

Minutes of the **Annual Meeting** of **RHUTHUN TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Rhuthun on Monday, **13 May 2019** at **7.00p.m.**

PRESENT: Cllr. Ian Lewney (**Mayor**), Cllr. Gavin Harris (**Deputy Mayor**) and Councillors Keiran Allsopp-Robson, Stephen Beach, Ken Hawkins, John Wynne Hughes, Menna Jones, Jabez Oakes, Robert Owen-Ellis, Anne Roberts, Dave Snape, Heather Williams, Ifan Wyn and Emrys Wynne.

1. OPENING PRAYER

The Mayor welcomed Reverend Dylan Parry Jones, who opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Mayor welcomed Civic Dignitaries, Councillors, invited guests and members of the public to the Annual Meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jim Bryan, County Councillor Bobby Feeley and Reverend Stuart Evans.

3. MAYOR'S ADDRESS

The Mayor, Councillor Ian Lewney, thanked civic dignitaries, fellow Councillors, invited guests, friends and family for their attendance at the Annual General Meeting. He stated that it had been an honour to serve as Town Mayor and he had thoroughly enjoyed attending a variety of events during the year. He referred to some of the highlights of his year in office, such as participating in the Carnival parade in the Thomas the Tank engine float, the Remembrance Sunday service at the centenary of the end of the First World War and the trip to Taylor's Foundry in Loughborough to see St. Peter's Church bells being restored. He thanked 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 in the region of £3,000.00 in his Mayor's Charity Fund and thanked everyone who had assisted with his fundraising efforts.

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

The Mayor presented cheques to Vale of Clwyd MIND, Gorphwysfa Bowls Club and Ruthin Air Training Corp, Brownies, Guides, Scouts, Cubs, Junior Football Club, Junior Rugby Club, Junior Hockey Club, Junior Cricket Club and Junior Tennis Club.

5. THE RUTHIN GOOD CITIZEN / YOUNG PERSON / COMMUNITY GROUP OF THE YEAR AWARD 2019

The Mayor announced that the Good Citizen of the Year award was being presented to Mrs Sylvia Hughes who had been involved with Ruthin Hospital League of Friends since 1964 and Age Concern in Ruthin and was a prolific knitter who donated the knitted items to the Salvation Army Charity shop and the homeless. She nominated Theatr John Ambrose as her chosen cause. He announced that the Good Citizen Group had decided on a joint award for Young Person of the Year Award 2019, to be presented to Erin Gwyn and Ceri Wynne Jones, both Year 12 students at Ysgol Brynhyfryd who volunteer regularly at Awelon and thoroughly enjoy their time with the residents. Unfortunately, as both had external AS examinations the following morning, they were not at the meeting. The Mayor welcomed their nominator, Mrs Manon Wilkinson, Head of Sixth Form at Ysgol Brynhyfryd, to accept the certificates on their behalf. Erin Gwyn had nominated Ruthin Food Bank as her chosen cause, and Ceri Wynne Jones wished to donate to Ruthin Community Hospital. The Community Group of the Year was announced as Ruthin Forward – a hard working group who promote the town by organising events such as Ruthin Carnival, Scarecrow Competition and the Ruthin Christmas Market and Convoy of Lights etc. A group of representatives, including the Chair, Rhian Parry, accepted the Award. They wished to

donate to Ruthin Community Nurses and 1918 ATC Ruthin Squadron.

6. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Gavin Harris, thanked the retiring Mayor, Councillor Ian Lewney, for his hard work on behalf of the people of the town and the Town Council. He presented him with a Town Plaque and wine, 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 2018/2019 were received, and the Mayor congratulated those members with a 100% attendance record at Council meetings and Committee meetings.

8. WELSH LANGUAGE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The Mayor asked the Chair of the Committee, Councillor Emrys Wynne, to present a verbal report. Councillor Wynne stated that we are fortunate in Ruthin Town Council that Welsh and English are used naturally side by side, at the Town Council meetings and the Committee meetings. He thanked the interpreter, Marian Rees, for the high standard of simultaneous translation. He emphasised that the Committee held a meeting in September to review the Town Council's Welsh Language Scheme, and as members were satisfied that it was being implemented, no further meetings were required.

9. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2019/2020

On the proposal of Cllr. Anne Roberts, seconded by Cllr. John Wynne Hughes, it was resolved that Cllr. Gavin Harris be elected Town Mayor of Rhuthun for the municipal year 2019/2020. He was then invested with the Robe and Chain of Office, and the Consort chain presented to Mr Christopher Frost.

10. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY THE MAYOR

Having duly made and signed the necessary declaration, Cllr. Gavin Harris thanked his proposer and seconder, the retiring Mayor and fellow Councillors for bestowing the honour on him.

11. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2019/2020

On the proposal of Cllr. Emrys Wynne and seconded by Cllr. Ifan Wyn it was resolved that Cllr. Heather Williams be elected Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2019/2020. The Mayor then invested Cllr. Heather Williams with the Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office and she signed the declaration of acceptance of office. Councillor Williams thanked her proposer and seconder and fellow councillors for their support and promised to do her utmost to support the Mayor and the Town Council during the exciting year ahead.

12. NOTABLE DATES

The Mayor informed members that Civic Sunday would be held on Sunday, 14 July 2019 at St. Peter's Church followed by a garden party lunch at the Lord's Garden, Nantclwyd y Dre. The Mayor's Charity Dinner would be held on Saturday, 16 November 2019, at Ruthin Castle Hotel.

13. CLOSING PRAYER

Reverend Dylan Parry Jones closed the meeting with a prayer. The Mayor invited everyone present to enjoy refreshments after the meeting.