

Minutes of the **Annual Meeting** of **RHUTHUN TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Rhuthun on Monday, **14 May 2018** at **7.00p.m.**

PRESENT: Cllr. Jim Bryan (**Mayor**), Cllr. Ian Lewney (**Deputy Mayor**) and Councillors Keiran Allsopp-Robson, Stephen Beach, Gavin Harris, Ken Hawkins, John Wynne Hughes, Rosie Hughes, Robert Owen-Ellis, Anne Roberts, Dave Snape, Heather Williams, Ifan Wyn and Emrys Wynne;
also County Councillors Bobby Feeley and Huw Hilditch-Roberts.

1. OPENING PRAYER

The Mayor explained that Reverend Stuart Evans had given apologies, therefore the meeting would not be opened with a prayer. He added that Reverend Evans had left a gift of two slates to be signed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and members of Rhuthun Town Council to be used as part of the St. Peter's Church roof restoration.

2. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Mayor welcomed Civic Dignitaries, Councillors and members of the public to the Annual Meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Menna Jones and Reverend Stuart Evans.

3. MAYOR'S ADDRESS

The Mayor, Councillor Jim Bryan, stated that it had been an honour and a privilege to serve as Town Mayor and he had thoroughly enjoyed attending a variety of events during the year, and referred to some of the highlights of his year in office and the Town Council's aspiration for the future. He thanked his Mayoress, Ms. Eilwen Jones, the Deputy Mayor and fellow councillors, his chaplain and the Town Clerk for their support during his term of office. He announced that he had raised £7,000.00 in his Mayor's Charity Fund and thanked everyone who had assisted with his fundraising efforts.

4. PRESENTATION OF DONATION FROM THE MAYOR'S CHARITY FUND

The Mayor presented cheques for £420 each to voluntary youth groups in Ruthin, namely the Brownies, Guides, Scouts, Cubs, ATC, Youth Theatre, Junior Hockey Club, Junior Football Club, Junior Rugby Club, Junior Cricket Club, Young Farmers Club, Swimming Club and Fire Cadets + 2.

5. THE RUTHIN GOOD CITIZEN / YOUNG PERSON / COMMUNITY GROUP OF THE YEAR AWARD 2018

The Mayor explained that the individual nominated for the Good Citizen of the Year Award did not wish to accept the award. It was announced that the winner of the Young Person of the Year Award 2018 was Huw Wynne Jones, a dedicated sportsman excelling in athletics who was also highly praised for his commitment to charitable and support activities in school. He was presented with a framed certificate and a cheque for £100.00 to the cause of his choice, Ruthin Rugby Club. A new category had been introduced this year, Community Group of the Year, and the inaugural award was presented to Ruthin Panto Group for being an inclusive group appealing to and welcoming participants of all ages, with a cheque for £100 to Ruthin Panto Group.

6. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ian Lewney, thanked the retiring Mayor, Councillor Jim Bryan, for his hard work on behalf of the people of the town and the Town Council. He presented him with a Town Plaque – and he also presented him and the Mayoress with gifts, on behalf of the Town Council.

7. RECORD OF MEMBERS' ATTENDANCES

Details of members' attendances at meetings of the Town Council and its committees during the municipal year 2017/2018 were received, and the Mayor congratulated members with a 100% attendance record at Council meetings and Committee meetings.

8. WELSH LANGUAGE SCHEME SUB-COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The Mayor asked the Chair of the Sub-committee and author of the report, Councillor Emrys Wynne, to present the item. Councillor Wynne explained that the aim was to promote the use of the Welsh language and enabling people to use their preferred language. He noted that Ruthin Town Council had introduced simultaneous translation at its Committee meetings since September and would be updating its Welsh Language Scheme to reflect this.

9. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2018/2019

On the proposal of Cllr. Stephen Beach and seconded by Cllr. Keiran Allsopp-Robson it was unanimously resolved that Cllr. Ian Lewney be elected Town Mayor of Rhuthun for the municipal year 2018/2019. He was then invested with the Robe and Chain of Office.

10. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY THE MAYOR

Having duly made and signed the necessary declaration, Cllr. Ian Lewney thanked his proposer and seconder, the retiring Mayor and fellow Councillors for bestowing the honour on him. He also thanked his family and his partner for their support.

11. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2018/2019

On the proposal of Cllr. Anne Roberts and seconded by Cllr. Rosie Hughes it was unanimously resolved that Cllr. Gavin Harris be elected Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2018/2018. The Mayor then invested Cllr. Ian Lewney with the Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office and he signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

12. NOTABLE DATES

The Mayor informed members that Civic Sunday would be held on Sunday, 8 July 2018 at St. Peter's Church followed by lunch at Vale Country Club with the Mayor's Charity Dinner being held on Saturday, 17 November 2018, again at Vale Country Club.

13. CLOSING PRAYER

In the absence of his Chaplain, the Mayor invited everyone present to enjoy refreshments after the meeting.