

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of **RHUTHUN TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Rhuthun on Monday, 26 February 2018, at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Jim Bryan (Mayor) and 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, Ifan Wyn and Emrys Wynne.

193. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Wynne Hughes.

194. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Declarations of interest were received from Councillor Ken Hawkins regarding item 17 – payment for floodlighting cost to St. Peter’s Church and from Councillors Ifan Wyn and Emrys Wynne regarding item 21 – Urdd National Eisteddfod Denbighshire 2020.

195. MAYOR’S REPORT

The Mayor reported that he had attended the following events.

- 25.01 Ruthin Steering Group meeting.
- 27.01 Mayor of Denbigh’s Charity Concert at the Town Hall, Denbigh.
- 30.01 Welsh Language Scheme Sub-committee meeting – deferred.
- 01.02 Meeting of Ruthin Emergency Plan Working Group and the Old Courthouse Working Group.
- 13.02 Pancake Races on St. Peter’s Square and presenting prizes to the winners.
- 15.02 Meeting with Mr Mervyn Roberts, HSBC Business Manager, at the Ruthin branch.
- 17.02 Performance of ‘Robin Hood’ – Ruthin Panto Society’s 2018 production.
- 18.02 Meeting at Ruthin Castle regarding Twinning celebrations.
- 19.02 Ruthin Festival Committee meeting.
- 22.02 Planning training workshop at Ruthin Castle Hotel.
- 24.02 Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes Anniversary Dinner.

196. MEMBERS’ REPORTS

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| Cllr. Ian Lewney | Welsh Language Scheme Sub-committee meeting – deferred. |
| Cllr. Keiran Allsopp-Robson | Ruthin Emergency Plan Working Group meeting and Pancake Races on St. Peter’s Square. |
| Cllr. Stephen Beach | Quarterly meeting of North and Mid Wales Association of Town and Community Council and Ruthin Steering Group meeting. |
| Cllr. Gavin Harris | Ruthin Emergency Plan Working Group meeting and the Old Courthouse Working Group meeting, meeting with Tom Booty, DCC Asset Management and Caroline Brindle, DCC Business and Tourism. |
| Cllr. Robert Owen-Ellis | Four Food Bank sessions, Ruthin Steering Group meeting, Ysgol Pen Barras governors meeting regarding the school’s response to pupils with additional learning needs and a meeting of the Welsh Language Scheme Sub-committee – deferred. |
| Cllr. Menna Jones | Nothing to report. |
| Cllr. Anne Roberts | Ruthin Emergency Plan Working Group meeting and the Old Courthouse Working Group meeting, Ruthin and District Civic Association meeting and a meeting with Mr Geraint Parry, Head of Ysgol Brynhyfryd. |
| Cllr. Dave Snape | Theatr John Ambrose sub-committee meeting and Pancake Races on St. Peter’s Square. |
| Cllr. Heather Williams | The Old Courthouse Working Group meeting. |

197. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2018 be confirmed as a correct record.

198. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

199. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Committee highlighted items from the minutes of the meetings held on 12 February 2018. A Councillor enquired whether the Town Council has a formal policy regarding site meetings and it was agreed that this be included as a future agenda item of the Planning and Development Committee.

RESOLVED: to receive the minutes of the meetings held on 12 February 2018.

200. MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Committee highlighted items from the minutes of the meetings held on 12 February 2018.

RESOLVED: to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2018.

201. DATE OF TOWN CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN

Members were requested to note that the town clean-up campaign will be held on Saturday, 24 March, meeting in Cae Ddôl car park at 10am and returning for midday. Councillors Rosie Hughes and Dave Snape gave apologies as they would be unavailable that day.

RESOLVED: to confirm that the town clean-up campaign will be held on Saturday, 24 March.

202. ANNUAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Members were requested to receive and confirm the Annual Risk Assessment. The items listed were considered, and it was suggested that a sign stating that skate park users used the facilities at their own risk should be erected and also to look into Cloud back-up as an offsite back-up method.

RESOLVED: to receive and confirm the Annual Risk Assessment.

203. ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Members were requested to receive and confirm the Annual Investment Strategy. It was reported that Cambrian Credit Union had informed the Town Council, following its AGM, that no dividend would be paid this year. It was suggested looking at HSBC savings accounts.

RESOLVED: to receive and confirm the Annual Investment Strategy.

204. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – DENBIGHSHIRE MUSIC CO-OPERATIVE

Members were requested to consider a request for financial assistance for Denbighshire Youth Brass Band by Denbighshire Music Co-operative. Members discussed the application and felt that the Co-operative should approach every Town Council in the county as it is a Denbighshire wide organisation.

RESOLVED: not to give financial assistance currently, but to encourage them to apply again if they had a specific event in the future.

205. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – FLINTSHIRE & WREXHAM ONLINE WATCH LINK ASSOCIATION

Members were asked to consider a letter from the above association requesting financial assistance towards neighbourhood watch scheme in the locality. Members were eager to receive further details about the scheme.

RESOLVED: to invite representatives to address the Councillors at a future meeting.

206. RUTHIN TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON RUTHIN SHOW COMMITTEE

Members were asked to appoint a Town Council representative to Ruthin Show Committee. It was suggested that Councillor John Wynne Hughes be approached regarding this role.

RESOLVED: to ask Councillor John Wynne Hughes if he was interested in being Ruthin Town Council's representative on Ruthin Show Committee.

207. MEMBERSHIP OF ONE VOICE WALES 2018-19

Members were asked to consider Ruthin Town Council becoming a member of One Voice Wales for 2018-19 at a 50% reduced introductory fee of £411.00. Councillor Emrys Wynne suggested opening a dialogue with One Voice Wales regarding the barriers to becoming members and volunteered to assist with this.

RESOLVED: to enter a dialogue with One Voice Wales.

208. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Members were asked to approve the Financial Statement for the period ending 30 January 2018.

RESOLVED: to receive and approve the Financial Statement for the period ending 30 January 2018.

209. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: that payment of the following items be approved.

5134	Zurich Municipal	Insurance premium for 2018-19		£4,566.45
5135	Gorphwysfa Bowls Club	Donation		£200.00
5136	Denbighshire Homestart	Donation		£300.00
5137	Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod	Donation		£100.00
5138	Wales Air Ambulance	Donation		£250.00
5139	National Eisteddfod Cardiff	Donation		£100.00
5140	HCI Data Limited	Renewal of ruthintowncouncil.gov.uk and cyngortrefrhuthun.gov.uk for 2 years	*	£167.76
5141	Denbighshire County Council	Pick up and remove Christmas lighting	*	£4,518.54
5142	HMRC	Income tax and National Insurance		£274.90
5143	Marian Rees	Simultaneous translation	*	£180.00
5144	Fineline	Office stationery	*	£9.28
5145	The Play Inspection Company	Annual inspections of Memorial Playing Fields play area and Cae Ddôl Skate park	*	£156.00
5146	Fineline	Ruthin Town Council 100 th birthday cards x 100	*	£164.66
5147	St. Peter's Church	Floodlighting 01.01.17 – 31.12.17		£919.05

210. WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW AND UPDATE RUTHIN – MARKET TOWN OF THE FUTURE

Members were asked to consider appointing members from the Amenities Committee and the Planning Committee, and external representatives, to be members of the working group. It was suggested that Councillor Gavin Harris should chair the Group. He briefly outlined plans for a week of activities linked to updating the Plan. It was suggested that Tom Booty, Caroline Brindle and Bethan Hughes from Denbighshire County Council, Katy Morgan-Williams and Roger Edwards from the Ruthin History Society be invited to join the working group, as well as Councillors Anne Roberts and Heather Williams representing the Civic Association and Councillors Stephen Beach and Robert Owen-Ellis from the Planning Committee, and Councillors Menna Jones and Keiran Allsopp-Robson from the Amenities Committee along with

the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

RESOLVED: *to establish a working group and to have updates regularly, on the evening of Committee meetings and at full Council.*

211. URDD NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD DENBIGHSHIRE 2020

Members were asked to consider a letter from the Chair of the Ruthin Appeal Committee, Mr Iwan Vaughan Evans, to come to discuss fundraising at the next meeting of the Town Council, when Aled Siôn, Urdd Director, will address members.

RESOLVED: *to invite Mr Iwan Vaughan Evans to attend the next Town Council meeting to discuss the Urdd National Eisteddfod to be held in Denbighshire in 2020.*

PART TWO

It was proposed and seconded that the meeting be held in private for the following item.

212. THE OLD COURTHOUSE

Members considered the latest developments regarding the Old Courthouse, and the working group reported on their recommended lowest offer and highest offer. Councillors were keen to ensure that the pre-emption agreement was in place first, prior to making an offer.

RESOLVED: *to accept the recommended limits and to push for the pre-emption agreement to be completed.*

213. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: *to confirm the date of the next ordinary meeting as Monday, 26 March 2018 at 7.00pm.*