

**CYNGOR TREF RHUTHUN
RUTHIN TOWN COUNCIL**



Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities Committee** held
on Monday, 10 January 2022 at 7:30pm via Zoom.

PRESENT: Councillors Menna Jones (Chair), Anne Roberts, Stephen Beach, Jim Bryan, Heather Williams, Christine Ellis, Gavin Harris and Rachel Lewington

Councillor Menna Jones welcomed all to the first Amenities Committee of 2022.

80. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Mike van der Eijk.

81. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

82. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 6 December 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.*

83. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 69 and 77: Cunning Green: The Clerk reported that no further update had been provided by Denbighshire County Council. Members requested that an update be sought.

Minute 77: Tree Planting: Planting of trees would be undertaken by DCC staff and volunteers in February (date to be confirmed).

RESOLVED: *That a further update on the Cunning Green be requested of DCC by the Town Clerk.*

84. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – TREE AND MOTIFS

The Town Clerk formally advised Members that due to damage, the Christmas tree lights were dismantled on 22 December. The electrician would carry out an assessment on the current lights and secure quotes for replacements. The damage to the Christmas Tree and lights were subject to a police investigation.

Members' views were sought and shared on the general topic of Christmas lights, both motif, tree and other options for the 2022 Christmas season and beyond, both for the town centre and surrounding areas. The importance of ensuring appropriate Christmas lighting to attract visitors and shoppers to the local businesses could not be underestimated.

It was agreed that a task and finish group be set up to support the Town Clerk in determining options for lighting etc for the 2022 Christmas Season and beyond and report back to the Amenities Committee in due course.

RESOLVED: *to establish a task and finish group to determine options for the 2022 Christmas season and beyond.*

85. CHRISTMAS TREE SPONSORSHIP

Members expressed their sincere thanks to Clogau for sponsoring the Town Christmas tree and lights for the 2021 Christmas season and requested that a letter of thanks be sent to Clogau.

It was determined that monies be retained in the Town Council budget for a Christmas tree and lights, and that the task and finish group be additionally tasked with assessing the principle of future Christmas tree sponsorship opportunities and report back to the Amenities Committee in due course.

RESOLVED: *that the task and finish group be tasked with assessing the principle of future Christmas tree sponsorship and report back to the Amenities Committee.*

86. 2022 WILDFLOWER MEADOW PROJECT

The Committee considered Denbighshire County Council proposal for the inclusion of three additional sites in Ruthin for inclusion in the Wildflower Meadow project: namely: Pen y Maes, Glasdir Roundabout and Brieu Roundabout. Members sought assurance that a clear line of sight for drivers would be maintained and that the appropriate planting and maintenance would be undertaken.

RESOLVED: *That the Committee endorse the proposal to include Pen y Maes, Glasdir Roundabout and Brieu Roundabout in the Wildflower Meadow Project.*

87. GRASS CUTTING TENDER

The Committee noted that the grass cutting tender process would soon commence for 2022. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Amenities Committee and Town Clerk would review the tender documentation.

RESOLVED: *that the Chairman of the Amenities Committee and Town Clerk would review the tender documentation.*

88. HANGING BASKETS

The Committee noted that the tender process for supplying plants and installing hanging baskets would soon commence for 2022. Members agreed to continue to ensure an appropriate budget be allocated for hanging baskets in the town and agreed that the filled baskets be installed by the beginning of May 2022. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Amenities Committee and Town Clerk would review the tender documentation.

RESOLVED: *that the Chairman of the Amenities Committee and Town Clerk would review the tender documentation and include that the baskets be installed by the beginning of May 2022.*

89. FINANCIAL ESTIMATES FOR 2022-23 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Amenities Committee considered its expenditure for the 2022-23 Financial Year. It was agreed to propose the inclusion of an additional £2,000 for town festivities and £1,000 for Christmas lights within the 2022-23 budget.

RESOLVED: *to propose the inclusion of an addition £2,000 for town festivities and £1,000 for Christmas lights within the 2022-23 budget.*

90. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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