

At a **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 16th October 2013 in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Wellington Road, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor A. J. Rutherford (Mayor)

Councillors I. W. Armstrong, B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, Ms J. Hughes, A. R. James, Mrs M. McCarroll, Mrs P. M. Jones, J. May, B. Mellor, B. F. Moylan, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, S. H. Ratcliffe, Miss S. L. Roberts, D. Simmons and Miss C. L. Williams.

Mr G. J. Nickels – Town Clerk
Mr R. A. Hughes – Finance Officer
Miss H. J. Windus - Personal Assistant & Secretary

63. OPENING OF MEETING

On behalf of the Mayor's Chaplain, Church Reader Ms Jeni Hadley, commenced proceedings by leading all present in prayer.

64. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs J. Butterfield MBE (on holiday), P. Prendergast (family commitment), R. Siddall (indisposed) and W. N. Tasker (family commitment).

65. MINUTES

The Minutes of the following Meetings of Council and Committees were submitted for approval as a correct record:

Council - 18th September 2013 - Min.Nos. 48-62

Proposed by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 18th September 2013 - Min.Nos. 17-19

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 2nd October 2013 - Min.Nos. 20-22

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and seconded by Councillor B. Blakeley and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General - 2nd October 2013 - Min.Nos. 62-82
Purposes Committee

Proposed by Councillor Miss S. L. Roberts and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

With regard to Minute No.64 (2013 Free Parking Days) Councillor B. Mellor reported that as Chair of the Rhyl Members Area Group he had received an e-mail from Mr. M. Jones, Traffic, Parking and Road Safety Manager at Denbighshire County Council advising that due to the lack of take up from Town and Community Councils in January 2013 to their request for a financial contribution towards the 'Free After Three' scheme, and as a result of the significant drop in revenue from the County's car parks (£16,000 down in Rhyl alone) they were now deciding on whether they can afford to run the scheme at all this Christmas.

The Town Clerk stated that as the letter had been written for the attention of the Members Area Group (Rhyl County Councillors only) and not to the Town Council it was for the Group to respond accordingly, and confirmed that he would be responding to the original offer of five free parking days for Rhyl as previously instructed to by the Town Council.

66. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor referred to the list of engagements he had attended over the last month and in particular to the opening of the Lego Innovation Studio and the Your Champions events. The Mayor advised that a Rhyl resident, Mr James Morgan, took the Overall Winner award in the Champion Young Person category for, amongst a long list of attributes, his personal skills, his dedication, determination and ability to inspire his fellow pupils to become engaged in sports.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk to send a letter of congratulations to Mr Morgan.

67. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS

Further to Minute No.27 of the meeting held on 3rd July 2013, the Finance Officer submitted his report reviewing the Town Council's Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders (circulated with Agenda) for Members' approval.

RESOLVED that the new Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders be adopted for the next 36 months, prior to a further full review.

68. STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING (S.O.P) COMMITTEE

The Town Clerk presented his report (circulated with Agenda) seeking to establish the above Committee and disband the SMART Task and Finish Group.

The Town Clerk advised that as with the SMART Group, any Member was welcome to attend meetings of the S.O.P. Committee and encouraged Members to do so.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Committee would not have delegated authority and would make recommendations to Council for its consideration.

RESOLVED that:

- i) *The establishment of the S.O.P. Committee and disbanding of the SMART Group be approved.*
- ii) *The current membership of the SMART Group be transferred to the S.O.P. Committee with the addition of Councillors B. Mellor and Miss C. L. Williams.*
- iii) *Councillor A. J. Rutherford be appointed as the Chair of the S.O.P. Committee. The Vice-Chair would be agreed by the Committee at its first meeting.*

69. PRESENTATIONS FROM RHYL GOING FORWARD OFFICERS (IF REQUIRED)

Further to Minute No.29 of the meeting held on 3rd July 2013, the Town Clerk reported that there had been no request to report to the Town Council.

70. MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS

There were no urgent matters arising.

71. QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

72. 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.

73. RHYL TOWN COUNCIL POTENTIAL PROJECTS

The Town Clerk submitted his confidential report (circulated with Agenda) on the nominations received from Members identifying medium sized projects they would like to see progressed by the Town Council via external grants.

The Town Clerk circulated voting slips to all Members present and the Mayor invited Members to identify and prioritise their top three projects, which were then collected by the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED that the list of projects be passed to the S.O.P. Committee to be evaluated and progressed.

74. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further items of business the Mayor declared the Meeting of Council closed.

Mayor:

Date: