

**CYNGOR TREF RHUTHUN
RUTHIN TOWN COUNCIL**



(DRAFT) Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of **RUTHIN TOWN COUNCIL**
Held at The Old Courthouse and via Zoom video conferencing on Monday, 20 March 2023 at
7:00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Menna Jones (Mayor),
Councillors Anne Roberts, Jabez Redfern Oakes, Ian Lewney, Stephen
Beach, Christine Ellis, Rachel Ryland, Lisa Thomas, Gavin Harris, Peter
Daniels, Oliver Bradley-Hughes, Dafydd Hughes and Mike van der Eijk
via Zoom.
County Councillor, Emrys Wynne

IN ATTENDANCE: Iolo Williams – Town Clerk
Kate Harcus – Deputy Town Clerk and Manager of The Old Courthouse
Marian Rees – Translator

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Mayor Councillor Menna Jones welcomed councillors and observers. Apologies had been received from Councillor Mike van Der Eijk who was attending via Zoom after recently contracting Covid and Cllr Heather Williams who hoped to join via zoom if she was able

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were noted

3. MAYOR'S REPORT

The report as circulated prior to the meeting, which outlined the Mayor's activities and events since the previous Town Council meeting in February and March 2023 was noted.

RESOLVED: *to note the content of the Mayor's Report.*

4. MEMBERS' REPORTS

Members considered the Members' Reports as circulated with the agenda. The Mayor thanked the Councillors for their reports. In addition to the Written report Cllr Gavin Harris gave a further verbal report on his visit to the Urban Rooms event and that it was planned that the September meeting would be hosted in Ruthin

RESOLVED: *to note the content of the Member's Reports.*

5. RUTHIN COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

There were no reports from the County Councillors – there were technical issues with the translation equipment

RESOLVED: *due to technical difficulties to continue the meeting in English only*

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2023 be confirmed as a*

correct record. .

7. **MATTERS ARISING** - Cllr Gavin Harris gave an update on the Levelling up meeting called by David Jones MP explaining the steps being undertaken by DCC with the communications to be conducted by DCC – Cllr Emrys Wynne who was also at the meeting confirmed Cllr Harris' comments stating Gavin had covered the meeting well

8. **MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2023.

RESOLVED: to receive the minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 6 March 2023.

Cllr Emrys Wynne offered to raise dog fouling issues with DCC as there had been no response.

Cllr Gavin Harris reiterated his proposal from the Amenities committee to cover the insurance costs of the star park to allow the committee to open the park. The park had been maintained by the council but the volunteers have obtained a lease and modernised the equipment by their own fundraising efforts and councillors wished to support them to allow them to open the park There are discounts for committing to a long term agreement and he proposed we cover this cost through grant aid. This proposal was confirmed by the Council

9. **MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2023.

RESOLVED: to receive the minutes of the Planning and Development Committee held on 6 March 2023.

10. **MINUTES OF THE OLD COURTHOUSE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2023.

RESOLVED: to receive the minutes of The Old Courthouse Management Committee held on 6 March 2023. Request the clerk conduct an availability audit to enable Councillors and staff to decide on an appropriate time and day for future meetings

11. **Star Park** Covered above in Amenities discussion

12. **One Voice Wales** Clerk had circulated material to Councillors in advance

RESOLVED membership to be renewed

13. **Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales** – The clerk reminded Councillors of the deadline for acceptance of the 2022-23 allowance. The panel is responsible for expenses payments to elected representatives across Wales. The award is to contribute towards the costs to councillors of representing their communities and amounts to a reasonable expense allowed by HMRC of around £3per week. The allowance is changing for 2023-24 as detailed in

the Annual Report circulated to councillors

14. Tom Pryce Memorial – Councillor Anne Roberts had received complaints from a visitor as to the condition of the Memorial. The Clerk has commissioned cleaning of the paving to deal with a Health and Safety issue. There are maintenance needs for the memorial itself and the bollards and these are being dealt with by the clerk.

15. At planning committee the removal of a site at Hen Ion parcwr from the approved sites list was discussed and Councillors had been told local member had requested removal – this was due to previous employment use and feeling that site was more suited to employment use than residential

16. Nominations for Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the Civic Year 2023-24

Councillor Anne Roberts MBE was nominated for Mayor by Councillor Christine Ellis and Seconded by Councillor Steven Beach.

Councillor Jabez Redfern Oakes was nominated as Deputy Mayor by Councillor Ian Lewney and seconded by Councillor Lisa Thomas. And the appointments were confirmed by the Councillors.

Councillor Menna Jones thanked both for accepting the honour of becoming Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the forthcoming year.

17. The Big Help Out 8 May 2023 – A sub-committee was formed to assist the Mayor to organise an event to thank and celebrate local volunteers. Members Steven Beach, Anne Roberts, Jabez Redfern Oakes, Menna Jones with assistance from Lisa Thomas and Gavin Harris.

18. Members received the financial statement for the period ending 28 February 2023.

RESOLVED: *It was resolved to accept the financial statement of the period ending 28 February 2023.*

19. **Accounts for Payment** were accepted with Councillors approving standing orders for two regular monthly payments for the financial year ahead.

20. Date of next meeting 24 April 2023

