



**Minutes of the meeting of Rhuddlan Town Council held at Community Centre, Parliament Street, Rhuddlan on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016 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 Burnham, Cllr A Davies, Town Clerk.

Four members of the public were present.

**117 APOLOGIES:** Cllr I Phillips

**118 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** Cllr Rowlands (Planning), Mayor (Orchard Lane), Cllr A Davies (Doctor's surgery).

**119 UPDATE ON LIBRARY PROPOSALS –** Ffion Angharad, Customer Service Programme Manager. DCC

Main points were as follows:-

- Framework to be developed to look at what the 1 stop shop needs to deliver in Rhuddlan
- Facility needs to be multi-functional
- DCC to provide £100k for re-modelling
- Initial plans updated following feedback and new plans circulated during the meeting
- Need to consider additional uses for the 'Hub' e.g., Customer Service requirements, Town Council, DCC, Police surgery etc
- Network PC will be available for all users
- Possibility of an Interview/Consultation room
- Library staff will be consulted before anything is commissioned.
- Project will go to tender but it is not anticipated that the work will take more than 8 weeks
- There will be no modification to the outside building
- Discussion also to take place as to whether the outside signage will change
- It will be planned to allow sufficient natural light to the building but also in some areas, with consideration to privacy.
- It is intended that there will be an user friendly link to DCC – Digital PC's/Self Service facility and Direct Access forms
- Provision for CCTV outside has been included in the specification.
- The provision of adequate security will also be looked into as the Councillors were keen to ensure the building was secure enough to put on Exhibitions e.g., the work of Philip Jones Griffiths

- The provision of daily newspapers has returned
- Engagement with the Council will continue via ad-hoc meetings as required and all Councillors are welcome to attend.

The Mayor thanked Ffion Angharad for all her hard work.

**120 POLICE MATTERS:** report pre-circulated and read out by the Mayor in the absence of Police presence.

*'List of incidents in Rhuddlan 05/12/15 – 09/01/16.*

*09/12/15 Anti-Social Behaviour Maes Helyg – Neighbourhood dispute, advice given to both parties.*

*11/12/15 Harassment Castle Street – Enquiries ongoing*

*14/12/15 Assault Parliament Street – Incident filed, no complaint from the victim*

*19/12/15 Burglary other than dwelling (Damage to lock of shed) – Enquiries ongoing*

*20/12/15 Road related offence Castle Street– Person stop checked with no insurance – Offender summonsed to court and vehicle seized*

*24/12/15 Assault New Inn Public House – Enquiries ongoing*

*25/12/15 Driving under the influence Princes Road – Person charged*

*30/12/15 Theft from person (Incident on Arriva Bus) Highlands Close – Incident filed, no complaint from the victim*

*02/01/16 Criminal Damage to gate Princes Road – Filed, No suspects identified*

*07/01/15 Theft of mobile phone - Morfa Rhuddlan – Enquiries ongoing*

The following issues were subsequently discussed:-

- Over the Christmas period it is believed that there was an assault on Admirals Playing Field but this is not covered in the report – Mayor will take forward with PCSO
- Concern expressed regarding lack of Police presence at every meeting due to work scheduled, which restricts the ability to question issues.
- Press reports seem to imply that funding is being reduced for the provision of PCSO cover. Town Clerk to write to AM's regarding this issue.

## **121 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING 10 DECEMBER 2015**

The minutes were approved subject to the addition of more information/clarification of Point 108 and other minor amendments.

Matters arising:-

Clarification of Declaration of Interest still required.

Town Clerk to look into Code of Conduct training.

Mayor advised that he had spoken to DCC regarding the Welsh Language question and the issue in Cynwyd was that the Agenda was not bi-lingual. It was decided that whilst this could be provided in Rhuddlan, it was more prudent to wait for guidance from the Welsh Language Commissioner. All apart from one Councillor were in agreement.

## 122 RHUDDLAN SURGERY - UPDATE

The Mayor advised that he had written to Peter Higson, the chair of Betsi Cadwallader University Health Board to express his deep dis-satisfaction regarding the changes to the service provided from Rhuddlan Surgery and uncertainty about provision of the ongoing facility. No response had been received.

Cllr A Davies advised that there she met with representatives from the Health Board last Tuesday and the post had been advertised. Closing date is 31 January. If no response a locum would be appointed. Reference was made to the Model of Care adopted in Prestatyn. She further advised that there had been interest from another surgery to take it over. There is a duty of care to provide a surgery in Rhuddlan.

Concerns were expressed by all that if the surgery was run by BCUHB as a satellite, then locum Drs may be used and there would be no continuity of care for the residents of Rhuddlan registered at the Surgery.

There was much debate as to whether to call a Public meeting but as it was known that the Health Board would be meeting within the next few weeks, it was decided that further information would be requested and the decision as to whether to hold a Public meeting or not should be postponed for a month.

## 123 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Gweithgareddau y Maer. The Mayor's activities.

*'Diolch - Thanks to those of you who came to the Carol Singing Occasion around the Christmas Tree. Cllr Reg Davies especially for providing the barriers also around the tree. Also the Clerk for her support.*

*Congratulations to the winners of the Christmas competition best dressed business window - "Wish" house decorated with Christmas lights - the Harkers. Also the two town councillors who accompanied me to judge, also Sion who followed me afterwards for a photo shoot.*

*Christmas was a busy time for me and the flood wardens, many thanks to Clwyd Parry, Graham Ashton, Cllr Gareth Rowlands, Cllr Andy Smith and Cllr Reg Davies who left their Christmas festivities Christmas day and Boxing Day.*

*7-1-16 present in the monthly meeting of the Community Centre*

*13-1-16 - present also in the Rhuddlan History Society meeting.*

*16 -1 - 16 - invited to concert organised in Rhyl Town Hall*

*PCSO Rebecca Evans and I will be organising a patrol together and surgeries in the near future.*

*23-1-16 - the mayoress and I will be in a dinner event organised and the mayor and mayoress of Llandudno.*

*30-1-16 - both of us hope to be present in the Community Centre - coffee morning in aid of The*

*Tourettes Association- also that night we have the Cadets dinner in Prestatyn'*

The Mayor also wishes to report on the issue in relation to a tree found lodged under the bridge which was obstructing the flow of water on 23 December when river levels were already very high. The Environmental Agency were unable to support and arrangements had to be made via DCC for it to be removed by private contractors. The Mayor particularly wished to highlight (although previously mentioned in the report) the support that Cllr Smith, Cllr R Davies and Cllr Rowlands gave on Christmas Day and Boxing Day in order to ensure that any potential disaster was averted. Cllr King also supported on Boxing Day which was also much appreciated. Additionally County Cllr A Davies also was present. Particular thanks go to Andy Clark from DCC who supported the Council during this challenging period. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should formally write to thank him on behalf of the Council.

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

- Letter received via Cllr King from REC to be read out at the meeting (not yet in my possession). Decision – Town Clerk to send out letter of apology.
- Letters of thanks sent to Gwyn Price re PA system for Carol singing event
- Request received from Dial a Ride for permission to add recognition on the vehicle to RTC for providing support for their new Mini-bus 'Eileen'. Decision – Confirmed but the wording should be 'partly supported by ...'
- Information received for new Mini-bus service from Rhuddlan to Prestatyn High School by Voel Coaches. (timetable will be distributed in Council meeting). Decision – Mayor to write to Voel Coaches to query the difference in service/price between Prestatyn High School and Abergele.
- Wales in Bloom rep has been invited as requested, to February meeting
- Benefits Advice Shop – letter advising withdrawal of Rhuddlan advice sessions with effect from 11 December 2015.
- Final proof for Noticeboard to be approved (copies will be provided at the meeting). Decision - approved.
- Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations received from One Voice Wales – for discussion, if appropriate – E mail circulated.

## **124 COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT**

The Mayor had circulated the following report prior to the meeting:-

*'1) Chosen as one of the councillors to appoint a new officer for Denbighshire- marketing and communication- five on the short list.*

*2) Called out to inspect and report a pool of water in front of 1,2,3 Clos y Berllan.*

*3) I am glad to report that a formal notice has been delivered to the owners of a house in Clwyd*

*Avenue - untidy back and front garden.*

*4) I will not report on the library since Ffion Angharad will be present in the meeting on the 14th of January.*

*5) The bus shelters saga carries on, I will be presenting a response and a proposal from one of the County Officers in the meeting.*

*6) Residents with dogs are still ignoring the dangers of allowing their dogs to dirty the Town's streets. Officers have agreed to be present in our February meeting.'*

Report from Cllr A Davies (pre-circulated)

*'School Transport*

*There was a site meeting on December 15th with local Councillors, the school head teacher and officers of the council to discuss the issue of school transport from the Rhuddlan area to Ysgol Dewi Sant. At this meeting officers informed those present that the walk route to school had been assessed as hazardous due to the road crossing at Bryn Cwybr ( now Plas Lorna)*

*Transport for pupils will therefore continue from January until Easter 2016 when the crossing at Bryn Cwybr will be improved to include a refuge point for pedestrians and cyclist to cross safely.*

*Vicarage Lane.*

*A new gully to alleviate the flooding problem has been installed in Vicarage Lane.*

*Commuted Sum (Castlefields)*

*As the original s.106 required the developer to provide an equipped play area on site, this commuted sum could now be spent on equipping somewhere else in the town to enhance children's play.*

*A process will need to be followed and the town council will be consulted for comments, it will then go to the Elwy Group for recommendation.*

*Library*

*Following a press release from DCC and myself, the communications team have issued a statement through social media to reassure residents that no date has been arranged for modernising of the library, therefore, until further notice the library remains open for 'business as usual'.*

## **125 BUDGET/FINANCE ISSUES**

### **i) Accounts due**

The following invoices were agreed to be paid:-

Signscape	Noticeboard	£1,844.23
Town Clerk	Adjustment to salary	£21.08
Town Clerk	Stamps and Recorded delivery	£9.55
Town Clerk	4 x Abergele to Rhuddlan	£21.60
Morrall Play Services	quarterly assessment	£234.00
HM Revenue and Customs	Employer's contribution - Sept to Jan	£142.90
NW+MW Assoc of Local Councils	Quarterly meeting	£15.00

**£2,288.36**

It was agreed that a public notice should be placed to advise of the precept setting meeting on 21 January. One Councillor was against.

The Town Clerk invited questions ahead of the meeting, so that she could prepare any additional information.

ii) Initial ideas for funding to be included in Precept meeting

A separate fund for Events

Street Party to commemorate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday

Cost of repair for the lighting of the Castle – Town Clerk awaiting a response from CADW

## **126 PLANNING**

The Mayor, Cllr A Davies and Cllr M Kermode abstained from the discussion.

Planning Application 44/2015/1206 Felling of sycamore tree within Area G1 of Tree Preservation order No1/2004 at 11 Tirionfa Rhuddlan. No objections.

Declaration of interest by Cllr Rowlands

Appeal by Munchkins Day Nursery Rhyl Road Rhuddlan re Extensions and change of use of day nursery to for 1 no. dwelling (amended scheme). Cllrs instructed Town Clerk to reply to the Planning Dept re-iterating the objections relating to the initial application.

## **127 URGENT MATTERS**

As the Bus Shelter by the King's Head pub is the only one which is not covered by DCC's upgrade of Bus Shelter programme, it was agreed to split the cost of upgrade/repair with DCC on a 50/50 basis. Mayor will confirm this with DCC.

## **128 COMMUNITY MATTERS**

It was agreed that Rhuddlan Events Committee should be consulted to see if they were willing/planning the lighting of the Beacon to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Mayor advised that he was hosting a coffee morning in aid of Dementia Research on 20 February.

The Mayor further advised that he was hosting a Charity dinner to commemorate the life and work of Philip Jones Griffiths at Faenol Fawr Hotel on 22 April. He asked for support from the Councillors, both to attend and promote this event. The Town Clerk suggested that if Councillors were unable to attend, then would they please consider supporting the event by sourcing a raffle prize.

The Mayor reported that the issue regarding the Business signs (previously raised) had been escalated to Jon Chapman.

Additionally, the signage promised to acknowledge the provision of roses on the roundabout by the Town Council had still not materialised and the Mayor will take this matter up with DCC.

**129 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 11 February 2016 with precept setting meeting being called for Thursday 21 January 2016

**The Council agreed that the meeting would then move to Part 2.**

**130 PART 2 – REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS FOR TOWN COUNCILLOR POSITION ON A CO-OPTED BASIS**

It was unanimously agreed that the position should be offered to Sydney Gaskin.

Meeting closed 9.55 pm

Signed.....

Mayor 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016