

**CYNGOR TREF RHUTHUN
RUTHIN TOWN COUNCIL**



**RUTHIN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
13 DECEMBER 2021**

ITEM 9

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities Committee** held
on **Monday, 6 December 2021 at 7:30pm via Zoom.**

PRESENT: Councillors Menna Jones (Chair), Anne Roberts, Stephen Beach, Jim Bryan, , Heather Williams, Christine Ellis, Gavin Harris and Mike van der Eijk

Councillor Menna Jones informed the Amenities Committee that:

- A plaque acknowledging the work of Mr Andrew Phillips MBE had recently been unveiled by Mrs Phillips The plaque, placed on a new bench, was located in the garden which Mr Phillips tended, at the corner of Park Road and Borthyn.
- Councillor Stephen Beach was congratulated on his recent election to a prestigious post.
- The Christmas tree and lights had been placed in St Peter's Square. Clogau was thanked for its sponsorship and the Mayor thanked for switching on the lights.

74. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Rachel Lewington

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

76. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 8 November 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

77. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 56 & 77. Tremendous Tree Planting Project: The planting of 420 trees in Llanfwrog took place on 4 and 5 December. It was confirmed that the Llanfwrog Management Committee would be formally responsible for their upkeep with support provided by voluntary groups.

Minute 67. Woodland Creation Project Consultation: The Clerk confirmed that the Committee's comments had been fed into the consultation. Additionally, feedback had been given to the County Council's Countryside Team on the general state of the Cae Ddol pond. A response had been received outlining future plans for the pond and an offer of a site visit made. Members considered a site meeting at Cae Ddol appropriate to consider both the future plans of the pond and to walk through the ambitions of the Cae Ddol and Green Corridors Levelling Up Fund project

Minute 69. Cuning Green: The Clerk reported that Denbighshire County Council had been contacted and advised of the Town Council's concerns and its request that a full survey and risk assessment was carried out on the Cuning Green boundary wall by the County Council and a report issued. An initial response had been received outlining that the wall had been inspected and until it was safe and stable, the Cuning Green route would remain closed to the public. Further

detailed information was awaited. Councillor Heather Williams also confirmed that the boundary wall (built in the 1800's) was not included in work which Ruthin Castle Conservation Trust was involved with.

RESOLVED: *That a meeting be arranged on site at Cae Ddol with representatives from Denbighshire County Council (Members and Officers) and representatives from the Amenities Committee to consider the future plans for the Cae Ddol pond and walk through the ambitions of the Cae Ddol and Green Corridors Levelling Up Fund project.*

78. LEVELLING UP FUND – UPDATE

Members received an update on activities relating to Ruthin Future and the Levelling Up Fund bid which was being overseen by the Ruthin Future Working Group. Denbighshire County Council's Cabinet had approved the proposed projects to be included in the bid, the broad indicative value of each project and supported the overarching theme of the bid. Included in the bid were (i) public realm improvements in and around St Peter's Square and (ii) improvements within Cae Ddol and connecting areas. Both projects drew on the work of Ruthin Future as well as previous reports and surveys undertaken in 1971 and 1996.

Councillor Gavin Harris stated that Levelling Up Fund proposal for Cae Ddol provided an opportunity to connect the town's green spaces, improve accessibility and provide a more coherent and enhanced offer for the communities these areas served. There was a robust connection between the project and the heritage and culture theme of the Levelling Up Fund.

With guidance from Councillor Harris, Members considered a draft working document which outlined the main principles, ambitions and aims of the Cae Ddol and Green Corridor project together with indicative costings. Formal consideration would be given by Ruthin Town Council to both projects in the New Year and a process of community engagement and wider consultation would be determined to enable comment and feedback on the projects at the appropriate time. Further input by design, engineering and landscape professionals would be needed to inform the detail of the works to be undertaken.

Members were advised that, whilst a positive outcome to the Levelling Up Fund would be most welcome, the draft working document provided the basis for an Amenities Committee strategy which could be added to and amended as appropriate.

The work undertaken by Cllr Gavin Harris to inform the projects within the Levelling Up Fund bid was appreciated by the Members.

RESOLVED: *to note the update on activities in relation to the Levelling Up Fund application and to fully support the proposals outlined for improvements within Cae Ddol and connecting green areas.*

79. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the date of the next meeting will be Monday 10 January 2022 at 7:30pm.*