

PRESENT: Councillors Gavin Harris (Mayor), Heather Williams (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors Stephen Beach, Jim Bryan, Ken Hawkins, John Wynne Hughes,
Menna Jones, Robert Owen-Ellis, Anne Roberts, Ifan Wyn and Emrys Wynne.

82. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Keiran Allsopp-Robson, Ian Lewney, Jabez Oakes and Dave Snape.

83. PRESENTATION FROM RUTHIN POLICE

The Mayor welcomed Sergeant Martin Jones to the meeting. He informed the members that there had been an increase in drug use and drug dealing in the area, and also rogue traders and thefts in the rural areas. He emphasised that the police are grateful for any information that councillors and the public provide. He stated that Speed Watch activities would increase, especially as the anti-social driving in Cae Ddôl and Park Road car parks had never really gone away. He said he would share the action plan for dealing with this at the next meeting. He also noted that they were in the planning stages for the fireworks display and Remembrance Sunday service. Members were given an opportunity to ask questions or make comments.

RESOLVED: *to note the presentation.*

84. PROPOSED PUMP TRACK IN RUTHIN

The Mayor welcomed Osian Owen, Jordan Syme and Rob to give a presentation regarding a proposed project for a cycling pump track in Ruthin. They shared a handout with members outlining the purpose of such facilities, the type desired for Ruthin and the location of other tracks. They were keen to raise funds to have a 40m x 40m double track suitable for holding competitions, three or four races a year, and potentially develop a race series with Rhayader. It would be an outdoor space available to all at other time, which had proved to reduce anti-social behaviour and deliberate fires in other area. Members asked questions and the Mayor thanked them for their presentation.

RESOLVED: *to consider the proposal in conjunction with the North Wales Velodrome bid.*

85. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

86. NORTH WALES VELODROME - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FROM RUTHIN

The Mayor requested that this item be discussed after the Pump Track presentation, as they may be included in the same bid to promote cycling facilities in Ruthin. Members agreed. An update was provided on formulating the expression of interest document to date, following meetings with representatives from Denbighshire County Council, Ruthin Football Club and Ruthin Cricket club as well as the pump track group. The bid outlining the proposal for a velodrome with 4G pitch in the centre and potential option for a pump track were to be submitted to Welsh Cycling by 30 September.

RESOLVED: *to note the update regarding the expression of interest from Ruthin.*

87. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported that he had attended the following events.

- 10.07 Meeting with Oakwood Construction regarding the Old Courthouse and presenting a Quayle Award to Ysgol Pen Barras and Rhos Street School
- 14.07 Civic Sunday service
- 15.07 Meeting with Mark Allen, Cycling Wales, meeting with Victoria Godberg, Construction Design Management consultant regarding the Old Courthouse and Staffing Subcommittee meeting and Complaints Committee meeting

- 17.07 Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council AGM
- 19.07 Return and opening of tenders for the Old Courthouse refurbishment works
- 21.07 Chair of Denbighshire County Council's Civic Sunday service
- 22.07 Old Courthouse working group meeting
- 23.07 Denbighshire Local Development Plan consultation exhibition in Ruthin Library
- 29.07 Meeting regarding the potential Velodrome and interviews for Old Courthouse Manager/Deputy Town Clerk
- 30.07 Judging floral displays
- 31.07 Signing the Old Courthouse contract
- 03.08 Tidy Town Team session
- 05.08 Meeting with the contractor at the start of works at the Old Courthouse and Old Courthouse working group meeting
- 06.08 Visit to Citizens Advice School Uniform Exchange in the Market Hall
- 07.08 Meeting with First Minister, Mark Drakeford, and Joanne Thomas in the Old Courthouse regarding the project, Ruthin Future, St. Peter's Square and the Velodrome
- 09.08 Meeting with Wales & West engineer at the Old Courthouse
- 13.08 Old Courthouse working group meeting
- 17.08 Meeting regarding audio visual requirements at the Old Courthouse and Ruthin Flower Show
- 19.08 Old Courthouse working group meeting and Emergency Powers Committee meeting
- 27.08 Old Courthouse working group meeting
- 30.08 Meeting with Wales & West Utilities at the Old Courthouse
- 04.09 Old Courthouse working group meeting
- 07 + 08.09 Open Doors weekend – official launch, visiting buildings and welcoming visitors to the Old Courthouse
- 08.09 The Bells Thanksgiving Service in St. Peter's Church
- 09.09 Emergency Services flag raising ceremony at County Hall, Ruthin, and Old Courthouse working group meeting
- 11.09 Meeting with Ben Wilcox Jones, DCC, regarding dropped kerbs and disability accessibility
- 12.09 Meeting with Ruth Astbury regarding the potential Velodrome
- 14.09 Ruthin Rotary Club Donkey Derby

88. MEMBERS' REPORTS

- Cllr. Heather Williams (Deputy Mayor) Mayor's Civic Sunday service, Old Courthouse working group meetings, meeting regarding North Wales Velodrome, Emergency Powers Committee meetings, Merchant Navy flag raising ceremony at County Hall, Ruthin, welcoming visitors to the Old Courthouse during Open Doors weekend and the restoration of the bells thanksgiving service in St. Peter's Church.
- Cllr. Keiran Allsopp-Robson North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils quarterly meeting, restoration of the bells thanksgiving service in St. Peter's Church and public consultation regarding Clwyd Alyn Housing Association's planning application at Ruthin Farmers Market.
- Cllr. Stephen Beach North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils quarterly meeting, Staffing Sub-committee meeting, interviews for Old Courthouse Manager/Deputy Clerk, meeting with Tesco management about problems with trees and welcoming visitors to the Old Courthouse during Open Doors weekend.
- Cllr. Jim Bryan Mayor's Civic Sunday service, Staffing Sub-committee meeting, Old Courthouse working group meetings, interviews for Old Courthouse Manager/Deputy Clerk, Ruthin Flower Show, Emergency Powers Committee meeting and welcoming visitors to the Old Courthouse

Cllr. Ken Hawkins	during Open Doors weekend. Mayor's Civic Sunday service, Ruthin Flower Show, Eucharist and tea at Nantclwyd y Dre, official opening of Open Doors at the Old Courthouse, Ruthin Rotary Club Donkey Derby and public consultation regarding Clwyd Alyn Housing Association's planning application at Ruthin Farmers Market.
Cllr. John Wynne Hughes	Mayor's Civic Sunday service.
Cllr. Menna Jones	Mayor's Civic Sunday service, judging floral displays, meeting with HSBC with the Mayor and Clerk, Emergency Powers Committee meeting, welcoming visitors to the Old Courthouse during Open Doors weekend and Ruthin Rotary Club Donkey Derby.
Cllr. Ian Lewney	Mayor's Civic Sunday service.
Cllr. Jabez Oakes	Mayor's Civic Sunday service.
Cllr. Robert Owen-Ellis	Mayor's Civic Sunday service, 9 Food Bank sessions, Staffing Subcommittee meeting, Denbighshire Local Development Plan exhibition in Ruthin Library, interviews for Old Courthouse Manager/Deputy Clerk and Open Doors weekend – visited several premises.
Cllr. Anne Roberts	Mayor's Civic Sunday service, Old Courthouse working group meetings, Ruthin and District Civic Association meeting, presentation of Quayle Award, meeting regarding Open Doors, Staffing Sub-committee meeting, Denbighshire Local Development Plan exhibition in Ruthin Library, Ruthin Forward meetings, interviews for Old Courthouse Manager/Deputy Clerk, judging floral displays, Eucharist and tea at Nantclwyd y Dre, Emergency Powers Committee meeting and welcoming visitors to the Old Courthouse during Open Doors weekend.
Cllr. Dave Snape	Mayor's Civic Sunday service, Ruthin Flower Show, Theatr John Ambrose Committee meeting and Old Courthouse working group meetings.
Cllr. Ifan Wyn	
Cllr. Emrys Wynne	

89. RUTHIN COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Members received a report from County Councillor Emrys Wynne, which covered events attended and issues dealt with over the summer period. He referred to the proposed second phase of Llys Awelon extra care housing scheme and the implications for Canolfan Awelon, and suggested that the developer Grŵp Cynefin be invited to address members regarding the proposal. County Councillor Bobby Feeley reported on events and matters that she had dealt with also.

90. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.*

91. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

92. MINUTES OF THE STAFFING SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2019 and update from the interviews held on 29 July 2019.

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and endorse the offer of employment as Old Courthouse Manager/Deputy Clerk to Kate Harcus.*

93. MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 19 August 2019.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 19 August 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

94. MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2019.

RESOLVED: to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2019.

95. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2019.

RESOLVED: to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2019.

96. UPDATE ON THE OLD COURTHOUSE

Members received an update regarding the Old Courthouse. The Mayor reported that the internal refurbishment was progressing well. He was thanked for his hard work on the project.

RESOLVED: to receive the update.

97. MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELDS PLAY AREA

Members were requested to consider a message from the Memorial Playing Fields Association regarding the future of the play area site. Members referred to the land being given to residents of Ruthin, and questioned whether the Association could do as it wished with the land. It was suggested that the Town Council should see a copy of the deeds.

RESOLVED: to check the deeds before taking any further action.

98. EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Clerk explained that the external audit report from BDO on behalf of Wales Audit Office had not been received, but was expecting a qualified audit report due to the Town Council not having separate Financial Regulations and lack of terms of reference for all sub-committees and working groups. A meeting of the Financial Scrutiny Sub-committee would be arranged to consider the Model Financial Regulations prior to presenting to Council for adoption and a request made to SLCC for model terms of reference also.

RESOLVED: to note the situation and consider the External Audit Report once received.

99. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Members were requested to receive and approve the financial statements for the periods ending 30 July 2019 and 31 August 2019. The Clerk reported that the VAT reclaim had been paid, and requested that the VAT element relating to the Old Courthouse be repaid into the relevant account.

RESOLVED: to receive and approve the financial statements for the periods ending 30 July 2019 and 31 August 2019 and approve repayment of VAT relating to the Old Courthouse into the Old Courthouse account.

100. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: that payment of the following items be approved.

From Ruthin Town Council current account:

100219	Viking	100 second class stamps and A4 paper	*	£102.14
100220	Hill & Roberts	Accountancy and payroll services, Sept 2019	*	£84.00
100221	Llanfwrog CIC	Watering services, including trees and plant food for hanging baskets – August 2019		£1,465.00
100222	Llanfwrog CIC	Grass cutting services – August 2019		£352.26
100223	Planhigion Glyndwr	Planting and supplying 80 planters	*	£3,214.80

100224	HMRC	Income tax and National Insurance		£354.12
100225	Marian Rees	Simultaneous translation service – interviews and September meetings	*	£270.00
From Ruthin Town Council Old Courthouse account:				
100001	Lyco Group Ltd	Lighting materials	*	£1,999.18
100003	Berwyn Slate Quarry Ltd	Slate flooring	*	£3,240.00
100004	Trade Radiators	Radiators	*	£6,328.00
100005	The Sanitary Ware Co.	Sanitary ware items	*	£999.48
100006	Cllr. Gavin Harris	Repayment for stopped cheque 100001 to Lyco		£1,999.18

101. PRE-PLANNING CONSULTATION – LAND AT GLASDIR, RUTHIN

Members were requested to further consider the pre-planning consultation by Clwyd Alyn Housing Ltd regarding a planning application for 77 dwellings on land at Glasdir, Ruthin, following the public exhibition regarding the proposal. Some members reported that they had attended the public consultation event regarding the proposed application, but felt that many questions had not been answered satisfactorily.

RESOLVED: *that members send their comments to the Clerk who would collate the responses to send to the developer.*

102. DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S PROPOSAL TO VACATE DENBIGHSHIRE ARCHIVES FROM RUTHIN GAOL

Members were requested to consider the implications of the proposed merger of Denbighshire and Flintshire Archives to be based in Mold. Members were alarmed at the proposal, which they had learnt about via social media, and felt that the Town Council had been ignored. It was suggested that the relevant Head of Service in Denbighshire County Council, Mr Alan Smith, be invited to the next meeting to discuss the proposals.

RESOLVED: *to invite Mr Alan Smith from Denbighshire County Council to address the Council regarding the proposal.*

103. DATES OF MEETINGS 2020

Members were requested to consider the proposed dates of Council and Committee meetings in 2020, as well as Civic Sunday, Reembrance Sunday and Mayor's Ball.

RESOLVED: *to consider the suggested dates and confirm at the next meeting.*

PART TWO

It was proposed and seconded that the following item be considered in private. The Clerk left the meeting at this point.

104. TOWN CLERK'S SALARY

Members received details of the Town Clerk's salary and expenses claimed for the period April 2019 to September 2019.

RESOLVED: *to receive the details and authorise payment of the £33.00 salary owing and £53.10 travelling expenses.*

105. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: *to confirm the date of the next ordinary meeting as Monday, 21 October 2019 at 7.00pm.*