

At a meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held on Wednesday 1st November 2017 at the Civic Offices, Wellington Road Community Centre, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor B. Mellor (Chair)

Councillors B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Ms J. Hughes, Mrs P. M. Jones, Ms J. McAlpine, Ms V. Roberts, T. Thomas and Miss C. L. Williams.

Mr G. J. Nickels – Town Clerk

74. APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted from Councillors J. Ball, Mrs E. M. Chard, A. R. James, B. Jones, K. R. Jones, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, P. Prendergast, A. J. Rutherford and Deputy Town Clerk, Miss H. J. Windus.

75. PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

The Town Clerk presented his report (circulated with agenda) detailing the schedule of payments made.

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount £	Description of Goods & Services
Payments made in September 2017			
341	BT	113.04	Internet Line Rental
253	Sage & Co	30.00	Payroll Services September 2017
342a	HSBC	5.50	Bank Charges 17 July 2017 to 16 August 2017
350	Flintshire CC	4,235.58	Pension Contributions and Deficit Funding August 2017
349	HMRC	2,746.53	Payroll Deductions August 2017
346	RTC Staff	6,645.16	Staff Salaries September 2017
347	Gunsmoke Communications	1,360.00	Events Fees August 2017
260	Benefits Advice Shop	916.66	Appeals Officer Contribution 6 of 12
258	Denbighshire CC	686.00	Council Tax 2017/18 Payment 6 of 10
348	Sioned Graham-Cameron	291.16	Translation Costs
351	BT	146.59	Rental Charges
Payments made in October 2017			
356	Shire Leasing Group	379.33	Avaya Telephone System Lease Q3 2017/18
357	BT	85.55	Calls & Line Rental
358	BT	368.10	Calls & Line Rental
252	Rhyl Community	4,500.00	Rent for Upper Floor Wellington

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount £	Description of Goods & Services
	Association		Road Quarter 1 2017/18
359	Sage & Co	30.00	Payroll Services October 2017
360	HSBC	20.95	Bank Charges 17 August 2017 to 16 September 2017
361	Flintshire CC	4,141.80	Pension Contributions and Deficit Funding September 2017
362	HMRC	2,557.42	Payroll Deductions September 2017
364	RTC Staff	6,644.97	Staff Salaries October 2017
363	Gunsmoke Communications	1,600.00	Events Fees September 2017
260	Benefits Advice Shop	916.66	Appeals Officer Contribution 7 of 12
258	Denbighshire CC	686.00	Council Tax 2017/18 Payment 7 of 10
269	Citizens Advice Bureau	2,000.00	Energy Advisor Contribution 3 of 4 2017/18
	Total Payments	41,107.00	

RESOLVED that the report was approved.

76. **AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS/ADDITIONS TO APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST**

Further to minute no.143 of the meeting of Council held on 15th March 2017 and in accordance with the Council's adopted financial regulations, the Town Clerk submitted schedule B (a list of non-regular payments to be released over the coming month) (circulated with agenda).

Voucher No.	Supplier Name	Description of Service	Amount £
367	Denbighshire CC	Fitting of 7 new benches at Remembrance Gardens	420.00
368	Gwasg Helygain	Flyers & Leaflets for Christmas Event	293.00
369	Denbighshire CC	Repairs to decorative lights	157.57
370	NWN Media Ltd	Rhyl Regeneration Wrap Around (Advert)	300.00
Total payments			£1,170.57

RESOLVED that the schedule was approved for payment and signed by the Chair and the Mayor.

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

77. INVESTMENTS PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Town Clerk presented his and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda) on the Council's investments.

RESOLVED *that the report was received.*

78. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2017 AND FORECASTS FOR THE 2017/18 FINANCIAL YEAR

Further to minute no.47 of the meeting held on 6th September 2017, the Town Clerk presented his and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda).

The report showed performance against budget and reported a total forecasted deficit against budgeted expenditure of £98,000 but that this deficit included the proposed contribution of an estimated £150,000 towards the new waterpark.

The report clarified that this contribution would be met by way of savings against budget provision, increased income and the use of the Council's General Reserves.

Referring to appendices a member queried the amount paid for the installation of benches at the Remembrance Gardens which they understood had been provided for elsewhere.

RESOLVED *that:*

- (i) the report be received.*
- (ii) the Town Clerk to investigate the cost of the installation of the benches and report to the Chair of the Grounds Maintenance Sub-Committee.*
- (iii) the Town Clerk to include an item on the next agenda to discuss the production of an early newsletter.*

79. CONSULTATION: BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES – “THE 2018 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES IN WALES REVISED PROPOSALS”

The Chair referred to the above document and the extracts circulated at the meeting and sought members' views.

A debate was held around the proposals and it was **RESOLVED** *that the Town Clerk to write to the Boundary Commission requesting consideration to amend the name of the proposed constituency from “Flint and Rhuddlan” to “Rhyl and Flint” to reflect that Rhyl was the largest and most prominent settlement within the proposed constituency (with some individual electoral wards being larger than other communities) and that the proposed change would make the location of the constituency more easily identifiable given the higher profile of Rhyl due to its resort status.*

80. REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES – DRAFT PROPOSALS 2018

[Prior to commencement of discussion on this item all Members present declared their personal interest in the matter but advised that the interest was not prejudicial in accordance with paragraph 12(2)(b)(iv) of the adopted Rhyl Town Council Code of Conduct]

The Town Clerk submitted his report (previously circulated) relating to proposals by the Remuneration Panel For Wales in respect of determinations to be made for the 2018/19 financial year, and the potential impact of the proposals on the finances of the Council particularly in respect of budgeting issues.

Members expressed dissatisfaction that the panel was proposing to remove the discretion of Community Councils to determine which allowances would be made available to their individual members, and the potential damage which the proposed determinations would have on the public perception of local councillors regardless of whether individual members chose to accept the allowances.

A Member queried whether the Senior Members Allowance which the Council would be required to pay could be made payable to the Mayor as Chair of Council to offset reductions in the mayoral allowance.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk to prepare a draft response to the consultation document for approval be Council.

81. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Further to minute no.10 of the meeting held on 14th June 2017, the Town Clerk advised that in respect of

- (i) Rhyl City Strategy - the organisation had changed its governance and no longer required a formal representative from the Town Council although an open invitation existed for members to attend its Annual General Meeting.
- (ii) Waterpark Project Board - due to an omission in his report to the June meeting a replacement representative had not been made to this DCC board following a former appointed representative not securing re-election to the Council

Members felt that prior to appointment clarification should be sought as to the current status of the board and its remit.

RESOLVED that in respect of (i) above the position be noted and that in respect of (ii) above the appointment be deferred to enable the Town Clerk to make enquiries of the County Council.

82. MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS

The Chair advised that there were no urgent matters to raise.

83. 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.*

84. MAYOR’S GALA AWARDS EVENING

The Town Clerk submitted his confidential report (circulated with agenda) relating to the 2017 event and his concerns relating to future events being able to achieve the Council’s stated aims and objectives in its current format.

Members agreed that the event was declining year on year and needed to be reviewed and it was **RESOLVED** that consideration be referred to the Civic and Social Events Sub-Committee for recommendation.

85. STANDING ITEM: POLICE CLOSURE ORDERS

Further to minute no.79 of the meeting held on 3rd February 2016, the Town Clerk advised that no applications had been received from North Wales Police.

86. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting.

Chair:

Date: