

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities Committee** held at the  
**Town Hall, Wynnstay Road, Rhuthun on Monday, 8 April 2019 at 7:00p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Keiran Allsopp-Robson, Gavin Harris, Menna Jones, Anne Roberts, Dave Snape and Emrys Wynne.

**96. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jim Bryan and Ian Lewney.

**97. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

**98. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** *that the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 11 March 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.*

**99. MATTERS ARISING**

The Clerk referred to a message from David Moseley apologising that the repainting of the skatepark had not been completed, and that a coat of paint would be applied during dry weather prior to the school Easter holidays, and the task completed prior to the holiday or immediately afterwards. Also a message from Tim Wynne-Evans, Denbighshire County Council's Principal Public Protection Officer (Environmental and Parking Enforcement) regarding the situation with environmental enforcements since the private company formerly responsible for this, Kingdom, withdrew from the contract. The information was noted by members. She also referred to a response from Joy Henderson, Denbighshire County Council's Cemeteries Officer regarding concerns about the standard of grass cutting at Llanrhydd Cemetery, especially the grass cuttings not being collected and disposed of. Her message explained that the grass wasn't collected as it would increase the cost of the work and would reduce the number of cuts per year, currently 10 per year on a three weekly cycle. Members discussed this and it was

**RESOLVED:** *to contact Denbighshire County Council again to emphasise that Llanrhydd Cemetery is a lawn cemetery and should be maintained as such, with grass cuttings collected to avoid a build-up on the grass, headstones and being carried on people's shoes.*

**100. SAFETY INSPECTION REPORTS**

Members were asked to consider the safety inspection reports by Play Inspection Company Ltd regarding the Memorial Playing Fields play area and Cae Ddôl skatepark. Members were concerned about the comments regarding the grind rails in the skatepark. They were also very concerned at the lack of progress with upgrading the Memorial Playing Fields play area, which had a number of low risk issues highlighted.

**RESOLVED:** *to get feedback from the skatepark users to ascertain how each item is used, and to seek quotations for the removal of the play equipment from the Memorial Playing Fields play area pending further progress with upgrading the site as a Multi-Use Games Area or with new play equipment.*

**101. MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELDS PLAY AREA**

Members were asked to consider a request for a contribution of £1,800 towards a feasibility study regarding the options of renewing the play area or locating a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) on the play area site. Members expressed concern at the lack of development on this site, and their feelings that a consultation exercise had already been undertaken.

**RESOLVED:** *to respond to the request by expressing that the Town Council would prefer to contribute towards either new play equipment or a MUGA rather than another study.*

**102. COMPLAINTS REGARDING GRASS CUTTING STANDARDS**

Members were requested to consider complaints regarding the standard of grass cutting by Ruthin Town Council's grass cutting contractor. Councillor Anne Roberts explained that the complaints

related to lack of appropriate signage when undertaking grass cutting, and using a mower only rather than mower and strimmer to cut around the base of signposts and under crash barriers etc. **RESOLVED:** *to contact the contractor to request a list of dates when the grass will be cut, and to monitor the situation.*

### **103. TIDY TOWN TEAM**

Councillor Harris stated that, due to the annual Town Clean-up Campaign on Saturday, 6 April, the Tidy Town Team session on Monday, 8 April had been cancelled. The May session would continue as planned.

**RESOLVED:** *to note the update.*

### **104. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** *that the date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, 7 May 2019 at 7:00pm.*

### **105. PRESENTATION BY KATHY BARHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE VOLUNTARY SERVICES COUNCIL COMMUNITY WELLBEING OFFICER – DEMENTIA AWARE**

The Clerk contacted DVSC's Chief Officer who confirmed that Kathy Barham was ill and unable to attend.

**RESOLVED:** *to rearrange a date for the above presentation.*

### **106. UPDATE FROM OLD COURTHOUSE WORKING GROUP**

Councillor Gavin Harris provided an update from the Old Courthouse working group meeting. He shared that the project had received confirmation of being awarded £10,000 grant funding from the National Lottery Community Fund towards the refurbishment costs. Further to the discussions regarding initial strip out, he explained that SECOM who had installed the current security alarm system were willing to remove the system, and retain any reusable parts for a cost of £204 + VAT. Also to approach builder and joiner companies to remove the screen wall, night safe and cash point enclosure, which should not cost more than £300 plus VAT. Also three recommended Mechanical & Engineering experts had been contacted to provide advice on the heating and insulation requirements in the Old Courthouse. One had replied explaining that they did not have capacity to undertake this work, and Davies Partnership had provided a quotation of £1,450 + VAT. Members asked questions whether this affected the insurance cover or the grant applications, and were assured that all parties had been informed of these intentions and had no objections.

**RESOLVED:** *to accept the above quotations and proceed with the works, and also to proceed with removing the screen, night safe and cash point, subject to the cost being no more than £300 + VAT.*