

At a Meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2011, at the Civic Offices, Wellington Road Community Centre, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

**PRESENT**

Councillor D. A. J. Thomas (Chair)

Councillors B. Blakeley, J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Butterfield MBE, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, Mrs L. M. Edwards, M. C. Espley, I. A. Gunning, Ms D. Hannam, Miss M. A. Jones, Mrs P. M. Jones, Mrs M. McCarroll, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, G. J. Pickering, A. J. Rutherford and T. Thomas.

Mr G. J. Nickels	-	Town Clerk
Mr P. M. Thomas	-	Finance Officer
Miss H. J. Windus	-	Personal Assistant & Secretary

**36. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors J. B. Bellis (on holiday), Ms G. A. Jones (family illness), D. W. Lee (work commitment), W. N. Tasker (on holiday) and G. Williams (on holiday).

**37. ELECTION – TYNEWYDD WARD**

The Chair reported that Mrs Ellie Chard was duly elected as a Tynewydd Ward Town Councillor and welcomed her to the Town Council and to her first meeting, having signed all of the necessary papers.

The Chair also congratulated the Mayor on a very successful charity garden party in August and the Rhyl Show at the Town Hall last weekend, which was bigger and better than ever!

The Mayor thanked the Chair and all Members for their support. She was delighted to report that the garden party had raised £700 for the North Wales Women's Centre.

**38. ONE VOICE WALES**

Further to Minute No.19 of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2011, Councillor Mrs J. Butterfield submitted her report (circulated with Agenda) and added that the North Wales Association of Town and Larger Community Councils meets quarterly and feels competent enough to work independently to One Voice Wales and was moving forward with caution.

**RESOLVED** *that the report be received.*

### 39. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

The Finance Officer presented his report for the period from 29<sup>th</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2011 (circulated with Agenda).

#### Paid by-Date-Payee-Details-Amount

DD	30/06/2011	AdEPT Telecom	Telephone call charges May VN 064	74.11
BACS	04/07/2011	Conrad Office and Art	Stationery VN 071	124.56
BACS	04/07/2011	Webber Office Solutions	Stationery VN 072	44.50
BACS	04/07/2011	Neopost	Stationery VN 073	108.59
SO	05/07/2011	Wellington Community Centre	Quarterly office rent VN 001	4500.00
DD	08/07/2011	HSBC	Charges to 16 June VN 066	11.94
BACS	12/07/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Shelter cleaning June VN 077	441.00
BACS	12/07/2011	Canda Copying Limited	Photocopier rental and copies VN 078 079	783.84
BACS	12/07/2011	NW Assoc of Town Councils	Delegates fees for meeting VN 080	25.00
BACS	15/07/2011	Bacs payroll	Payroll July 2011 VN 081	7508.59
BACS	15/07/2011	Inland Revenue	Payroll June VN 056	3107.79
BACS	15/07/2011	Flintshire County Council	Payroll June VN 057	3789.25
BACS	15/07/2011	Rhyl Coastal Partnership	Repayment of grant VN 084	2000.00
BACS	15/07/2011	Wellington Community Centre	DDA work at Civic Offices on account VN 085	4000.00
DD	15/07/2011	Denbighshire County Council	NNDR instalment VN 005	449.00
BACS	28/07/2011	Delitfull	Refreshments re Civic Sunday VN 086	450.00
DD	29/07/2011	AdEPT Telecom	Telephone call charges Apr VN 089	70.51
BACS	01/08/2011	Rhyl Steam Preservation Trust	Reimbursement of insurance costs re Billy etc VN 091	151.75
BACS	04/08/2011	Neopost	Postage meter top up VN 093	200.00
DD	04/08/2011	Sage UK Limited	Subscriptions to HR and HS services VN 090 091	768.00
SO	05/08/2011	Wellington Community Centre	Quarterly cleaning and utility charges VN 011	5980.00
DD	07/08/2011	HSBC	Charges to 16 July VN 090	9.28
BACS	08/08/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Payment to DCC re Physical Activity Programme VN 092	29000.00
BACS	15/08/2011	Flintshire County Council	Payroll July VN 083	3789.25
BACS	15/08/2011	Bacs payroll	Payroll Aug 2011 VN 096	7496.98
BACS	15/08/2011	Inland Revenue	Payroll July VN 082	3108.38
DD	15/08/2011	Denbighshire County Council	NNDR instalment VN 005	449.00
BACS	16/08/2011	Cllr W Mullen James	County planning	training VN 100
18.54				
BACS	16/08/2011	BJS Solutions	Backup drives VN 101	539.28
BACS	16/08/2011	Wellington Community Centre	DDA work at Civic Offices balance VN 103	2062.00
BACS	30/08/2011	Cyfieithu Cymunedol Conwy	Welsh language scheme translation VN 106	12.63
BACS	30/08/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Shelter cleaning July VN 107	441.00

BACS	30/08/2011	Conrad Office and Art	Stationery VN 109	109.02
BACS	30/08/2011	Webber Office Solutions	Stationery VN 110	141.65
Credit Card	30/08/2011	NWN Media Ltd	Welsh language scheme consultation adverts VN 110	231.31
Credit Card	30/08/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Remembrance Gardens fence repair VN 111	883.82
DD	31/08/2011	AdEPT Telecom	Telephone call charges Aug VN 105	82.57
				82963.14

**List of Income received for the period 29th June 2011 to 31st August 2011**

	30/06/2011	Money Market	BS 300 VN 076	3.60
	01/07/2011	Santander	Interest Jun 2011 VN 075	7.11
	07/07/2011	Money Market	BS 301 VN 095	3.60
	14/07/2011	Money Market	BS 301 VN 095	2.40
	21/07/2011	Money Market	BS 302 VN 095	2.40
	28/07/2011	Money Market	BS 302 VN 095	2.40
	01/08/2011	Santander	Interest Jul 2011 VN 094	7.35
	04/08/2011	Money Market	BS 303 VN 115	2.40
	11/08/2011	WPS Insurance Brokers	Insurance claim settlement VN 099	633.82
	31/08/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Instalment of Precept VN 112	133667.00
				134332.08

**RESOLVED** that the report be received.

**40. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS – RHYL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

The Chair reported the resignation of Councillor G. J. Pickering as the Town Council's representative on the above organisation and asked Members to consider appointing a replacement. For Members' information, the Chair added that the partnership met quarterly in the evening to allocate community monies available from the off-shore Wind Farms to local organisations.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Mrs M. McCarroll be nominated to represent the Town Council at all future meetings of the partnership.

**41. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS – RHYL GOING FORWARD DELIVERY STRATEGY**

Further to Minute No.39 of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011, the Town Clerk submitted his report (circulated with Agenda) and asked Members to consider appointing two representatives to each of the six delivery groups.

Members spoke of many of their residents feeling unhappy with the way in which the consultation has been presented, i.e. that it has been conducted during August when many people are either away on holiday or pre-occupied with their children's school holidays, including Mr Booty who residents had tried to contact to discuss the strategy. A member felt that a Public Meeting should be organised to allow Members of the public to engage with the Officers responsible for the Strategy.

Some Members were of the view that none of the monies generated by the numerous regeneration streams (Objective One and Regeneration Area Funding)

seem to be benefiting Rhyl in real terms, and one Member stated that it was his intention to request a public inquiry into where the Objective One monies had been spent over the last 10 years.

The Town Clerk reminded Members that a small delegation of Town Councillors had met with Mr Booty in early June to put their views across and that from that meeting Mr Booty had attended the July Council meeting, again to give Members the opportunity to input into the strategy. In addition to this, on 18<sup>th</sup> August he had sent all Members a copy of the Delivery Plan which clearly stated that the closing date for consultation was 31<sup>st</sup> August and invited Members to contact Denbighshire County Council directly before that time.

In order to meet Members concerns the Town Clerk suggested that Mr. Booty be invited to attend the Town Council Meeting to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2011

Members felt that there was enough call for a month's extension to the consultation period and that Mr Wyn Roberts from the Welsh Government should also be invited to the September Council meeting to advise Members on previous expenditure and future plans

**RESOLVED** that:

- a) *the Town Clerk be instructed to invite Mr Booty and Mr Roberts to the September Council meeting to allow Members to explain residents' concerns and request a month's extension to the consultation period and for Mr Booty to arrange an urgent public meeting in the Town Hall during the extension to facilitate those comments and concerns.*
- b) *the Town Clerk to write to all Members asking them to submit their own questions and comments to be put to Mr Booty and Mr Roberts at the September Council meeting to ensure proper structure.*
- c) *appointing Members to the six delivery groups be deferred for the time being.*

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Standing Orders be suspended to enable the Town Clerk to act as a matter of urgency.

**42. AUGUST RECESS – APPROVAL FOR THE MAYOR TO REPRESENT RHYL AT THE WALES IN BLOOM AWARDS**

The Town Clerk reported that the Mayor had been invited to Chepstow to collect the trophy for taking first place in the Town Category of this year's Wales in Bloom on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2011, and had accepted the invitation.

**RESOLVED** that the action be approved.

**43. AUGUST RECESS – LETTER OF CONDOLENCE – FLIGHT LIEUTENANT JON EGGING**

The Town Clerk reported that the Mayor had sent a letter to the Red Arrows' Commanding Officer expressing the people of Rhyl's sincere condolences following

the tragic loss of “Red Four” at Bournemouth Air Show just two weeks after appearing at Rhyl Air Show.

**RESOLVED** *that the action be approved.*

**44. AUGUST RECESS – CLOSURE OF MARKS AND SPENCER STORE**

The Town Clerk reported that he had contacted Marks and Spencer and had sent Members a copy of the e-mails exchanged between himself and the company, largely explaining that the decision to re-locate to Prestatyn was to offer their customers a wider range of products in a larger store.

They also say that employees would be offered guaranteed redeployment at either the Llandudno or Chester stores and would be prioritised for positions at the new store in Prestatyn when up and running in Spring 2013, and that redundancy packages were also an option for staff.

**RESOLVED** *that the Town Clerk to write to the Journal newspaper advising of the action taken by the Town Council for residents’ information.*

**45. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – CHARTER FOR TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

The Chair referred to the above document sent to Members during the August Recess and asked for Members’ comments.

A Member stated that the document had huge implications for Rhyl and suggested asking Denbighshire County Council for a list of areas they would like the Town Council to work in partnership with them on and details of the funding available to the Town Council for doing so?

The Town Clerk advised that the document, at this stage, was more a general statement of intent and that the finer details would be discussed at a later date.

Some Members felt unable to sign up to the charter without more information and were wary of becoming involved in yet another “talking shop” that might ultimately result in Rhyl residents paying twice for their Council services.

**RESOLVED** *that the Town Clerk to:*

- a) *request further discussion at the next Rhyl Member Area Group (formerly the Rhyl Elected Members Group)*
- b) *send all Members a copy of the Welsh Government Charter.*

**46. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES**

The Chair referred to the above document sent to Members during the August Recess and asked for Members’ comments.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to comment on the lack of parking at the Botanical Gardens Polling Station and of disabled parking spaces behind the Town Hall on Thursdays, which is a market day, making voting difficult for people with disabilities.

**47. CONSULTATION: WELSH GOVERNMENT – FUTURE OF COMMUNITIES FIRST PROGRAMME POST 2012**

The Chair referred to the above document sent to Members during the August Recess and asked for Members' comments.

The Town Clerk advised that this was a national consultation and suggested that Members take more time to consider the proposals and respond directly to Welsh Government before the closing date of 26<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

**RESOLVED** that Members should make their representations to Welsh Government.

**48. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2006-2012**

The Chair reported receipt of correspondence from the above (circulated with Agenda) and a copy of the Plan (available in Committee Room) for Members' consideration.

**RESOLVED** that the document be received and Members to make their representations directly to Denbighshire County Council.

**49. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – CONSTRUCTION OF FORYD HARBOUR WALKING AND CYCLING BRIDGE SCHEME 2011**

The Chair reported receipt of the above correspondence and associated documents (circulated with Agenda) for Members' consideration.

Members commented that:

- on the second page of the Notice, under Points of commencement and termination, the words "County of Denbigh" should be corrected to read "County of Denbighshire".
- on page three under Waterway – The River Clwyd Estuary, mentioned was made of dredging the river bed, but they had been led to believe that there was no money for dredging?
- on page four under Operation of Bridge, reference was made to incoming vessels having the option to wait at the end of the training wall or seek an alternative harbour. Members were not aware of an alternative harbour and hoped that a "safe harbour" had been factored in?
- none of the envisaged problems with the plans were highlighted in the document and that many of the affected parties were unhappy with the proposals, e.g. who would be responsible for clearing sand from the cycle

path on both sides of the river, and was there a maintenance budget for the bridge?

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to write to Denbighshire County Council conveying the Town Council's support but to ask all of the above questions and comments as well.

**50. CORRESPONDENCE: WELSH GOVERNMENT – INVITATION FOR RHYL TOWN COUNCILLORS TO VISIT THE NEW WELSH GOVERNMENT BUILDING AT LLANDUDNO JUNCTION**

The Chair reported receipt of the above (circulated during August Recess).

The Town Clerk advised that for the Members who work during the day, the building would be open to the public at weekends.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to organise a suitable date and appropriate travel arrangements for Members.

**51. CORRESPONDENCE: FLINT TOWN COUNCIL – PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF NORTH WALES GROUP TO DISCUSS COMMUNITY HOSPITALS**

The Chair reported receipt of the above (circulated with Agenda) inviting the Town Council to join a North Wales group to address any future temporary or longer term closures of services in our community hospitals.

**RESOLVED** that the invitation be accepted and that the Town Clerk requests that the group extends its remit to day care services for the elderly.

**52. WELSH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION 2011**

The Town Clerk reported receipt of a holding report, which did not contain any ranking data, making comment difficult. The Town Clerk advised that he was expecting Denbighshire County Council to be working on a breakdown of the latest findings by the end of September.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

**53. MEMBERS ITEM: ILLUMINATIONS ON RHYL EAST PROMENADE**

Councillor Ms D. Hannam sought Members' support 'in principle' for the provision of replacement ornamental illuminations on Rhyl East Promenade similar to those previously located, along with the planting of new shrubs. Councillor Hannam stated that she was not looking for Town Council financial support as she was aware of some external funding streams which she was happy to investigate further.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk sends a letter of support for the proposal.

**54. MEMBERS ITEM: "WELCOME TO RHYL" SIGN AT FORYD BRIDGE**

Councillor G. J. Pickering referred to the Town Clerk's report (circulated with Agenda) and sought Members' views on either progressing with the previous decision to introduce a sign at the Foryd Bridge entrance to the town or taking no further action.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to proceed with erecting the sign.

**55. MEMBERS ITEM: FAIRTRADE TOWN STATUS**

Councillor G. J. Pickering sought Members' support for seeking to renew the town's Fairtrade status (Town Clerk's report circulated with Agenda).

**RESOLVED** that the request be approved.

**56. MEMBERS ITEM: QUAY STREET CAR PARK**

Councillor G. J. Pickering sought Members' support for a letter to be sent to Denbighshire County Council and Scarborough Developments asking for the Quay Street Car Park to be re-opened for free parking during the summer months, pending works to redevelop the site.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk makes the request.

**57. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, on the grounds of confidentiality.

**58. TOWN CENTRE MANAGER**

Further to Minute No.39 of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011, the Chair referred to the confidential reports of Mr Tom Booty, Rhyl Going Forward Programme Manager and Councillors A. J. Rutherford and T. Thomas (circulated with Agenda) for Members' consideration.

Councillors Rutherford and Thomas added that although the meeting began with some confusion it had been a positive coming together of the various parties, and were hopeful that the 'common sense' approach adopted would lead to good progress in establishing the post.

**RESOLVED** that:

a) the reports be received.

b) Councillors A. J. Rutherford and T. Thomas continue to attend future meetings and take a supportive role without committing the Town Council to anything of a financial or more involved nature.

**59. CLOSURE OF MEETING**



There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed.

Chair: .....

Date: .....