

At a **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 18th October 2017 in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Wellington Road, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor A. R. James (Mayor)

Councillors J. Ball, B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE,
Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, A. S. Johnson, B. Jones, K. R. Jones,
Mrs P. M. Jones, Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. L. McAlpine, B. Mellor,
P. Prendergast, Ms V. Roberts, A. J. Rutherford, T. Thomas and Miss C. L. Williams.

Mr G. J. Nickels - Town Clerk
Miss H. J. Windus - Deputy Town Clerk

56. APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors Ms J. Hughes and Mrs W. M. Mullen-James.

The Mayor reminded members about their responsibility to declare either a personal or prejudicial interest during the meeting.

57. MINUTES

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

Council - 20th September 2017 - Min. Nos.43-55

Proposed by Councillor A. S. Johnson and seconded by Councillor P. Prendergast and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 20th September 2017 - Min. Nos.19-21

Proposed by Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine and seconded by Councillor A. S. Johnson and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 4th October 2017 - Min. Nos.22-25

Proposed by Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine and seconded by Councillor B. Mellor and **RESOLVED** as a correct record

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General Purposes Committee - 4th October 2017 - Min. Nos.62-73

Proposed by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and seconded by Councillor B. Mellor and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

58. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor referred to the various events he had attended during the past month and in particular to the Wicked Wales Film Festival and the relaunch of Soulmates bridal shop.

59. PRESENTATION: WICKED WALES

Further to minute no.158 of the meeting held on 19th April 2017, the Mayor welcomed Ms Rhiannon Hughes and invited her to provide an overview of the WickedWales International Film Festival.

Ms Hughes thanked the Town Council for allowing her to come and talk to them about the work of Wicked Wales, and advised that:

- over the last 12 months they had been working more in Rhyl than Prestatyn, with Ysgol Tir Morfa, the Little Theatre and the college.
- the film festival is the showcase of their work.
- they were working with 12 people from Rhyl and 12 from Germany and that the 12 from Rhyl were going over to Germany.
- they were providing the funds to send people on one week training courses to Birmingham and Sheffield.
- she was here to ask the Town Council spread the word on their work and help her to make sure that people from Rhyl grasped these opportunities to address the film and television skills gap here in Wales forcing production companies based in Cardiff to look beyond the border, when it was just a matter of linking up the demand with the skills.

In response to members' comments and questions, Ms Hughes said that:

- she would be delighted to receive feedback from members' via the Town Clerk.
- they were always on the lookout for funding pots to apply to and that they had so far received monies from Children in Need, Film Cymru Wales, Prestatyn Town Council and Npower, to name a few.
- they work with people aged 16 and over.

On behalf of members, the Mayor thanked Ms Hughes for her presentation.

RESOLVED that members to pass on any information that would be helpful to Wicked Wales in terms of improving local engagement, to the Town Clerk for him to convey to Ms Hughes.

60. PRESENTATION: WHITE ROSE SHOPPING CENTRE MANAGER

Further to minute no.55 of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 6th September 2017, the Mayor welcomed Ms Sue Nash to the meeting and invited her to introduce herself to councillors.

Ms Nash thanked the Town Council for the opportunity to speak to members and reported that:

- she had now been in post for four months and although it was a challenging role, with lots to get her teeth into, she was enjoying it.
- her background was in centre management, having managed the Victorian Centre in Llandudno for 20 years, and then moved into retail before coming to the White Rose Centre.
- her priority at the moment was addressing internal matters and improvements.
- Two units had signed up just this week (Bodycare and YMCA) leaving six units vacant.
- There was interest in another and she was hoping to be running at full capacity after Christmas.
- Although footfall was down by 7%, largely due to the Prestatyn Retail Park, the development projects underway in Rhyl made her feel very hopeful for the future.
- Signage to the centre was poor. This was something she intended to address to improve footfall.
- Once she was in a position to, she would be opening the centre in the evenings and would be taking a more active, visible role in the community.
- Father Christmas would be visiting the centre on 26th November.
- She was keen to know what members would like to see in the centre.

In response to members' comments and questions, Ms Nash advised that:

- she agreed toilets were a priority and that there was potential to work with Denbighshire County Council to make this happen.
- she couldn't dictate what types of shops to bring into the centre. This was the job of the centre's letting agents.
- she was happy to work with a Town Centre Management Forum and host meetings, should this be resurrected by Denbighshire County Council and partners.
- the problem with one of the lifts regularly being 'out of order' could only be addressed by replacing them and that unfortunately with the centre not yet being full, there was no money to do it. Once all units were filled, these types of investments would be made.
- the centre's security or Customer Liaison Officers were instructed not to go beyond the centre for insurance purposes.
- she would take back the idea of offering the odd 'free parking' days to encourage shoppers in.

On members' behalf, the Mayor thanked Ms Nash for her time.

61. 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).

RESOLVED that the following be approved for payment and signed by two Members.

Schedule B Payments for Approval (27th September – 13th October 2017)

Supplier	Details of Supply	Voucher Number	Date	Amount £
North & Mid Wales Association of Town Councils	Lunch for 4 delegates at meeting to be held on 27 th October 2017	365	05/10/17	64.00
St. John Cymru - Wales	First aid provision for 'Wild Rhyl' event	366	20/09/17	180.00
Total Schedule B				£244.00

62. INFORMATION ITEM: CHRISTMAS SCREENINGS

The Town Clerk referred to the e-mail recently sent to councillors offering them tickets to the two screenings at the Town Hall on Saturday 9th December.

The Town Clerk advised that very few tickets were now available for the 4.00pm showing (The Muppet Christmas Carol) so they should let the Deputy Town Clerk know if they would like tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

63. QUESTION TIME

No questions were asked.

64. 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.

65. MINUTES

With regard to minute no.71 of the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 4th October, the Town Clerk reported that he, as instructed, had sought confirmation from Denbighshire County Council as to the ownership of the Wellington Community Centre building and any conditions of sale the owners needed to adhere to before selling it.

Denbighshire County Council had confirmed that 'due diligence' enquiries had been carried out to their satisfaction and that the exchange of contracts for the sale of the building could proceed.

Furthermore, and in response to a ward member's insistence, DCC had given assurance that a community facility would remain within the building after the sale.

A member queried whether any declarations of interest needed to be made in respect of this item. No interests were declared.

RESOLVED *that members were pleased with the assurances made.*

66. 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.

67. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: