

**Minutes of a meeting to look at Traffic & Parking Issues at Rhuddlan
Town Council on the 22 June, 2017.**

PRESENT:

Cllrs: Andy Smith (Chairman), Ann Davies, Jackie Burnham, Syd Gaskin, Gareth Rowlands, Gareth Smith, Reg Davies, Arwel Roberts, Town Clerk.

Also in attendance: Peter Lea - Principal Engineer (Traffic Management), John Williams - Parking Operation Manager from Denbighshire County Council.

One members of the public was present.

1. APOLOGIES:

Cllr: Sara King, Heather Ellis, Mike Kermode.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

3. TRAFFIC ISSUE - TOP END OF RHYL ROAD

Problems were highlighted that it is unsafe for people to cross at the top end of Rhyl Road. It is a popular crossing area as people use it for a number of reasons such as getting to the bus stop, post box and accessing the playing fields from Fairlands.

An officer from the County Council explained that there used to be a refuge in the middle of the road but this was done away because of the environmental improvements.

A signal crossing will not be considered by the County Council as it does not meet the Intervention criteria.

It is possible to consider a refuge but people need to be aware that the road width will need to be reduced. This could also help deter people speeding.

It was suggested that the location near the entrance to Admirals Fields be considered for a refuge. Another option is to re-locate the bus stop to make way for a refuge.

It was resolved that Denbighshire County Council look into options to mitigate the situation on top of Rhyl Road and report back to Rhuddlan Town Council.

4. CAR PARKING ISSUES – VICARAGE LANE CAR PARK

A number of options were discussed to resolve car parking issues.

Introduce parking meters and provide free parking for 2 hours and then charge. This would discourage people leaving their cars all day but this measure needs monitoring / patrolling.

Charging for the whole time.

Re-designing the car park. It is believed that there are three land owners of the car park (i) Rhuddlan Town Council (ii) Denbighshire County Council (iii) Betsi Cadwalader Health Board.

Rhuddlan Town Council need to resolve the ownership issue of the car park before approaching Denbighshire County Council with the re-designing proposal.

It was resolved that Rhuddlan Town Council write to Denbighshire County Council and Betsi Cadwalader Health Board to ascertain ownership of the car park.

5. PARKING ISSUES ON THE HIGH STREET

There is a 30-minute parking restriction on the High Street which is not enough. A County Council officer explained that the 30-minute time limit has been introduced to encourage turnover of traffic allowing people to conveniently stop throughout the day and visit the shops, when longer stay is desirable the car parks located off the High Street should be used. For those with mobility issues (Blue Badge), they are exempt from the 30-minute limit and may park there for as long as they like.

Concerns were expressed about congestion on the High Street and the difficulty turning into Gwindy Street. The installation of a Keep Clear sign has worked to a certain extent but there may be a need to place another Keep Clear sign. A Yellow Box Junction (to keep the junction clear for through-traffic to avoid traffic jams) could be considered. **It was resolved** that Denbighshire County Council look into this matter.

6. PARKING ON YELLOW LINES ON VICARAGE LANE

Concerns have been highlighted on parking problems on Vicarage Lane. The problem area is directly in front of the library. Vehicles are being parked on both sides making it very difficult for emergency services to access. Some vehicles are being parked and blocking the entrance of drive of a resident living in Vicarage Lane.

Denbighshire County Council have issued 10 parking fines since April 2017.

Suggestions were put forward that the strip opposite Berllan Avenue should be made double yellow lines with a strict rule of no parking. Another was to put the opposing lines on the curbs for the first 20 feet of Vicarage Lane to deter parking of blue badge holders on the junction of Rhyl Road.

Resolving parking problems on Vicarage Lane may move the problem elsewhere. This problem needs to be looked in a broader picture i.e. not a piecemeal approach. **It was resolved** that Denbighshire County Council come back with suggestions for mitigating the parking issues.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A date will be set for the next meeting when the Town Council has received feedback from Denbighshire County Council.

Signed Cllr Andy Smith – Mayor

Date