

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities Committee** held at the
Town Hall, Wynnstay Road, Rhuthun on Monday, 12 November 2018 at 7:30p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Keiran Allsopp-Robson, Jim Bryan, Gavin Harris, Menna Jones, Ian Lewney, Anne Roberts and Emrys Wynne.

45. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dave Snape.

46. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

47. UPDATE REGARDING THE OLD COURTHOUSE

Councillor Gavin Harris provided an update to members of the Amenities Committee and Planning and Development Committee about the latest developments, including an initial discussion with HSBC to obtain a mortgage to purchase the building. Quotations from three firms were shared with members in response to a request for completion of a building survey in accordance with the tight timescale.

RESOLVED: *to accept the fee proposed by Hodkinson Mallinson Ltd, Chartered Building Surveyors of £1,200.00 plus VAT and to receive the report at the next Town Council meeting on 26 November.*

48. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 8 October 2018 be confirmed as a correct record.*

49. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

50. PRESENTATION ON BIODIVERSITY GRASS CUTTING IN DENBIGHSHIRE

The Chair welcomed Joel Walley, Ecology Officer with Denbighshire County Council, to the meeting. He explained the County Council's vision for grass verge management in the future to link in to the authority's Bee Friendly status. He explained that a draft Biodiversity Plan was being formed and he was eager to have colourful, native wildflowers growing around the county. Members referred to the wildflower planting at Ruthin Craft Centre, and emphasised that maintenance was important or such sites could look unkempt and unsightly.

RESOLVED: *to thank Mr Walley for his presentation and to contact him again to discuss the areas of grass cutting on road verges in Ruthin to align with the master plan before awarding the grass cutting contract next year.*

51. LED LIGHTS ON CHRISTMAS TREES 2018

Members were requested to consider a quotation for LED festive illuminations on five Christmas trees in Ruthin from Aerial Electrics Ltd at a price of £3,458.00 + VAT.

RESOLVED: *to accept the quotation from Aerial Electrics Ltd at £3,458.00 plus VAT.*

52. INVITATION TO TAKE PART IN CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Members were requested to consider an invitation to take part in the Christmas Tree Festival organised by Dyffryn Clwyd Mission Area, to be held in St. Peter's Church, Ruthin from 7 to 10 December 2018. Members were eager to take part, and Councillor Emrys Wynne offered a 7ft artificial Christmas tree for the exhibition.

RESOLVED: *to accept the invitation to take part and that Councillors who wished to do so could give a £1 donation towards St. Kentigern's Hospice.*

53. TREES ON ST. PETER'S SQUARE

Members were asked to consider a revised quotation from Cambrian Woodland Services regarding

works to the trees on St. Peter's Square in the sum of £325.00 and £50.00 to remove old light cables from the trees, plus VAT.

RESOLVED: *to accept the revised quotation and proceed with the work.*

54. TREE PLANTING SCHEME

Members were requested to consider a tree planting scheme for the town to denote the green links. Councillor Gavin Harris referred to the trees at the entrance to Cae Ddôl and suggested the possibility of having the same trees at Railway Terrace, entrance to the footpath near Glasdir off Denbigh Road and the footpath links on Park Road, which could be sponsored by local businesses and associations.

RESOLVED: *to obtain quotations and consider this further once prices had been obtained.*

55. WELCOME TO DENBIGHSHIRE & FLINTSHIRE PUBLICATION

The Clerk showed a copy of the Conwy guide by Kingfisher Visitor Guides, who intended to publish a similar guide on Denbighshire and Flintshire in March 2019 and had asked whether the Town Council would be interested in advertising.

RESOLVED: *to note the information.*

56. TIDY TOWN GROUP

Councillor Gavin Harris confirmed that the next meeting of the Group would be on Saturday, 17 November at 11am and the following meeting would be on Monday, 10 December at 10am.

RESOLVED: *to note the information.*

57. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the date of the next meeting of the Committee would be Monday, 3 December 2018 at 7:30pm.*