

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of **RHUTHUN TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Rhuthun on Monday, 19 June 2017 at 7:00p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Jim Bryan (Mayor), Ian Lewney (Deputy Mayor).
Councillors Keiran Allsopp-Robson, Stephen Beach, Gavin Harris, Ken Hawkins, Menna Jones, Robert Owen-Ellis, Anne Roberts, Dave Snape, Heather Williams, Geraint Woolford, Ifan Wyn and Emrys Wynne.

36. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rosie Hughes.

37. PRESENTATION FROM RUTHIN POLICE

The Mayor welcomed Sergeant Jonny Hill who gave a presentation on the latest crime figures for Ruthin for the previous four months, compared to the same period last year. Members were invited to ask questions. In response to a question regarding staffing levels Sergeant Hill confirmed that there were 3 Police Community Support Officers based at the Ruthin Police Station, working until 10pm, and that there was a police officer on duty in Ruthin every night, two sometimes. A member referred to the recent terrorist incidents and Sergeant Hill urged everyone to remain vigilant – the key message is to “be alert but not alarmed.”

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Declarations of interest were received as follows:

Item 11 – Request for financial assistance from Ruthin Twinning Association - Councillor Emrys Wynne as Chair of Ruthin Twinning Association

Item 20 – Request for financial assistance from Ruthin and Denbigh Gymnastics Club – Councillors Geraint Woolford and Emrys Wynne, personal interest as grandparents of club members.

39. MAYOR’S REPORT

The Mayor reported that he had attended the following events.

- 23.05 Festival Committee meeting
- 25.05 Twinning Committee meeting
- 26.05 Opening of Inner Wheel craft fayre at Canolfan Awelon
- 30.05 Funeral of Murray Bragg
- 01.06 Presentation of youth volunteering awards with DVSC at Ruthin School
- 02.06 Twinning trip to Briec de L’Odet
- 07.06 100th birthday celebration of a resident at Plas Gwyn and Festival Committee meeting
- 08.06 Ruthin Steering Group meeting
- 09.06 Ruthin Hospital League of Friends AGM at Canolfan Awelon
- 12.06 Meeting with Lisa Jones, Legal Services Manager, Denbighshire County Council
- 13.06 Town Team AGM at Nantclwyd y Dre
- 14.06 Public meeting to invite Urdd National Eisteddfod to Denbighshire in 2020
- 15.06 AGM of Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust and Bingo night to raise funds for Ruthin First Responders

40. MEMBERS’ REPORTS

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| Cllr. Ian Lewney | Ruthin School prize giving day, Friends of Ruthin Hospital Summer Fayre, Town Team event and Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust AGM. |
| Cllr. Keiran Allsopp-Robson | Inner Wheel craft fair, General Election hustings evening and Ruthin Steering Group. |
| Cllr. Stephen Beach | Inner Wheel craft fair, General Election hustings evening, Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust AGM, Friends of Ruthin Hospital AGM, Over 50’s Forum and Town Team event. |
| Cllr. Ken Hawkins | Murray Bragg’s funeral, General Election hustings evening, twinning |

	trip to Bric.
Cllr. Robert Owen-Ellis	3 x Food Bank sessions and General Election hustings evening.
Cllr. Menna Jones	General Election hustings evening, Ruthin School prize giving day, Ruthin Hospital Summer Fayre and AGM, Town Team event and public meeting to invite Urdd National Eisteddfod to Denbighshire in 2020.
Cllr. Anne Roberts	Ruthin Forward meeting, General Election hustings evening, Ruthin and District Civic Association AGM, Ruthin Steering Group meeting, Over 50's Forum and Town Team event.
Cllr. Dave Snape	General Election hustings evening, Town Team event and charity fundraising event at Manorhaus.
Cllr. Heather Williams	General Election hustings evening, Ruthin School prize giving day and Town Team event.
Cllr. Geraint Woolford	Ruthin Flower Show Committee meeting and Town Team event.
Cllr. Ifan Wyn	General Election hustings evening, Ruthin Festival Committee meetings and public meeting to invite Urdd National Eisteddfod to Denbighshire in 2020.
Cllr. Emrys Wynne	Murray Bragg's funeral, General Election hustings evening, Town Team event and public meeting to invite Urdd National Eisteddfod to Denbighshire in 2020.

41. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.*

42. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk read a letter of thanks for Menter Iaith Sir Ddinbych for the financial assistance of £1,000.00 from Ruthin Town Council and the Mayor read a letter of thanks to him from Vale of Clwyd Scouts Association for attending their AGM.

43. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Committee presented the minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2017.

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting be received.*

44. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Committee presented the minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2017.

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting be received.*

45. MEMBERS OF RHUTHUN TOWN COUNCIL, COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

Members received copies of the above. An amendment was required to add Councillor Heather Williams' name to the Canolfan Awelon Management Committee and to withdraw her name from the Theatr John Ambrose Management Committee and to add Councillor Ifan Wyn's name. It was suggested that information be gathered with regards to how often the external bodies meet, whether they are usually daytime or evening meetings etc. in order to assist members to put their names forward to fit in with their other commitments.

RESOLVED: *to make the required amendments and circulate the details.*

46. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members considered a request for financial assistance of £500.00 from Ruthin Twinning Association and also the response from Ruthin and Denbigh Gymnastics Club with regards to the request for further information in relation to their request for financial assistance. Following a detailed discussion of both applications it was

RESOLVED: *to give £500.00 financial assistance to Ruthin Twinning Association and to*

decline financial assistance to Ruthin and Denbigh Gymnastics Club.

47. LETTER FROM RHOS STREET SCHOOL PUPIL

To consider a letter from Jessica Atherton, 7, requesting that Ruthin Town Council purchases the cabinet for an Automated Access Defibrillator at the school. Members raised the point regarding access to the school site out of hours, and also that the school would be moving to a new location in Glasdir soon.

RESOLVED: *to arrange an appointment with the school so that the Mayor can have a discussion with the school pupils.*

48. RUTHIN MARKET TOWN OF THE FUTURE

Councillor Gavin Harris provided an update on the Ruthin Market Town of the Future study that had included community consultations with schools, community groups and the public, and was the foundation for current Place Plans. The draft report included projects and improvements, such as removal of the roundabout on St. Peter's Square and gateway improvements at Cae Ddôl. The draft document had not been formally published as it was awaiting the Welsh text to be able to publish it bilingually. He suggested that an appendix be prepared as a 'where we are now' update.

RESOLVED: *to share links to the document before the next meeting.*

49. UPDATE REGARDING NATWEST BANK BUILDING

The Mayor reported that a meeting had been held with Lisa Jones, Legal Service Manager, Denbighshire County Council who confirmed that the Town Council had the power to pursue purchasing the Old Courthouse building under Section 1 of the Local Government Act 2000. He also informed members that a meeting would be held with DCC Finance Officers on Thursday to look at funding options. It was suggested that a working group of five members was required to pursue the next steps and form a business case for acquiring the building as a civic building.

RESOLVED: *that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors Gavin Harris, Anne Roberts and Heather Williams for a working group to progress this and to meet as soon as possible after the meeting with the Finance Officers.*

50. UPDATE REGARDING IDENTIFICATION BADGES FOR COUNCILLORS

Members received information regarding potential costs of ID badges and lanyards for Town Councillors. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Denbighshire County Council to enquire how they produced their ID badges.

RESOLVED: *to contact Denbighshire County Council regarding their ID badges.*

51. REVISED CODE OF CONDUCT

The Clerk requested that members reaffirmed the decision to adopt the revised Code of Conduct as discussed at the Town Council meeting in May 2016, as the decision had not been recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

RESOLVED: *to confirm adoption of the revised Code of Conduct.*

52. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Members were asked to approve the Financial Statement for the period ending 31 May 2017.

RESOLVED: *to receive and approve the Financial Statement for the period ending 31 May 2017.*

53. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: *that payment of the following accounts be approved.*

5045	JDH Business Services Ltd	2016/17 internal audit fee	*	£322.80
5046	Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council	Renewal of DVSC membership		£30.00
5047	Ruthin Show Society	Financial assistance		£500.00

5048	Ruthin Festival Committee	Financial assistance		£1,000.00
5049	Menter Iaith Sir Ddinbych	Financial assistance		£1,000.00
5050	Ruthin and District Civic Association	Financial assistance towards Open Door 2017		£1,500.00
5051	Llanfwrog CIC	Grass cutting - June		£513.00
5052	Denbighshire County Council	Fit hanging baskets in Ruthin	*	£432.00
5053	IT Williams Company Ltd	Transport planters for hanging baskets	*	£627.00
5054	Fineline	Office supplies	*	£6.25
5055	Sandra Williams	100 second class stamps		£56.00
5056	Denbighshire County Council	Monthly emptying of dog waste bins April 2017 – March 2018	*	£468.00
5057	HMRC	Income tax and National Insurance		£274.90
5058	Councillor Jim Bryan	Flowers for 100 th birthday		£20.00
5059	Marian Rees	Simultaneous translation	*	£90.00
5060	Viking Direct	10 reams of copier paper	*	£41.88
5061	TTS	Items for Cylch Meithrin Rhuthun	*	£213.38

54. DATE FOR WELSH LANGUAGE SCHEME SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Members were requested to suggest a date for a meeting of the above Sub-committee.

RESOLVED: *to meet on Thursday, 6 July 2017, at 7pm.*

55. CORRESPONDENCE

Members were requested to consider the following correspondence:

i. Invitation to Planning Aid Wales' Annual General Meeting at 4.30pm, Monday, 26 June 2017, at the Catrin Finch Centre, Glyndwr University, Wrexham.

RESOLVED: *that Councillors Heather Williams and Emrys Wynne represent Ruthin Town Council at the Planning Aid Wales AGM.*

56. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: *to confirm the date of the next meeting as Monday, 17 July 2017 at 7.00pm.*