



**Minutes of the meeting of Rhuddlan Town Council held at Community Centre, Parliament Street, Rhuddlan on Thursday 8th October 2015 at 7.00pm.**

Present: Cllr A Roberts (Mayor in the Chair), Cllr W R Davies, Cllr G Rowlands, Cllr G Williams, Cllr M Kermode, Cllr S King, Cllr A Smith, Cllr J T Jones, Cllr A Davies, Cllr I Phillips, Town Clerk.

The meeting convened at 7pm after the Mayor presented a cheque of to £1225 one of his nominated charities CLIC Sargent

Five members of the public were present.

**75 APOLOGIES:** Cllr J Burnham

**76 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** Cllr G Rowlands declared a possible interest in the Planning Section

**77 APPOINTMENT OF NEW COUNCILLOR – I Phillips**

The Mayor officially welcomed Cllr I Phillips as a co-opted Councillor of Rhuddlan Town Council. Councillor I Phillips signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**78 POLICE MATTERS:** Sergeant Mark Jones (Sgt 2562) and PCSO Rebecca Evans (3329) attended.

Sergeant Jones outlined his aim of ensuring a strong partnership between the Police and the Council. He advised that PC Jim Jones and PCSO Rebecca Evans would be permanently stationed at Rhuddlan Police Station.

He presented the Council with the Rhuddlan Neighbourhood Policing Team Report and Recorded Crimes Review 2015. He reported that overall Rhuddlan had seen a 14% decrease in recorded crimes since 2014. He did, however, report that a burglary had taken place today, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, and investigations had commenced.

He asked the Councillors to liaise with the Police should they become aware of any vulnerable people and to share their addresses with them if considered appropriate.

Sergeant Jones confirmed that the Police did receive nuisance callers/time wasters and although there were obvious cost implications, he confirmed that the Police had to respond to every call. The Police work in partnership with the Mental Health Teams when appropriate.

The Council queried the Police policy for parking on pavements and footpaths. Sergeant Jones advised that driving on a footpath was an offence but there was no offence for parking on a footpath. He advised that to prosecute the Police needed to see the motorist actually driving on the footpath.

The question of Cyclists using the pavements was raised. Whilst there is no specific law regarding this the Highway Code covers shared footpaths and it may be that some publicity can be arranged to address this issue.

The Police were asked to advise when it was appropriate to dial 101 in preference to 999 as there was some occasional experience of delays in responding to 999 calls. It was advised that it was appropriate to call 999 when a crime was being witnessed.

An Accident on the By-Pass was highlighted and Sergeant Jones advised that a site meeting had been called for 13<sup>th</sup> October.

The Council thanked the Police for their increased presence in Rhuddlan and it was confirmed that that there were no current intentions to reduce Police presence in the Town.

*Reported incidents 3<sup>rd</sup> September – 8th October in Rhuddlan.*

#### *September*

*11/09/15 – Making Off Texaco Garage – Suspect identified, Enquiries ongoing*

*19/09/15 – Assault Plas Lorna – No Complaint*

*26/09/15 – Harassment Rhodfa Anwyl – Police Information Notice Given*

*27/09/15 – Common Assault New Inn – Investigation Ongoing*

*27/09/15 – Shoplifting Co-Op – Suspect charged*

#### *October*

*02/10/15 – Common Assault Castle Inn – Enquiries ongoing*

*03/10/15 – Shoplifting Co-Op – Enquiries ongoing*

## **79 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING 3 SEPTEMBER**

Approved

## **80 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor circulated the following report prior to the meeting

'I have been introducing myself to different businesses in the town with Sion and the pictures are then seen on the Rhuddlan Town website. This is continuing on a weekly basis. The Mayoress and I were present in Abergele's Civic Sunday on the 20th of September. I was so happy the Mayor's chain was returned to Rhuddlan repaired two days before.

Welcomed Elfed and Tracey Williams to Rhuddlan on the 12th of September 8 a.m. They were cycling between six castles in North Wales starting from Denbigh Castle they were raising money for Hope House and CADMHAS (Conwy and Denbighshire Mental Health Advocacy Service)

Visited the Cylch Meithrin which is being held in Ebeneser Chapel. Promised to help them financially and therefore I am organising a bilingual Concert for them in Ysgol Dewi Sant on Friday the 6th of November. Tickets -£6.

After the zip wire journey the amount of money raised to CLIC Sargent has reached £1225. I am very grateful to the people who sponsored me.

Looking forward to the Mayor's Civic Sunday now - 4th of October'

Additionally the Mayor thanked everyone who had helped him in organising his Civic Service. He was delighted with the support he had received and advised that £500 had been raised on the day and he had paid £50 for the use of the Chapel.

## **81 STANDING ORDERS**

The draft Standing Orders were accepted by the Council with the following amendments:

- 11(1) - The Minutes of the proceedings of the Council are kept in a file not in a book. Each page of the Minutes will be initialled by the Chair of the Meeting.
- 18(2) - All Councillors can be signatories on the Bank Account.

## **82 CORRESPONDENCE**

From the Mayor:

- The Mayor reported that he had accepted an invitation to open the new Fitness Lounge in Rhuddlan on 12<sup>th</sup> October.
- The Mayor confirmed that he and the Mayoress would hopefully be attending a Civic Service in Holywell on 25<sup>th</sup> October.

From the Town Clerk

- The Town Clerk attended a One Voice Wales training event on Local Government Finance.
- Town Events Fund. A Draft Paper which had been circulated was agreed and adopted.
- Update on Library. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should attend, together with Cllr S King, with Cllr G Williams and Cllr I Phillips as reserves, the meetings which are in course of being arranged by DCC.

- Remembrance Sunday. Cllr A Smith reported that the Wreath had been ordered and also confirmed that the School will have a representative this year together with the Dragons Football Team and Cylch Meithrin.
- It was agreed to order Medals for the ex Mayoresses who had not previously received one (when they were in the position of accompanying the Mayor at the time), the Clerk was given authority to 'bulk purchase' these to get a better price and the Council would then be reimbursed with each medal as required.
- A visit had been made to HSBC to view the deeds of Admirals Field but the information required was not available.
- A request had been received from the Dragons Football Club to have lines burned on the Playing Field to mark an 11 a side pitch. Town Clerk was requested to contact the Dragons for indicative costings
- Castle Fields Estate Play Area. Correspondence had been received about a possible plan to construct a Play Area on the Estate. The Mayor will raise this issue in a DCC Committee.
- The Orchard Development. It was agreed that Cllrs G Williams, A Smith and G Rowlands would visit the drawings and paperwork and report back to the Council at the next meeting.
- Next meeting of North Wales and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Cllrs M Kermode and J T Jones will attend. Cllr M Kermode will circulate an update ahead of the next Town Council Meeting.
- The Town Clerk thanked Cllr G Rowlands for his recent assistance in measuring the Notice Board.
- Letter received from Rhuddlan Town Community Association thanking for the donation received towards the purchase of a Defibrillator and Cabinet

### **83 COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT**

The Mayor has circulated the following report prior to the meeting

'Handrails between the two car parks have been ordered.

Bus Shelters - complications a) Rhuddlan's shelters are different to other shelters along the route i.e the measurements, the officer is contacting the company who supplied them and that the panels can be correctly measured. b) Public Realm are not in complete agreement with the suggestion that the panels should be glass, different sections of the county not following the same procedure, but they are still in discussion stage.

CCTV - I was present in the last meeting whilst my fellow County Councillor will be in the next meeting on the 5th of October. I reported verbally that our Town Council will support the proposed new procedures for the cameras, they need a written confirmation though.

Bridge - Cllr Ann Davies will report.

Library - meeting soon with the asset manager, Cllr A Davies, Library Staff, Roger Ellerton (youth manager).

They have agreed with my suggestion that the Town Clerk should be invited also.

Two residents are requesting that a dropped kerb should be placed in Pentre Lane this has been reported to the officers in charge'

It was agreed to support the CCTV proposition for 1 year initially. The Town Clerk was instructed to contact Emlyn Jones at DCC to confirm and also to advise that Cllr G Rowlands would be the representative of the Council in all relevant Meetings.

A request had been received for a donation towards the planting of roses on the roundabout closest to the Golf Club – it was agreed that this should be moved to Part 2 and this additional item, (in line with Urgent matters via Standing Orders) would be added to the Agenda.

Cllr A Davies congratulated the Mayor on his successful Civic Service and reported as follows:-

**'Rhuddlan Bridge:-**

Work commencing 24th October for 10 days.

Passenger transport are placing information of the amended bus service at local bus stops.

The preferred temporary route has not been disclosed as yet.

**Library:-**

We are expecting to have a meeting very soon with library staff and officers, it has been suggested the Town Clerk attends also.

Jamie Groves will attend Town Council Meeting with an update.

**Overgrown trees:-**

Complaints from many residents regarding the over grown trees which are restricting the street lights and infringing on the roof of the library and nearby residents garages.

Officers have decided that they will carry out a crown reduction.

5 of the trees will be funded from Library services. 1 tree is on Town Council land, a quote will be sent to Town Council for consideration

**CCTV:-**

I attended a meeting on Monday to discuss the future of the CCTV. Rhyl, Prestatyn as well as Rhuddlan Town Council have agreed to go in partnership, but are still waiting for replies from other partners including the police response. We are waiting also for a quote for the repair/replacement or possible relocation of cameras to Rhuddlan from elsewhere. Hopefully these 4 cameras will be up and running very soon.

**Tan yr Eglwys:-**

There has been a slight delay regarding this scheme. The green space development officer is now looking to finalise the scheme to make the estate much nicer for residents.

**Pengwern College**

I welcomed students from Pengwern College to the library, it was pleasing to see their enjoyment of the books. The tutor expressed a wish for their students to visit our Town Council meeting.

**Carers Rights Day:-**

The first ever Carer Assembly to mark the 50th anniversary of Carers Rights Day was held in Cardiff.

60 carers from across Wales will represent each Assembly Members' constituency to make statements and debate key issues that impact carers. As Carers Champion I will be attending this meeting.

**Dropped kerbs:-**

the much needed dropped kerbs in Princess Road/Dyserth Road will be done at the same time as the junction to Castle Street/Princess Road. This scheme has been approved by the Lead Member, with the agreement of both County Councillors.

**Maes Elwy**

We have recently been advised that Maes Elwy Nursing Home in Trefnant will be closing.'

**84 PLANNING**

Councillors M Kermode, A Roberts, I Phillips and A Davies abstained from the discussion.

Planning Application 44/2015/0827 was agreed subject to the Sycamore Tree concerned being pruned and not felled.

Cllr G Rowlands declared an interest in the second application.

Planning Application 44/2015/0868 was not agreed. Proposal rejected on the grounds that it was felt that it would be detrimental to the Area and that a precedent would be set.

Town Clerk to request a site meeting with the Planning Officer, both County Councillors and Cllr S King. Cllr A Davies to request that it goes to Committee.

**85 BUDGET AND FINANCE ISSUES**

The Town Clerk reported as follows

- Reduction in quote by Festive Lighting of £743.73.
- External Audit sent to Hacker Young. Wales Audit Office advised that the Auditor General for Wales will become the Council's Statutory Auditor after completion of this Audit.

The following Invoices for payment were agreed.

Thomas Fattorini. Mayors Chain - £332.50

Hire of Community Centre on 10 September - £12

Town Clerks Expenses - £67.65

The following quotations were agreed albeit payment is not yet due.

Christmas Trees - £280

Rhuddlan Town Community Association - £100 (Refreshments on Remembrance Sunday)

DCC - £2952 ex VAT (Christmas Lighting – unchanged for last 3 years)

**86 URGENT MATTERS**

- Town Clerk to write to DCC to request an update on the new order coming out re Dog Fouling on the Playing Field and Vicarage Lane Play Area. Draft documents to be requested.
- Town Clerk to write to both Football Clubs to request that they ensure that any litter left by them is collected before they leave.

- Mayor advised that he will be holding his Charity Concert in the Parish Church on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November. The Connection Choir and Cytgan will take part.
- It was agreed that the proposal to plant Roses on the Roundabout by the Golf Club should be moved into Part 2.

**87 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 12 November

**88 PART 2 – ROSES ON GOLF CLUB ROUNDABOUT**

Cllr M Kermode declared an interest. Cllr G Rowlands abstained. All other Cllrs were in agreement apart from Cllr S King

It was agreed that the Town Council would sponsor the Roses for £450 and payment sent to Denbighshire County Council and a sign should be erected on the Roundabout to reflect this. Cllr A Roberts will liaise with John Chapman at DCC.

Meeting closed 9.55 pm

Signed.....

Mayor 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015