

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of **RHUTHUN TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Wynnstay Road, Rhuthun on Monday, 21 January 2019, at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Gavin Harris (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors Stephen Beach, Ken Hawkins, John Wynne Hughes, Menna Jones, Jabez Oakes, Anne Roberts, Dave Snape, Heather Williams, Ifan Wyn and Emrys Wynne.

168. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Keiran Allsopp-Robson, Ian Lewney, and Robert Owen-Ellis.

169. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

170. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported that he had attended the following events.

- 20.12 Judging Christmas decoration competition for town shops/businesses on behalf of Ruthin Forward
- 05.01 Bryn Goodman site visit
- 11.01 Communication Strategy working group meeting

171. MEMBERS' REPORTS

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| Cllr. Gavin Harris
(Deputy Mayor) | Christmas market, Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust meeting, Chair of Denbighshire County Council's Carol Concert at St. Asaph Cathedral, Bryn Goodman site visit, Old Courthouse working group meetings, opening of Ruthin School dining hall, Tidy Town Team session, Cymanfa Garolau at Tabernacl Chapel and Staffing Sub-committee meeting. |
| Cllr. Keiran
Allsopp-Robson | Rhos Street School Christmas Concert. |
| Cllr. Stephen Beach | Staffing Sub-committee meeting and North and Mid Wales Association of Local Council's quarterly meeting at Llandrillo College, Rhos on Sea. |
| Cllr. Jim Bryan | Ruthin Festival Committee meetings, Ruthin Twinning Association meeting, Staffing Sub-committee meeting and North and Mid Wales Association of Local Council's quarterly meeting at Llandrillo College, Rhos on Sea. |
| Cllr. Ken Hawkins | Funeral of former Councillor Eirwyn Evans. |
| Cllr. Menna Jones | Funeral of former Councillor Eirwyn Evans. |
| Cllr. Jabez Oakes | Nothing to report. |
| Cllr. Robert
Owen-Ellis | Distributing the Food Bank's Christmas hampers, four Food Bank sessions and Staffing Sub-committee meeting. |
| Cllr. Anne Roberts | Nine Lessons and Carols service at St. Peter's Church, ATC Enrolment evening, Old Courthouse working group meeting, presenting prizes to the winners of the Christmas decorations competition for town shops/businesses, meeting with Councillor Emrys Wynne to decide on the job profile and job description for the Deputy Clerk, meeting of the Staffing Sub-committee and a meeting of Ruthin and District Civic Association. |
| Cllr. Dave Snape | Theatr John Ambrose Management Committee meetings. |
| Cllr. Heather
Williams | Canolfan Awelon Management Committee meeting. |
| Cllr. Ifan Wyn | Nothing to report. |
| Cllr. Emrys Wynne | Meeting with Councillor Anne Roberts to decide on the job profile and job description for the Deputy Clerk. |

172. RUTHIN COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Emrys Wynne referred to the decision granted to amend housing types on the Glasdir site. This phase of development will also include provision of a footpath to link the estate to the football ground. He also reported that the Glasdir Residents Association was active again. He also reported attending discussions to solve the problem of vehicles parking on Wrexham Road causing difficulties to the free flow of traffic. Councillor Bobby Feeley mentioned Awelon residential home, which now has 5 residents remaining. She reported that a task and finish group had been established to consider the options, and it would also be discussed by the Ruthin Members Area Group on 18 February. She promised that the situation would be handled sensitively and no decision had been made regarding a closing date. She also referred to her meetings with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board representatives; Trem y Foel residents to consider inter-generational activities with Rhos Street School pupils and a site visit to Bron Parc regarding the proposed free range egg production unit.

173. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2018 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to correcting minute 159 in the Welsh version to read 'Town Council' rather than 'County Council'.*

174. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

175. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2019.

RESOLVED: *to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2019.*

176. MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2019.

RESOLVED: *to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2019.*

177. MINUTES OF THE STAFFING SUB-COMMITTEE

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2019, and the recommendations to advertise for a Deputy Town Clerk/Town Manager and that the Town Clerk's salary be increased to Point 36 LC2 from 1 April 2019. This was discussed, and proposed and seconded.

RESOLVED: *to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January and to advertise for a Deputy Town Clerk/Town Manager and to increase the Town Clerk's salary to Point 36 LC2 from 1 April 2019.*

178. UPDATE ON THE OLD COURTHOUSE

Members were informed that the purchase was completed on Friday, 18 January, and the keys received from the agent, GVA, from their Liverpool office. Councillor Anne Roberts thanked Councillor Gavin Harris for the hours of work he had devoted to the project, and he thanked Councillor Heather Williams for completing the heritage statement. An application for planning permission and listed building consent for change of use had been submitted to the planning authority, Denbighshire County Council. The Tidy Town Team had moved their equipment to the basement, and were thanked for cleaning up inside and outside the premises. The intention is to hold an open day on Monday, 4 February, from 12.30pm until 8pm, with the town's schools invited to arrange for pupils to visit during the afternoon, and a drop in session for anyone interested in the project.

RESOLVED: *to note the update.*

179. UPDATE ON RUTHIN TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

Councillor Dave Snape reported that two meetings had been held, and that Councillor Jabez

Oakes was also providing input to the working group. The Strategy would cover all forms of media, and it was intended to produce guidelines for Councillors regarding communication and use of social media. It was also suggested that Ruthin Town Council should have a Facebook page.

RESOLVED: *to note the update.*

180. REPRESENTATION ON EXTERNAL BODIES

Members were requested to consider Ruthin Town Council's representatives on Canolfan Awelon Management Committee, as Councillor Jim Bryan wished to step down due to work commitments. The Clerk said that Councillor Keiran Allsopp-Robson had expressed an interest. Members discussed the situation, and taking into consideration that Canolfan Awelon would close soon for redevelopment and is also represented on the Management Committee by Councillor Heather Williams, suggested that there was no need for a replacement representative.

RESOLVED: *not to appoint a Town Council representative to replace Councillor Jim Bryan on Canolfan Awelon Management Committee.*

181. COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE

Members were requested to consider the update issued by Welsh Government. Councillor Stephen Beach referred to the Minister's statement and the discussions on this topic at the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils quarterly meeting.

RESOLVED: *to note the update and the next steps Welsh Government intends to take to implement its policy to support the Community and Town Council sector, as outlined in the Areas for Action table.*

182. ZURICH INSURANCE

Members were asked to consider renewing Ruthin Town Council insurance premium for 2019-20 at £4,643.70 plus £496.72 for the Old Courthouse insurance cover.

RESOLVED: *to pay the insurance premiums to Zurich for 2019-20 at a total cost of £5,140.42.*

183. FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2019-20

Members were requested to consider the draft financial estimates prepared by the Clerk for the 2019-20 and the amounts allocated to the various budget headings and the amounts in reserve. It was proposed that the precept for the forthcoming financial year be set at £142,830, representing an increase from £56.56 to £58.32 for Band D properties and 4.98% as an overall percentage.

RESOLVED: *to approve the financial estimates and send a precept requisition for £142,830 to Denbighshire County Council for 2019-20.*

184. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Members were asked to approve the Financial Statement for the period ending 31 December 2018.

RESOLVED: *to receive and approve the Financial Statement for the period ending 31 December 2018.*

185. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

D.D.	BT Business	Phone and broadband services	*	£196.43
100093	SLCC	Membership renewal for 2019		£175.00
100094	Zurich Municipal	Insurance cover for Old Courthouse, 11.12.18 – 31.01.19		£72.13
100095	Denbighshire County Council	Balance payment for purchase of the Old Courthouse		£108,000.00
100096	Ruthin Rotary Club	Financial assistance towards Donkey		£300.00

100097	NMWALC	Derby 2 lunches after NMWALC Quarterly meeting 18.01.19		£32.00
100098	Canda Copying Ltd	Photocopier rental and minimum copies	*	£41.90
100099	Canda Copying Ltd	Additional black & white copies	*	£25.02
100100	Canda Copying Ltd	Additional colour copies	*	£21.84
100101	HMRC	Income tax and National Insurance		£295.55
100102	Marian Rees	Simultaneous translation service	*	£180.00
100103	Cllr. Gavin Harris	Fee for planning permission application		£190.00
100104	Cambrian Woodland Services	Supply, erect and dismantle 5 Christmas trees	*	£1,466.40
100105	Fineline	200 A4 letterheads	*	£70.31
100106	Cyngor Sir Ddinbych	Legal fee for purchase of Old Courthouse and Land Registry fee	*	£1,330.00

186. GOOD CITIZEN'S GROUP

A request was made for a member to join the group following Councillor Rosie Hughes' resignation. Councillor Dave Snape was nominated and accepted. The date for the next meeting was suggested as Monday, 28 January.

RESOLVED: *that Councillor Dave Snape be appointed as a member of the Good Citizen's Group and for a meeting to be arranged on Monday, 28 January.*

187. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: *to confirm the date of the next ordinary meeting as Monday, 25 February 2019.*