

Minutes of the meeting of Rhuddlan Town Council held at the Community Centre, Parliament Street, Rhuddlan on 12th October, 2017

PRESENT: Cllrs:

Gareth Rowlands (Deputy Mayor in the Chair), Ann Davies, Arwel Roberts, Reg Davies, Syd Gaskin, Gareth Smith, Town Clerk.

Seven members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllrs: Jackie Burnham, Heather Ellis, Andy Smith (Mayor), Mike Kermode

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllr Ann Davies – member of County Council Planning Committee.

3. POLICE MATTERS

Incident report 21 Sept - 11th October

24/09/17 Incident at Rhuddlan Castle involving person flying a drone – Matter is currently under investigation

30/09/17 Theft of vehicle. Keys to vehicle not taken – Enquiries ongoing

05/10/17 Two Burglary Dwellings. Two properties entered whilst occupants were not at home

07/10/17 Burglary Dwelling. Property entered but not believed any property taken.

P.C. Jim Jones reported that there had been a spate of burglaries in Rhuddlan and members of the public need to be aware. Extra vigilance is required from the public. Fear of crime can be deemed worse than the crime itself. The police are reliant on that “early” call when a burglary has taken place. The burglaries took place in a small area of town on the North side of Rhyl road.

Councillors have received e-mails and phone calls from concerned residents. People feel vulnerable particularly in poor lighting. This is an issue that has been raised with the County Council who are going to replace all lights with LED lights (which are stronger/brighter) over the next 12 months.

One councillor had recently witnessed young lads (wearing hoods and dressed in black) acting suspiciously at approximately 11pm trying car doors. The Councillor reported the incident via 101 number.

The P.C. Jim Jones advised that when someone witnesses a crime in progress – dial 999.

There has been an incident at the Castle with someone flying drones. Whether they are used in criminality is not known. P.C. Jim Jones has written a report on drones and legislation and will forward the report to the Town Clerk for distribution.

The police need to link up with Neighbourhood Watch. A meeting is to be held on Oct 11th P.C.S.O. Rebecca Evans is aware of the meeting.

Vandalism and graffiti on the tables in Vicarage Lane have been reported to P.C.S.O. Rebecca Evans.

The benches in front of parliament House have also been subjected to graffiti.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of 21st September 2017 were approved subject to a spelling mistake.

Matters arising:

4a (i) Vicarage Lane – No dog sign

This sign is ready to be put in place.

4a (ii) Xmas Tree

The Town Clerk has written to Prosperity Restaurant for permission to locate the Xmas Tree outside the restaurant. It was resolved for the Town Clerk to contact SAWFAB to widen the sleeve to accommodate the tree.

4a (iii) Defibrillators

Two defibrillators have been ordered. It was resolved to have defibrillators with key code (for security reasons) rather than handles.

4a (iv) Recycle Container Bin

This is emptied every Friday. The re-location of the container to be re-considered when looking at the re-configuration of the car park.

4a (v) Lighting of the Castle

A meeting has been arranged with CADW on the 1st of November at 6 p.m. on site to discuss lighting.

4a (vi) Rhuddlan Library

A meeting has been arranged on November 13th, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. with a view to set up a working group.

4a (vii) Access to shops for People with Disabilities.

The Town Clerk has made enquiries with Denbighshire County Council, Small Business Wales, Disability Wales who are not aware of grants available for shops and businesses to upgrade their facilities to give better access to people with disabilities. **It was resolved** to make further enquiries and include this item in the 2018/2019 Precept to consider running a scheme to become DDA (Disability Discrimination Compliant).

4a (viii) Water Boiler at the Community Centre

A grant application has been sent to Rhuddlan Town Community Association with regards to sourcing funds to replace the boiler.

5. CORRESPONDENCE FROM:

The Town Clerk

5a (i) Xmas Lights

The three-year contract with Festive Lighting will come to an end January 2018. An offer of 25% discount has been made if the Town Council sign an additional 12-month contract. Complaints had been received last year about the colour of the lights (too yellow). It was resolved that The Town Clerk to make enquiries with Festive lighting to see if they can offer white lights. This matter to be considered at the next meeting.

5a (ii) Forthcoming Events

Remembrance Sunday	November 12 th @ 10.30 a.m.
Mayor’s Winter Choral Concert	November 24 th @ 7 p.m.
Xmas Lights Switch On	December 7 th @ 3.45 p.m. (T.B.C.)
Carol’s Around the Tree	December 13 th @ 6.30 p.m.

Flyers of Mayoral Winter Concert were distributed to Councillors and members of the public.

5B. DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – STANDARDS COMMITTEE

There is a vacancy on the Denbighshire County Council Standards Committee following the retirement of one of its members. Any interested parties should apply to the Monitoring Officer, Denbighshire County Council. The Standards Committee Regulations prohibit a City, Town and Community Council representative who is also a member of Denbighshire County Council, therefore any twin hatted members are unable to apply.

The Standards Committee members will be attending Town Council meetings over the next term with the aim of observing standards and adherence to the Code and taking back any training suggestions Councils may have.

6. COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Cllr Ann Davies

6a. Free bus to Rhuddlan Library during St Asaph library refurbishment

The St Asaph Library closed to the public on the 2nd October and will reopen in the new year. During the closure customers can travel free of charge on the local bus service to the nearest library which is Rhuddlan Library/ One stop shop.

6b. Opening hours for Rhuddlan Library

Monday	9:30 - 12:30	1:30 - 5pm
Tuesday	Closed	
Wednesday	9:30 -12:30	1:30 -5pm
Thursday	1:30 - 5pm	
Friday	9:30 - 12:30	
Saturday	9:30- 12:30	

6c. Traffic lights

Many complaints have been received regarding the two sets of traffic lights in Station road, these are causing chaos on the bridge and surrounding areas during peak times. If the situation does not improve in the near future I shall be pressing for the bridge to be repaired so that we have a two-way traffic system in place. In my opinion, the bridge deserves to be brought back to its former glory. I have requested a meeting with officers early next week to discuss these issues.

Cllr Arwel Roberts

6d. Deansfield, Hylas Lane - planning matter (site meeting)

Met with Cllr Ann Davies, Cllr G Rowlands and Chair and Vice Chair of Planning Committee within Denbighshire. Also, present, Paul Mead planning officer.

6e. Drones (unmanned aircrafts).

BBC Radio Kent contacted me because of the stand I have taken regarding these aircrafts. It seems that Rhuddlan, Denbighshire have taken the initiative on this matter because of my stand, though I expected an interview live on Radio Kent they had so many residents complaining about drones in that part of the world they apologised for not coming back to me. The BBC bush telegraph works well because I was interviewed on Radio BBC Cymru about drones soon afterwards.

6f. Road conditions / speeding

Meeting with Cllr Ann Davies and County Councillor Brian Jones (member of Denbighshire Cabinet) A frank discussion occurred regarding state of roads in Rhuddlan and speed of vehicles on roads such as Highlands Road and Abergele Road. Present also was Ben W Jones - highways officer. They are aware now, Ben Jones and Brian Jones what our priorities are and the problems within the town with regard to the state of the roads such as Maes y Bryn and Clwyd Avenue and the worries of our residents within regard to speeding vehicles on roads such as Ffordd Rhyl. I also congratulated the street scene section with regard to the speed of their reaction to the recent flash flood this year.

6g. Ysgol y Castell

My wife and I had a lovely lunch in Ysgol y Castell - organised by the school gardening club. Lovely to see our deputy mayor and Cllr Syd and Mrs Gaskin present also.

6h. Ibeacon Project

The ibeacon project is progressing well - very grateful to Cllr Reg Davies and Mr David Thomas the Chair of the Rhuddlan's History Society for the three hours of their time on the 4th of October. Rhuddlan has so many stories and Reg and David really are the source of all knowledge as far as our town is concerned. Mrs Jo Danson was really very impressed with the two heroes of Rhuddlan. She is very confident that the project will be finished by spring 2018. Our next meeting will be organised by Mrs Danson, we look forward to see the apps in place on the ten beacons.

7. BLODEUO 2017.

A proposal received from Rhuddlan Community Group for the Town Council to purchase banners which would be erected on the lampposts displaying the two Gold Awards from Wales in Bloom. Brackets are already in place after the Olympic Torch Relay. **It was resolved** to obtain quotes for banners and find out from Denbighshire County Council what the costs will be to put up / take down for 26 posts.

It was resolved to purchase four aluminium sign Wales in Bloom Winners 2016, 2017 to put on each sign "Welcome to Rhuddlan".

The Community Group were disappointed that there was no press release in the Rhyl Journal with regards to the 2017 Gold Award. The Town Clerk had sent a press release and a photo to the Journal the previous week but it was not printed. On following this up with the Rhyl Journal, it transpired that the Journal had already received a press release on the Small Town Gold Award from someone else in Rhuddlan. It was resolved that the Town Clerk try the Daily Post and arrange a group photo of volunteers for the papers.

The Town Clerk to arrange to have group photo of volunteers for the papers.

A press release had been included in Rhuddlan Magazine and will soon be in the Glannau.

8. INFORMATION & WEBSITE MATTERS.

The new website is now up and running. It was advised by Denbighshire County Council not to launch officially for a while to give Cllrs an opportunity to give feedback.

The Clerk was thanked for her work on developing the website.

9a. TRAFFIC & CAR PARK ISSUES

Radar Speed Sign information had been circulated to Councillors. There are concerns from the public with regards to speeding on this road. Cllr Gareth Smith has been carrying out surveillance in the area and relaying this information to North Wales Police. The possibility of installing a radar speed sign was discussed. **It was resolved** that no further action would be taken but that enquiries needed to be made with the County Council for their opinion. Cllr Arwel Roberts to follow up with the County Council.

9b. MEETING WITH COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS

Denbighshire County Council have not yet come back with a date as people have been on annual leave.

10. BUDGET/FINANCE MATTERS.

10a. Accounts due

The invoices due (Appendix "A") were presented and approved.

10b. Grants for Fresh Air Gym Update

The National Lottery have confirmed that they have received the Deeds and that they are agreeable for the project to be re-located to Admirals Fields.

Burbo Bank are still to confirm if they are agreeable to re-locating the Gym.

The Town Clerk to apply for Commuted Sums for the shortfall. The two proposed new benches for Admirals Fields to be part of this grant application.

The Town Clerk to contact the equipment supplier with a view to meeting on-site.

10c. External Audit 2016/17

Three of the issues highlighted by External Audit have now been resolved. The issue of fixed assets will need some work to get accurate estimates.

10d. Bank Account for Charity Events.

The Internal Auditor has advised to have a separate account from the Rhuddlan Town Council Account for money raised for charities. **It was resolved** to go ahead and set up

11. PLANNING MATTERS FOR COMMENT

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|
| a. Planning Application No 44/2017/0705 | Deansfield, Hylas Lane | |
| This was not considered as it has already been passed by the County Council. | | |
| b. Planning Application No 44/2017/0900 | Girvan Eton Park | No objection. |
| c. Planning Application No 44/2017/0917 | 10 Ffordd Ganol | No objection. |
| d. Planning Application No 44/2017/0943 | Texaco Service Station. | No objection. |

12. REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day will take place Sunday 12th November. Muster at 10 a.m. at Rhuddlan Community Centre then march to St Mary's Church for the Service at 10.45 a.m., to be conducted by Reverend Ian Day.

Return to Rhuddlan Community Centre for light refreshments.

All wreath bearers to form one line and will be called out by the Parade Marshal.

The Parade Marshal to give a list of individuals / organisations donating wreaths to the Town Clerk.

Order of the Parade: Standard Bearer, Armed Forces, Councillors, Representatives (adult organisations), Representatives (youth organisations).

November 11th 2018 will mark the 100 Years of Remembrance since World War 1. Invitations need to be sent out in November 2017 to ensure that Rhuddlan get good representation.

13. URGENT COMMUNITY MATTERS

13a. CCTV Partnership

The Partnership have chosen Cheshire West and Chester Council to provide future 24/7 CCTV service, which is an improvement on the current service. The proposed service will have facilities available both at Rhyl Police Station and Police HQ St Asaph. The Partnership will be exploring further income raising opportunities from other Town Councils / private sector organisations wishing to join. All cameras continue to operate 24/7 with 24/7 access to the footage by North Wales Police. The Partnership are ambitious to improve the service and provide a more sustainable and resilient future for CCTV in Denbighshire.

13b. Eisteddfod

The Town Clerk to invite representative from the Eisteddfod to a Town Council meeting in the near future.

13c. Grenville Avenue Junction with Princes Road

Complaints have been received about bushes growing in the garden of a house which is impairing visibility. Cllr Arwel Roberts to refer the matter to Denbighshire County Council.

13d. Vicarage Lane Picnic Area

Table tops have been damaged with graffiti. The Rhuddlan Community Group have asked the Town Council if they would consider giving financial contribution towards making good. The Rhuddlan Community Group are going to sand down the tables to see if this will erase the graffiti. If not, the Group will approach the Town Council for a financial contribution. **It was resolved** to keep the Town Council up to date.

13e. Admirals Gates

The lock has recently been repaired and needs painting. It was resolved for the gate to be painted.

13f. Benches Parliament Street

The benches have graffiti on them. It was resolved to get the benches painted.

13g. Dog Fouling

Dog fouling is terrible around Tan yr Eglwys and in front / back of Kerfoot Avenue. Cllr Arwel Roberts to approach Denbighshire County Council to see if they can arrange mobile cameras to monitor the situation. There is also dog muck by Ysgol y Castell – Hylas Lane. The owner needs to be caught and fined. Cllr Arwel Roberts to report to County Council.

Signs with regard to the new dog law will be in place in Rhuddlan soon.

14. PART 2.

It is recommended in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because it is likely that exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act would be disclosed:

It was agreed to move on to Part 2

14a. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Personnel Committee held 21st September 2017 were approved.

14b. PART 2 IN COUNCIL MEETING

The Society for Local Councils have advised that the Town Council is using the wrong legislation for exclusion of press and public. The Society to forward the correct legislation which will be used in future meetings.

The law does not allow members of the public to attend for Part 2 items on the agenda. And Councillors need to ensure that what is discussed under Part 2 remains confidential in the meeting and outside the meeting.

Although the press and the public are being exempt from the discussion of items, the minute should still reflect the decision that is made.

15. Date of next meeting

November 9th, 2017

Signed Date

Cllr Gareth Rowlands - Deputy Mayor of Rhuddlan

Accounts due: for October 2017 meeting

APPENDIX "A"

Process	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT	Total
101982	Rhuddlan TCA	Room Hire	£12.00	0	£12.00
101983	Fiona Macpherson	Provide refreshments	£775.00	0	£775.00
101984	Rhuddlan TCA	Room Hire	£48.00	0	£48.00
101985	R. Price	Refreshments - Blodeuo 4th July	£25.00	0	£25.00
101986	A. Smith	Contribution - Burry Port Accom.	£50.00	0	£50.00
101987	Ebeneser	Hire of Church - Civic Sunday	£85.00	0	£85.00
101988	Rhuddlan Dragons F.C.	Contribution towards Pitch Marking	£112.50	£0.00	£112.50
101989	Town Clerk	Expenses	£333.47	£0.00	£333.47
101990	Town Clerk	Salary Adjustment	£10.64	£0.00	£10.64
DD	Staples	Toner & Stationery	£85.36	£17.07	£102.43
SO	Town Clerk	Salary - Sept 2017	£960.00	£0.00	£960.00
DD	Vodafone	Monthly Bill - September	£19.58	£3.91	£23.49
			£2,516.	£20.98	£2,537.53