

Cyngor Tref **RHUDDLAN** *Town Council*



Minutes of the meeting of Rhuddlan Town Council held at Community Centre, Parliament Street, Rhuddlan on Thursday 9th of February 2017 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: Andy Smith (Deputy Mayor in the Chair), Reg Davies, Mike Kermode, Arwel Roberts, Ann Davies, Syd Gaskin, Gareth Smith, Gareth Rowlands, Town Clerk.

Two members of the public were present

142 APOLOGIES: Councillors: Sara King, Gwilym Williams

A minute silence was held in respect of former Cllr J T Jones (Charlie).

143 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: Councillor Gareth Rowlands - planning applications.

144 CADWYN CLWYD – ibeacon PROJECT

Sarah Jones from Cadwyn Clwyd and Jo Danson a consultant working on the project gave a presentation on the above project across Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham. The project aims to pilot a new approach to delivering heritage information to visitors through ibeacon which is a small electronic device that allow you to tell site-specific stories on location via smartphone or tablet without the need for WIFI. The project will work seamlessly as part of North East Wales tourism experience. Cadwyn are looking for communities to link into this project. The aim is to have a working app featuring six communities available from Easter 2017. The scheme needs volunteers from participating communities to work with the appointed consultant to bring together interpretive information about the project.

Each community is asked to contribute £750 which is one third of the cost i.e. For this communities, will receive approximately 5 days of support from the consultants to develop a trail of up to 10 ibeacon plus an additional day for installation and technical support. Future costs should be minimal. Batteries for the ibeacon are about £2 while a replacement beacon is currently £20.

Cllrs felt that this project was very timely as it could link into the new Town Council Website and would be beneficial to visitors and also provide information to local people. It was resolved that Rhuddlan Town Council link into the scheme.

145 POLICE MATTERS

Sergeant Mark Jones and PCSO Rebecca Evans attended the meeting.

Mark Jones is responsible for a team of 3 police officers and 10 PCSO that covers Rhuddlan and Prestatyn. There are now 2 PCSO's covering Rhuddlan – Rebecca Evans and Kevin Casey

There are very few problems in Rhuddlan which is good as it means that the police have more time getting involved in community events and groups.

There are 4 CCTV cameras in Rhuddlan. All of them have been updated to high definition and they are extremely good. CCTV is one part of the jigsaw in prevention and is a contributing factor to making residents feel safe.

Councillors were concerned about the number of accidents that are happening on Pengwern road. Sergeant Mark Jones said that he will look into the statistics and will liaise with The Highway section in County Council.

PCSO Rebecca Evans read out incident statistics for period 11/01/17 – 04/02/17

06/01/17	B5429 Minor injury collision.
10/01/17	Pentre Lane Collision – Matter dealt with by insurance companies
17/01/17	St. Asaph Road – 1 vehicle accident – No further police action
22/01/17	Theft of pedal cycle Abergele Road – No suspects identified, all enquiries completed
30/01/17	Shoplifting Spar – Suspect identified, enquiries ongoing
30/01/17	Theft Ffordd Aber – Suspect identified, enquiries ongoing

With regards to shoplifting at Spar on the 30/01/2017, there is no further update but the police are looking into it as it is linked to the other incident that also took place on the 30/01/2017.

146 MINUTES

The minutes were approved subject to the changes listed:

Item 131 – to give clarification to the library opening hours

Item 140 (ii) to change “Personnel” to “Personnel Committee”

147 MATTERS ARISING:

a. Rhuddlan library

The Town Clerk to ask the library if the Town Council can put a notice board in the library. If agreed, it was resolved to go ahead to purchase a notice board with a credit limit of £500.

b. Rhuddlan surgery

On-going concerns about waiting time for prescriptions. Cllr Arwel Roberts and Ann Davies are meeting Health Board official on the on 24th February. Cllr Reg Davies is also invited to attend the meeting to represent the town.

c. Tree planting

Cllr Gareth Rowlands has spoken to the Allotments Society and they have no objections to having the trees planted down the allotments fence. It was resolved that the Town Clerk liaise with Glascoed to progress. Glascoed to contact Cllr Gareth Rowlands with regards to exact location of trees.

d. Pie n Mash night

The date has changed from March 18th to March 25th. Please support this event.

e. Houses of Parliament visit

A new PA to James Davies MP is to start soon and will be in contact with the Town Clerk with dates.

f. The History Society

The Society have requested a planter for flowers in front of the gate of the Arch. It was resolved that the Town Clerk go to Meifod to purchase.

g. New lights column

A New light column to be installed at Gwindy Street and Kerfoot Avenue (not Vicarage Lane) as was included in the minutes of the last Town Council meeting.

h. Xmas tree

Cllr Arwel Roberts and the Town Clerk have visited The End Salon to ask for an invoice (for the damage to property) to be forwarded to Town Clerk. No invoice has been received to date. No further action to be taken.

i. Parking limit

A Traffic Officer has been seen patrolling the street to monitor if people are exceeding the time limit.

j. Change of speed limit around Sainsbury's

The County Council have based their survey on the old speed limit. They should be asked to carry out another survey based on the new speed limit.

k. Proposed Dog Control Measures

Cllr Gareth Rowlands reported back on cost of producing 2 waterproof stencils for £9.80. Bigger signs are needed. The question was asked if Rhuddlan Town Council can put forward proposals to County Council to help tackle dog fouling problem. It was resolved to set up a Working group comprising of Cllr Gareth Rowlands, Gareth Smith, Arwel Roberts, Tim Wynne Evans (County Council) and Town Clerk.

148 CORRESPONDENCE

MAYOR

The Mayor attended the Aber-Morfa Mission Area Commissioners Service held at St Mary's Church on the 15th of January.

TOWN CLERK

a. Cllr Gwilym Williams letter

A letter of resignation was received from Cllr Gwilym Williams and was read out to Town Councillors. It was with sadness that Town Councillors accepted the resignation. Cllr Gwilym Williams has been a valuable member of the Town Council for many years and his presence will be sorely missed.

Although, technically, a vacancy exists on the Town Council, there is no need to advertise as it falls within the 6-month limit of the elections in May 2017. The Town Clerk to inform the Election Officer in the County Council.

b. Castle Lights

Gwilym Pritchard is in the process of getting a quote from an electrical contractor. Once he receives this, then the work can progress. Gwilym hopes to report back with positive progress / completion before the end of next month.

c. Town and Community Councils Survey

The Welsh Government are carrying out a survey which aims to find out more about services and assets town/parish councils are currently responsible for and whether they are considering taking on more responsibility for services and assets in the future. Deadline 30 March. Town Clerk to complete.

d. Open Space Assessment and Audit – Rhuddlan

Denbighshire County Council are carrying out an audit of open spaces. This audit needs to be completed. Cllrs to review the report before the next meeting and provide feedback.

e. Spring Clean Cymru

Keep Wales Tidy are running a campaign Spring Clean Cymru from 1 – 5 of March which aims to inspire people to get outdoors, get active and help care for their local area. Town Clerk to place a poster on the notice board and forward to the school. The question was asked if the Environment Group (that carry out a lot of excellent work in Rhuddlan) need help from Rhuddlan Town Council. Town Clerk to contact to find out.

f. Rhuddlan Events Committee

A letter has been received from the above organisation asking for financial assistance to commemorate the end of the 1st World War. The letter also asked for permission to hold the Party in the Park on the Admirals Playing field on the 22 July 2017. It was resolved to support the request for financial assistance in principle but that more details were needed and it will be considered in next year's budget. It was resolved to agree to give permission for the Party in the Park to be held on the Admirals Playing Field. Town Clerk to action.

g. Potholes in Clos David Owen

Declaration of Interest by Cllrs: Gareth Rowlands, Arwel Roberts, Reg Davies

The Town Clerk has written to four construction companies inviting quotes to rectify problem of potholes in Clos David Owen. Two companies responded: K&M Construction and Lawsons.

K&M Construction quoted for filling potholes with compact recycled road planning material. Lawsons Construction quoted for filling potholes and tarmacking. K&M Construction were given the opportunity to re-quote to include tarmacking but did not respond. It was resolved to award the contract to Lawsons which would give a long-term solution.

h. Buckingham Palace Visit

The Mayor has been invited to Buckingham Palace 1st of June 2017. It was resolved to give an allowance of £250 towards expenses to cover travel and hotel costs.

NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Cllr Mike Kermode attended this meeting.

a. Planning Aid Wales

The organisation's purpose is to help local communities to engage with the planning process, in particular, the Planning Act (Wales) 2015 and its requirement for consultation and community engagement for planning proposals for 10+ houses. There are three key stakeholders in this process – the developers; the main planning authority and the local community facilitated by Town and Community Councils. Planning Aid Wales can provide support and training to Town and Community Councils in this role. More information is available from their website www.planningaidwales.org.uk

b. Local Government Re-organisation

A statement from the Welsh Government is expected to be released shortly.

c. Rating Revaluation 2017

The Association's Secretary has reviewed the present proposals with his main observations being: (a) Rateable values continue to be based on the rental value of the property at the valuation date. (b) The rate in the pound multiplied against rateable values is to rise from 48.5p to 49.9p (c) Overall valuation of commercial rents in Wales is 1.97% less than in 2008. However, this has not been applied equally to all areas e.g. Powys has increased by 5%; so, there are still inconsistencies in the process. (d) Property owners can appeal against their new rateable values but it should be noted that appeals can lead to the values being increased.

d. Association Plan 2016-2022

A wide-ranging set of aims and objectives was agreed under the overall Mission Statement of *"The Association is to strive to improve the quality of life of the people in Mid and North Wales by the membership working together"*. Full details of the agreed plan can be seen on the Association's website www.northwaslesassoc.org

149. COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Cllr Arwel Roberts

a. Station Road.

Trees along Station Road, National Resources Wales have cleared the trees in preparation of an earth bund which will be constructed there.

b. CCTV.

I have represented the town in meetings with Cllr Ann Davies with regard to these cameras before Cllr Rowlands was nominated to represent the town. Indeed both of us were adamant that we should have good working cameras and the county obliged. Since then I have visited Colwyn Bay and Chester in the company of Cllr Kermode in Colwyn Bay and Cllr Rowlands in Chester. Both presentation from the camera experts were excellent.

c. Baw Ci - Dog Muck.

I have been in discussions with Tim Wynne Evans and Emlyn Jones with regard dog fouling stencils. DCC are willing to purchase six of them. They are in the process of finding quotes for our perusal and we could then purchase a few more. To be discussed.

d. Y Bont - The Bridge.

The ancient bridge is still heavily used, I'm worried that the police and County are ignoring the weight limit for crossing the bridge. Just complained that the bridge is covered with muck. Could the town council invite Mr James Hall the County Bridge engineer to explain how they are protecting this bridge and the bypass bridge?

e. Arwydd Brown- Brown Sign

Denbighshire County Council to carry out a feasibility study. Financial contribution is expected from Rhuddlan, St Asaph and Denbigh. The Minister Ken Skates to be approached to seek assistance.

f. Meddygfa – Surgery

Residents are contacting me with regard to problems within the surgery. Meeting has been arranged to discuss these problems with NHS staff 24th of February 11:00 a.m.

g. Bus stops - Station Road.

As promised by County Officer bus signs are in place now near bus shelters.

h. Accidents by the junction off the A525 towards Ysbyty Glan Clwyd.

Have sent a request to the highways department for data.

i. National Development Framework, 7/2/2017.

Represented the Town Council in a meeting in Conwy Business Centre to discuss this framework from Welsh Government. Many there, only two officers from Denbighshire present and myself. In groups, we were asked to point out which were the key factors for the framework. These were noted:

- 1) Better road and rail connection between South and North Wales.
- 2) Railways between England and North Wales should be electrified and be allowed to transport more freight.
- 3) Assist Town Centres to be developed.
- 4) Improve Digital Connection
- 5) Assist agriculture in Wales - assist food production
- 6) Housing needs should be developed on a local level.
- 7) Affordable housing for local people should be enhanced not 10% as within Denbighshire at present.
- 8) Energy needs within North Wales - more solar power etc.

This framework is just starting but the Prime Minister of Wales has stated that we need a new way of working across county and town borders.

j. Menter Iaith

A Quiz is to be held in the Castle Pub. 28th February at 8 pm. £5 per team which includes sandwiches.

Cllr Ann Davies

a. Princes Road

There is concern that Princes Road is a mess. There is mud that has accumulated for months on the road. This matter has been highlighted with County officers who say they've cleaned it four times. They are not sure when they can do it again as the road sweeper is out of action. Cllr Ann Davies to contact County Council again.

b. St. David's Day

A Charity Concert has been organised by the Chair of Denbighshire County Council on the 26th February at 7 p.m. at St Mary's church.

150 BUDGET AND FINANCE MATTERS

a. Denbighshire CCTV Partnership

A letter has been received from Denbighshire County Council requesting further financial contribution until 30th March 2018. It was resolved to contribute £3.5k for the 12 months and wait for the 3 Year Service Level Agreement before any further commitment. There is a meeting on the 23rd of March to progress with the Service Level Agreement. Discussions took place with regards to shopkeeper's displaying signs "You are in a CCTV area" which will discourage people from offending. The signs need to be more visible. Cllr Gareth Rowlands agreed to take the matter to the Denbighshire CCTV Partnership Board to get approval on exact wording for the sign.

b. Library Invoice

Councillors agreed that the library is a valuable asset in the community. However, there needs to be a better partnership working between the County Council and Town Council.

There are issues that need resolving such as: (i) the Service Level Agreement needs reviewing (ii) a joint working group needs to be set up (iii) an annual report needs to be submitted (iv) the plaque that was on the wall needs to be replaced.

It was resolved that the Town Council pay the £12k for 2016/17.

c. Invoices for approval

Accounts due: February 2017 - Appendix A

An additional cheque (No 101900) for £130 was signed to cover cost of buffet for Remembrance Sunday.

151 PLANNING MATTERS FOR COMMENT

Cllrs: Mike Kermode and Arwel Roberts abstained

(a) Application 46/2017/0016

Removal of 1 tree in a conservation area – Church Gates, Church Street, Rhuddlan. No objection.

(b) Application 44/2017/0055

Cllr Gareth Rowlands – Declaration of Interest.

Erection of detached dwelling – Land at 31 Princes Park, Rhuddlan. Objection on the grounds that the living room upstairs will be overlooking other properties.

(c) Application 44/2017/0072

Erection of 1 no. dwelling with detached garage and construction of a new vehicular access - land adjacent to Castle Hill Hylas Lane, Rhuddlan. No objection as long as current existing conditions be adhered to.

152. URGENT MATTERS: none

153. COMMUNITY MATTERS

a. The toilets by the King's Head

There were problems of no soap or water in the toilets; this is now sorted but the hand dryer is not working. One resident had contacted a Cllr to voice concerns that the County Council are going to close the toilets. Cllr Arwel Roberts to follow up.

b. Rubbish in Gwindy Street

Rubbish is prevalent in the street and under bushes. Cllr Ann Davies to follow up.

c. Footpath from Hylas Lane to Twtil

The footpath is dangerous as there is no gravel which makes it muddy. A lady slipped and hurt her hip. Cllr Arwel Roberts to contact Adrian Wall.

d. Sitting Bench (by the chemist)

Requests have been received for a bench to have a plaque in memory of the late Archie Cooledge. It was resolved to go ahead and also to have the bench cleaned and re-painted.

e. The Community Noticeboard

Trees are overhanging the notice board in which starlings are residing and making a mess on the pavement. It was resolved to contact Jon Chapman to report the problem.

f. The Knight's Sculpture

The wall behind the sculpture needs concealing. This item is already on the Blodeuo agenda and will be discussed very soon.

g. Library letter box

This is very unsightly – this item will be part of the dialogue as discussed under Item 150 (b).

h. Library Official Opening

To take place 1st of March at 10 a.m. All Cllrs are invited and to reply to the Town Clerk.

j. Bus shelters

These need cleaning. This item is on the Blodeuo agenda which will be discussed very soon.

k. Cllr Gwilym Williams’s plaque

This has been put up on the notice board.

i. Traffic Control over the Bridge

There were concerns over traffic control on the bridge which is of big concern as it is an ancient bridge. The traffic is gridlocked on weekdays at 8 a.m. – 8.15 a.m. The pelican crossing on the street exacerbates the problem which is sure to be compounded when ALDI opens. It was resolved to invite a County Council Officer to inform the Town Council what further measures can be put in place to alleviate the problem.

J. 7.5-ton Limit

Concerns were expressed about the 7.5-ton limit on vehicles that are being driven through Rhuddlan. Cllr Arwel Roberts to follow up with James Hall.

154. MINUTES OF PRECEPT 2017 – 18 MEETING 26th JANUARY 2017

- a. Minutes:** Approved
- b. Matters arising:** None

155. MINUTES OF BLODEUO MEETING HELD 12th JANUARY 2017

- a. Minutes:** Approved
- b. Matters arising:**

A meeting is arranged with Peter Barton Price of Wales in Bloom on February 10th. Cllr Gareth Rowlands and the Town Clerk attending.

The Wales in Bloom Launch event is to take place in Rhuddlan Community Centre on the 10th of March

All Cllrs will be invited to a Blodeuo meeting to be held on the 16th of Feb at 7 pm

156. NEXT MEETING: March 9th 2017 at 7 p.m.

Signed..... Cllr Andy Smith – Deputy Mayor

Date

Accounts due: February 2017**APPENDIX A****Cheque**

101879	S King	Mayoral Allowance	1000
101880	S King	Purchase of goods for buffet Civic Sunday	18.59
101881	S King	Purchase of goods for buffet Civic Sunday	383.94
101882	S King	Purchase of goods for buffet Civic Sunday	48.25
101883	Welsh Audit Office	External Audit of Accounts 2015/16	357.3
101884	Good signs	Cllr Gwilym Williams Plaque	17.76
101885	Good signs	Blodeuo Foamex & Stickers	36.96
101886	Denbighshire County Council	Contribution to Rhuddlan Library Disability Access	4000
101887	The Mayor's Charity Ball Account	St Asaph Mayors Charity Ball - 2 attending	52
101888	St Mary's Church, Rhuddlan	Donation for Civic Sunday	100
101889	Rhuddlan Town Community Assoc.	Room hire 26th January	12
101890	Morrall Play Services Ltd	Dec Quarterly Inspection @ Admirals and Vicarage Lane	234
101891	Sage & Company	Payroll charges Oct, Nov & Dec 2016	50.4
101892	SAWFAB	Repairs at Admirals Field Rhuddlan	648
101893	HM Revenue & Customs	Income Tax & National Insurance	39.7
101894	Town Clerk Travel Expenses	5 x Rhuddlan Journeys	69.75
101894	Town Clerk	Reimbursement for train fare - Mayor invite to Assembly	113.68
101894	Town Clerk	Monthly salary adjustment	26.61
101895	St Asaph Mayor's Charity Account	St Asaph Mayors Charity Ball - 2 @26	52
101896	Denbighshire County Council	Chairpersons Charity Concert x 2 @ £10	20
101897	Holywell Mayor's Charity Event	Charity Ball x 2 @ £25	50
101898	Prestatyn Mayors Charity Fund	Charity Ball x 2 @ £29	58
101899	Conwy Mayoral Lunch	Charity Lunch x 2 @ £15	30
DD	Town Clerk	Monthly salary	800
DD	Vodafone	Monthly mobile phone bill	21.99
DD	Scottish Power	Monthly electric bill	210.19
SO	Redstone Creative	Website Maintenance	125
			8576.12

* Bank failed to action cancellation of SO to Redstone Creative

