

Cyngor Tref **RHUDDLAN** Town Council



Minutes of the meeting of Rhuddlan Town Council held at Community Centre, Parliament Street, Rhuddlan on Thursday 12th May 2016 (following the AGM) at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr S King (Mayor in the Chair), Cllr A Roberts, Cllr G Rowlands, Cllr A Smith, Cllr A Davies, Cllr J Burnham, Cllr G Williams, Cllr R Davies, Mrs R Clarke (Town Clerk.)

Four members of the public were present.

7 APOLOGIES: Cllr M Kermode, Cllr I Phillips

8 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

9 POLICE MATTERS: report pre-circulated complied via PCSO Rebecca Evans. Apologies for her absence submitted.

'30/04/16 Shoplifting Coop – Suspect identified, enquiries ongoing

04/05/16 Shoplifting Coop – Suspect identified, enquiries ongoing

06/05/16 Anti-Social Behaviour Station Road – Suspect identified, enquiries ongoing

10/05/16 Burglary other than dwelling – Caravan Storage broken into

Update regarding Burglary and Suspicious incident reported in April 2016.

Suspect has been identified, remanded in custody and charged with burglary offences. The male is not local to the Rhuddlan area.

Community Speed Watch.

Details and application form available for anyone wishing to take part in this initiative.'

10 MINUTES – To approve the minutes of the meeting of 14th April.

Minutes were approved

Matters arising:-

- None that were not scheduled to be covered later on in the meeting.

At this point, Cllr Williams asked to be excused from the meeting. He expressed his thanks to Ysbyty Glan Clwyd for all of the excellent care he had received recently and additionally, wished to wish

the incoming Mayor every success in her term of office. The Mayor shared her appreciation that he had been able to attend the meeting thus far.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

(i) From the Mayor

'My responsibility has continued until the end.

1) Dinner organised by the Mayor of Rhyl - 15th of April

2) Faenol Fawr dinner night - 22nd of April - well organised and a successful night.

3) Concert in the Rhyl Pavilion - 28th of April - supporting the ex Chairman oof County Council.

4) Travelled on the train from Rhyl to Cyffordd Llandudno. Occasion organised by the Mayor of Conwy - 7th of May. Taken by double decker to various parts of Llandudno Junction to see buskers and dancers. Returned home by train and car by 16:00 p.m.

Attended a dinner organised in the St George Hotel Llandudno. The Mayor and Mayoress of Conwy and Llandudno have been great company over my stint as Mayor.

5) Monday the 9th of May was my last official occasion for me as Mayor. Very good presentation given by the photographer Delyth Marian who had worked with year six pupils in Ysgol y Castell. My wife and I really were impressed how she has given the pupils the insight to the work of Philip Jones Griffiths who would have been eighty this year.

6) I'm sure we are very grateful to Cllr Reg Davies for the work he and his grandson Aled have done to improve the gate and arch in Church Street.'

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

- 1. Licence to erect Noticeboard at Rhyl Road Rhuddlan – authority for Clerk to sign?*
- 2. Update on the lights for the Castle*
- 3. Wales in Bloom – judging form 4-15 July*
- 4. Aelwyn Morgan award – closing date for entries?*
- 5. Comment on Draft Town Centre economic growth plan*
- 6. Letter received form Rhuddlan Community Group re re-installation of bin near Noticeboard*
- 7. Mayor and Clerk invited to Elwy City, Town and Community Cluster meeting on 17th May 6pm*
- 8. Section 38 Orchard Development agreement – letter received from DCC chasing receipt of signed documents which were sent to Gwyn Lloyd Jones Sols before the end of the year. Chased 7th March. GLJ advised he would send them the next day – still not been sent.*
- 9. Denbighshire Youth Service have agreed to attend June meeting*

CCTV update – presented by Cllr Rowlands.

An 8 page report had been pre-circulated from the Partnership Board. It was suggested that the Town Council should take up the opportunity of visiting the Control Room. The cameras in Rhuddlan are currently the most up to date available. It was decided to invite Emlyn Jones DCC to a future meeting – possibly in December.

(iii) Update from Blodeuo Rhuddlan Bloom

Plans are progressing. Notes of last meeting shared. Organisations will be invited to attend a meeting in a few weeks with a view to structure the next steps.

(iv) North Wales and Mid Wales Association of local Councils

A meeting of the Association was held on 22nd April in Welshpool; attended by Cllr. Kermode.

*The main point of interest was **Local Government Reform**.*

***Principal Councils** – The consultation exercise is now finished and the next steps regarding a reorganisation of the Principal Councils will be taken by the newly elected Welsh Government after 5th May. The indications are that reorganisation will take place quickly. Elections for Shadow Councils will take place in 2019 and the new Councils will take power in 2020.*

***Town and Community Councils** – It is likely that Town and Community Councillors elected in 2017 will have a term of 6 years.*

*Discussions have taken place with representatives from the **Boundary Commission (BC)**:*

The BC has a “target” to end up with 100 Town/Community Councils (TCCs). This is based on the Welsh Government’s views that the governance of Local Authorities is too complicated/expensive and that there are too many organisations involved.

If the “target” of 100 TCCs is used then it gives a simple average of each TCC having a population of 12,500. This means a merging of many of the existing TCCs because the BC will aim to keep the present boundaries rather than splitting areas.

For Town Councillors information – the populations of the TCCs in this area are:

Rhuddlan = 3,709; Dyserth = 2,269; Bodelwyddan = 1,794; St. Asaph = 3,355; Trefnant = 993.

Total population if all these Councils were merged = 12,100.

In terms of the number of Councillors; the BC seems happy to work on the basis that the new TCCs can operate with 25% of the present Councillors; thus 75% of seats will go.

The Association will be preparing a paper for the BC which will set out the views of TCCs on the proposals set out so far. If the Town Council wishes to express any views for inclusion in the Association’s paper to the BC then they can either be sent by the Town Clerk or reported verbally to the next meeting of the Association which will be on 15th July.

***Delivering Local Services** – Welshpool Town Council described how it had gathered feedback from local people in connection with the discussions that it was having with Powys County Council about taking responsibility for county services. Welshpool had undertaken a consultation and feedback exercise which had outlined the County Council’s costs of the various services which might be cut or transferred; together with the costs of having the services provided by the Town Council. The overwhelming feedback from the community was that they wanted to retain services and were happy for the Town Council to increase its budget/precept to run*

them. The consultation/feedback exercise cost £400. Many TCCs may find this a useful exercise if County Councils continue to cut their budgets and services, as they have had to do recently.

Update-

The Council expressed grave concerns about the proposals suggested. It was felt that the population would lose connectivity with local Government. It was noted that this was not yet at consultation stage but Cllr Kermode is requested to convey this view to the Association ahead of their next quarterly meeting.

12 COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Report from County Cllr A Roberts (pre-circulated)

- 1) Dropped kerb is in place in Pentre Lane.*
- 2) Bus Shelters - the work has started to improve them*
- 3) The issue of a safe walking route from Rhuddlan to Rhyl continues.*

Congratulations to Cllr Ann Davies - a long day today - 10th of May and she managed her first meeting as Chairman of the County Council very well.'

Report from County Cllr A Davies (pre-circulated)

PROPOSED ALDI FOOD STORE

'As part of the proposed traffic signal installation Aldi have been asked to consider a traffic signal head and detectors for the Nature Reserve car park, this will ensure the safety of pedestrians and cyclist. Although traffic signals are essential at this junction, this is still a proposal and it has not yet been through the planning process.

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CHAIR 2016/2017

I am delighted to be appointed as Chair of DCC for 2016/2017.

This will be a very interesting and challenging year ahead as we continue to work for a high performing council.

I will continue to serve on Rhuddlan town council and represent the residents of Rhuddlan as a County Councillor and Carers Champion.'

13 BUDGET/FINANCE ISSUES

i) Accounts due

The following invoices were agreed to be paid:-

Rhuddlan Events Committee	Donation agreed 14/4/16	£1,000.00
St Kentigern Hospice	Mayor and Consort attending Afternoon Tea	£40.00
Sage and Company	Managements of Clerk's Pay	£50.40
DCC	CCTV Contribution	£4,200.00
RT Comm Assoc	Hire of Community Centre	£36.00
Cllr Kermode	Mileage and car parking	£62.75

RTC	Mayor and Mayores' attendance at Dinner in Faenol Fawr	£50.00
Town Clerk	Flowers for AGM	£75.00
Town Clerk	Travel	£56.00
Town Clerk	Stationery	£10.50
Dementia Research	Donations from Mayoral event 22 April	£852.00
Town Clerk	Adjustment to salary	£9.88
HM Customs and Revenue	Clerk's pay	£39.70
		£6,482.23

Precept received £15617-00
26/4/16

26-Apr-16

ii) Investment Strategy and Risk Assessment

Town Clerk produced a draft for Investment Strategy in line with Financial Standing Orders. Agreed. Financial Risk Assessment reviewed and agreed.

14 PLANNING

The Mayor, and Cllr A Davies abstained.

- **44/2016/0391** - Erection of a flat roof extension at side of dwelling 11 Howell Ave, Rhuddlan. Action – no objection
- **44/2016/0378** - Formation of new vehicular access for agricultural vehicles – Land adjoining Morfa Lodge Abergele Road, Rhuddlan – Action – Clerk to advise of Council's rejection on the basis of non-requirement as there is already an alternative access in place.
- **44/2016/0388** – Rebuilding the existing 11kV single circuit overhead line Rhuddlan – Bodelwyddan/St Asaph at Electricity sub station adjoining Derwen St, St Asaph Rd, Rhuddlan. Action – no objection
- **44/2016/0200** – Erection of foodstore (Class A1) Land at March Road, Rhuddlan (amended plans). Action – Clerk to reiterate previous objection and to invite a representative from DCC planning to a meeting. Concerns are regarding the installation of traffic lights and their effect on traffic backing up to the main island.

15 URGENT MATTERS

None

16 COMMUNITY MATTERS

- Fibre connectivity could be improved. Cllr Roberts will provide Clerk with contact details and BT will be invited to attend the July meeting.
- Cllr Roberts will contact DCC regarding the damaged telephone box on Bodrhyddan Avenue. Also regarding the damaged railings by the Golf Club.
- Increased car parking charges – 300% increase. Clerk to write a letter to DCC
- Lack of grass cutting between Rhuddlan and St Asaph – County Cllrs to take forward.
- High St – finger post needs repainting – Cllr Roberts to take forward with DCC.

- State of repair of litter bins needs to be revisited – Cllr Roberts to take forward with DCC.
- Risk Assessment to be carried out on Admirals Field – Clerk to liaise with Cllr Roberts and Cllr Rowlands.
- Clerk to liaise with CADW to ascertain whether a digger could be used on site to lay the trench for the cable or whether it needed to be done manually.

17 PART 2

It was agreed that the meeting should move to Part 2 and members of the public were requested to leave.

Pay award discussion for Clerk postponed until June meeting. Request made by Clerk to take time out during the month of November and explained the reasons why. The Clerk offered to tender her resignation if this was not agreeable as the 3 month notice required would be valid. The Clerk has sought advice on this point by SLCC. It is acceptable for a meeting to be held in the absence of the Clerk for a short period of time as long as the Council agree and a designated note taker appointed. It is acceptable for this to be a Councillor. Volunteers were sought but no decision made. The Council agreed that the Clerk could be released from her role as requested.

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 9th June 2016 7pm

Signed.....

Mayor 9th June 2016