

PRESENT: Councillor Geraint Woolford (Mayor)
Councillors James Bryan (Deputy Mayor), Stephen Beach, June Derry, Ken Hawkins, Menna Jones, Ian Lewney, Robert Owen-Ellis, Anne Roberts, Heather Williams and Emrys Wynne.

72. PRESENTATION ON PLAY AREAS, CAE DDÔL AND STREETSCENE RELATED ISSUES

The Mayor welcomed and introduced Simon Billington, Highway Operations & Streetscene Manager (South Denbighshire) for Denbighshire County Council, who had been invited to talk to members regarding the possibility of entering into an asset transfer agreement to transfer the Cae Ddôl and Maes y Dre play areas to Ruthin Town Council due to budget cuts within Denbighshire County Council resulting in no funds available to invest in the site. He suggested that town and community council would be able to access different funding streams, and gave an example of Prestatyn Town Council who had secured £80k funding from offshore windfarm funds towards investing in play areas. He emphasised that he wanted early engagement with the town council, for what could be a 2 to 4 year process. Members expressed concerns that the impression being given was that decommissioning was already starting, and asked what exactly was going to happen. A councillor commented that the surfaces in Cae Ddôl had already deteriorated. Councillors were concerned that this could mean that Ruthin Town Council would have to increase its precept, and put additional pressure on the Clerk as the Town Council's only employee. They were also concerned that they may be regarded as the 'big bad wolf' if they did not accept responsibility for the playgrounds.

RESOLVED: *to have this as an agenda item at the next Council meeting to discuss the matter further.*

73. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bob Costain, Elisabeth Culshaw, Rosie Hughes-Moseley and Simeon Jones.

74. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of personal interest were received from Councillor Emrys Wynne with regards to item 13 and Councillor Ken Hawkins with regards to item 14, and declaration of interest forms were filled in and signed.

75. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported on the following visits since the previous meeting.

- 27.07 Re-launch of Clwyd Gate Restaurant
- 29.07 Recital and presentation at St. Peter's Church
- 10.08 Davis Cup at the Tennis Club
- 13.08 Launch and opening speech at Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust event – morning and afternoon
- 14.08 Launch and opening speech at Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust event – morning and afternoon
- 15.08 Emergency Powers Committee meeting
- 20.08 Opening of Ruthin Art Club Exhibition at St. Peter's Church
- 22.08 Meeting with Police
- 24.08 Meeting with Amanda Brewer, Project Development Manager, Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust
- 01.09 British Legion Ruthin Branch meeting, with presentation from Blind Veterans
- 04.09 Mayor of St. Asaph's Civic Sunday service
- 10.09 Opening of Ruthin and District Open Doors weekend

- 11.09 Launch of Footgolf Tournament to raise money for Freya's Freedom fund
- 12.09 Canolfan Awelon AGM
Photographs for Denbighshire Free Press with young lady doing 22 press ups challenge on the Square
- 13.09 Interview with BBC regarding planning permission for new schools on Glasdir site
- 15.09 Twinning Association meeting
- 22.09 Ruthin Steering Group meeting

76. MEMBERS' REPORTS

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| Cllr. James Bryan
(Deputy Mayor) | Truckfest in Caerwys, Emergency Powers Committee, meeting with Police, Ruthin Flower show, Canolfan Awelon management meeting and Annual General meeting, Ruthin Steering Group and Mayor of Prestatyn's Civic Sunday service. |
| Cllr. Stephen Beach | Neighbourhood Watch meeting x 2, leaflet distribution on St. Peter's Square, Ruthin Flower Show, micro site training, British Legion Ruthin Branch meeting, Ruthin and District Open Doors weekend and Hubbub – Over 50s Forum. |
| Cllr. Ken Hawkins | Ruthin Flower Show, Ruthin and District Open Doors and Canolfan Awelon AGM. |
| Cllr. Robert Owen-Ellis | Ysgol Pen Barras Governors meeting, Food Bank collection – a ton of food donated in addition to weekly donations, Ruthin Festival, Celebration of Achievement evening at Ysgol Brynhyfryd, Mayor's Civic Sunday, Food Bank x 3 in August, Canolfan Awelon AGM, discussions regarding plans for the new Ysgol Pen Barras, Year 11 and Year 13 Celebration of Achievement at Ysgol Brynhyfryd and Ruthin Steering Group. |
| Cllr. Menna Jones | Davis Cup Tour at the Tennis Club, Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust launch weekend and Ruthin Flower Show. |
| Cllr. Anne Roberts | Over 50's Forum in Llys Erw, Davis Cup Tour at the Tennis club, leaflet distribution on St. Peter's Square x 3, launch of Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust weekend, Emergency Powers Committee, Ruthin Forward meeting, Ruthin Flower Show, meeting with Darren Millar AM and Chair of Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust at Ruthin Castle, Ruthin Open Doors weekend, visit to Ruthin Brownies and Ruthin Steering Group meeting |
| Cllr. Heather Williams | Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust launch weekend, Ruthin and District Open Doors and County Conversation focus group meeting in Trefnant. |
| Cllr. Emrys Wynne | Putting up gazebos for Ruthin Flower Show. |

77. MINUTES OF THE LAST ORDINARY MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.*

78. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

79. EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE

After noting that the remit of the Emergency Powers Committee would be discussed as a separate item, the minutes were received and adopted.

80. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Committee presented the minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2016.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting be received.

81. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Committee presented the minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2016.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting be received.

82. DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2017

Members received information that the Mayor's Charity Dinner would be held at the end of February 2017. The dates of the meetings in 2017 were considered, including a request from the Deputy Mayor to change the date of the June meeting and a request by the Clerk to change the date of the July meeting.

RESOLVED: to accept the requests and circulate the updated list of dates with the June meeting set for 19 June and the July meeting set for 17 July.

83. REMIT OF THE EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE

Members considered the remit of the above Committee. The Clerk explained that there is no guidance in the Standing Orders or any other documents regarding the items that may be considered by this Committee. Councillor Emrys Wynne suggested wording used by Thatcham Town Council and Councillor Ian Lewney suggested setting financial thresholds for items that may be considered at the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED: to receive a copy of the wording and consider these issues at the next meeting in order to amend Standing Orders accordingly.

84. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – CANOLFAN LLANFWROG

Councillors received the further information requested relating to the request for £5,000 financial assistance towards the costs of installing stairs and lift at The Centre.

RESOLVED: to arrange a meeting between the Mayor, Clerk and Chair of Llanfwrog Community Association to discuss the request in detail.

85. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – ST. PETER'S CHURCH BELLS PROJECT

Members received further written information from Mrs Jennifer Trigger, following her presentation to Town Council in July, relating to a request for financial assistance of £3,299.00 plus VAT, being the cost of re-siting the clock mechanism.

RESOLVED: to agree to the request for financial assistance to re-site the clock mechanism in the sum of £3,299.00 + VAT.

86. PROPOSED RALLY GB RUTHIN RE-FUEL EVENT

Members considered the proposal and a request for a financial contribution towards the cost of the big screen and broadcast costs in the sum of £1,275.00

RESOLVED: to support this event and give a 50% contribution in the sum of £1,275.00.

87. iBEACON NETWORK PROJECT

Following a presentation to the Amenities Committee on the above project, members received information about the proposal and considered the fee of £750 to participate.

RESOLVED: members were in favour of participation of the project and would receive further information from Councillor Emrys Wynne following a visit to a site with the technology in operation.

88. EXTENSION TO LLANRHYDD CEMETERY

Members considered the wording for the sign to be erected at the cemetery following Ruthin Town Council's contribution towards the purchase of the extension land. Councillor Emrys Wynne volunteered to draft the wording based on the interim sign at the cemetery.

RESOLVED: to receive the draft wording from Councillor Wynne for consideration at the

89. NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Members considered an invitation to the Association's Quarterly Meeting to be held at Rhyl Town Council Offices on Friday, 21 October 2016 at 10.30am, plus lunch at £16.00 per head.

RESOLVED: that Councillors Geraint Woolford and Anne Roberts represent Ruthin Town Council at the next NMWALC quarterly meeting.

90. PEERS CLOCK TOWER

Members considered a request for permission to put lights and sound on/around the Peers Clock Tower and access to the electricity sockets for the period from New Year's Eve 2016 to New Year's Day 2017 from Jeff Brimble and David Smith, for which there is a Denbighshire County Council temporary event notice in place.

RESOLVED: to give permission for lights and sound to be placed on/around the Peers Clock Tower.

91. CAR PARK CHARGES IN RUTHIN

Members considered a request to reduce the cost of car parking charges in Ruthin, with an associated petition objecting to the price increase introduced by Denbighshire County Council. The request was for Ruthin Town Council to consider subsidising parking charge reductions. Members had a detailed discussion about the issue, during which they considered the cost, use of local taxpayers' money and the number of free parking spaces available in Ruthin.

RESOLVED: not to subsidise the car parking charges and for the Mayor and Clerk to draft a letter of response to the individual who made the request.

92. CiLCA QUALIFICATION

Members considered a request from the Clerk to enrol for the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) run by the Society for Local Council Clerks to include four days training in Mold in 2017 at a fee of £250 plus VAT and to register the qualification in 12 months' time at a cost of £250.

RESOLVED: to agree to the Clerk's request to enrol for the CiLCA Qualification at a cost of £250 plus VAT.

93. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Members were asked to approve the Financial Statement for the period ending 31 August 2016.

RESOLVED: to receive and approve the Financial Statement for the period ending 31 August 2016.

94. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: that payment of the following accounts be approved.

925	Ruthin Art Group	Contribution towards Art Exhibition August 2016	£176.00
926	Councillor J. Bryan	Travelling expenses to attend NMWALC meeting in Connah's Quay 15.07.16	£18.90
928	Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust	Contribution towards repair and restoration of the castle's curtain walls	£4,200.00
929	J & C Brimble	Basket watering	£888.00
930	Llanfwrog CIC	Grass cutting - September	£342.60
931	Inland Revenue	Income tax and national insurance	£252.83
932	Sandra Williams	Salary owing	£61.22
933	Sandra Williams	Travelling expenses	£31.95
D.D.	BT	Phone services	* £97.87

934	Fineline	Punched pockets and prints	*	£42.42
935	Marian Rees	Simultaneous translation	*	£90.00
936	North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils	Replacement cheque for two lunches at the September meeting		£30.00

95. CORRESPONDENCE

Members considered the following items of correspondence:

- i. Darren Millar – neonatal care update
- ii. Boundary Commission for Wales – 2018 review of parliamentary constituencies in Wales, initial proposals

RESOLVED: *to note the correspondence.*

96. PUBLIC FOOTPATH FROM GLASDIR FARM TO RUTHIN FOOTBALL CLUB

To enquire whether the whole length of the public footpath will have a hard surface following granting planning permission for the new school building on the Glasdir site.

RESOLVED: *to note the response from Ben Wilcox-Jones stating that funding would be applied for during the 2017-18 financial year to pay for a hard surface on the whole length of the footpath.*

97. COUNTY CONVERSATION – FOCUS GROUP

The Clerk informed the members that there was an invitation for any members to attend the second focus group for City, Town and Community Councillors will be held on 27 September at 6pm in Canolfan Cae Cymro, Clawddnewydd.

RESOLVED: *that Councillors Geraint Woolford, James Bryan, Menna Jones and Emrys Wynne and the Clerk attend to represent Ruthin Town Council.*

98. NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – BOUNDARY COMMISSION SURVEY

Responses to the survey questions were requested from members so that the Clerk could respond to NMWALC by 30 September.

RESOLVED: *that members who had not responded to date send their e-mail responses to the Clerk.*

99. PUBLIC CATALOGUE FOUNDATION / ART UK

Members considered a message from the Public Catalogue Foundation with a request to update the Town Council's agreement with PCF to reflect the move to Art UK.

RESOLVED: *that the Clerk be authorised to update the agreement online on behalf of Ruthin Town Council.*

100. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: *to confirm the date of the next meeting of the Town Council as Monday, 24 October 2016.*