell.

3/12/15 - accepted the invitation to join the festivities of Popeth Cymraeg - The Centre for Welsh Learners in Dinbych. They have now been in existence for twenty five years.

4/12/15 visited Ysgol y Castell P.T.A Christmas fayre. Then we really enjoyed the concert organised by Abergele Town Council.'

5/12/15 - the weather was a real damper against the Rhuddlan Christmas extravaganza. Felt very sorry for the organising team.

6/12/15 - Sunday Service in St Mary's Church St John's Ambulance Brigade Carol Service.

8/12/15 - Pengwern College Christmas Occasion. Moving from there to Chairman of Denbighshire County Council's Christmas Carol Service.

From the Town Clerk

(This report had been pre-circulated as per the revised Standing orders)

- Letters of thanks sent to the key participants in the Remembrance Service
- Letter of thanks sent to Maureen Tompkins regarding the refreshments after switching on of the Christmas lights
- Letter of thanks to the pupils of Ysgol y Castell for their participation and support of the light switching ceremony
- Medals ordered
- E mail received from Meirion Hughes and Gareth Wynne Jones relating to the Ombudsman's decision re Cynwyd Town Council and asking what is RTC's position in regards to a bi-lingual policy. It was agreed that the Council would adhere to the current legal position and clear guidelines in place on this issue. However updated clarification will be sought by the Mayor.
- Posters on display for best dressed window for businesses and best dressed personal property
- Councillor vacancy will now be on a Co-opted basis (as there was no call for an election) – closing date 29 Dec. Brief application form produced in order to assist to make a decision on an equitable basis.
- Phone call with Festive Lighting to thank them for their service
- Noticeboard has been ordered
- Attended a DCC Q+A session with the Mayor in the Council offices in Ruthin
- Attended a meeting to discuss the refurbishment plans for the Library
- Will be attending the quarterly SLCC meeting in Llangollen on 11 December
- Provided information to the Journal on activities in Rhuddlan leading up to Christmas which was published in the Journal 1st December.
- Promotional notices are being displayed on the doors of the RTC Noticeboard by persons unknown. As I'm not in Rhuddlan every day, please can Councillors help by looking to see, when passing, if anything has been placed there and if so remove it/them. All requests for notices to be displayed should be made through the Town Clerk and will always be placed inside the board, should they be agreed.

- E mail received from a resident regarding the litter on Admirals Field on Monday 7 December.
- A letter of thanks had been received from Gwledd Rhuddlan Fest re Events funding.
- It was agreed that a laminating machine should be purchased for the use of the Town Council – cost approx.. £20-

111 COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

From the Mayor (pre circulated)

*‘Most things that I have been involved with are on going since the last meeting. The library, the bus shelters, the transport of Rhuddlan children to Ysgol Dewi Sant.
Another issue which has arisen is the proposed new Faith School in Denbighshire.’*

Additionally the Mayor reported that he isn't completely in favour of placing the new Faith school in Rhuddlan as the Church authorities are.

Additionally DCC are looking to stop providing transport from Rhuddlan to Ysgol Dewi Sant. The Mayor said that the County needs to place a pedestrian crossing near the Bryn Cwybr crossing - Mayor to press the highways section and also consider should the 30mph speed restriction be placed further out towards Rhuddlan?

The Mayor thanked Cllr R Davies for ringing the bells at the Concert and for arranging for a barrier to be put in place around the Christmas tree.

The Mayor also advised that if a complaint is received from a resident regarding the unacceptable state of next door's garden, then there could be public protection issues here and Paul Mead at DCC should be advised.

From Cllr A Davies

Cllr Davies advised that the snowdrops had been planted in Vicarage Lane.

No further questions were raised.

Castle Lights – Town Clerk to engage with CADW and the Custodian of the Castle to enquire whether this is a feasible proposition.

116 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 14 January 2015 with the Precept meeting to be held on 21 January 2015.

Additionally, the Mayor advised that the Carol singing by the Christmas Tree in the High St would take place on 15 December.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

.....
Signed by Cllr A Roberts, Mayor of Rhuddlan
14 January 2016