

At a Meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held on Wednesday 7th May 2014, at the Civic Offices, Wellington Road Community Centre, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor P. Prendergast (Chair)

Councillors B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, Ms J. Hughes, A. R. James, Mrs P. M. Jones, J. May, B. Mellor, B. F. Moylan, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, S. H. Ratcliffe, A. J. Rutherford, Miss R. Siddall, D. Simmons and W. N. Tasker.

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

177. APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair regretfully informed the meeting of the recent passing of Councillor Mrs M. McCarroll's brother and a minute's silence was observed.

I. W. Armstrong (family commitment), Mrs J. Butterfield MBE (family illness), Mrs M. McCarroll (family bereavement) and Miss S. L. Roberts (work commitment).

178. 2013 / 2014 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS & ANNUAL RETURN

The Finance Officer submitted his written report (circulated with agenda) seeking approval of the Final Accounts, Internal Audit report, Supplementary Assurances and the Annual Governance Statement and the Draft Annual return.

RESOLVED *that the documents be approved and the Chairman and Town Clerk to certify the documents.*

179. APRIL 2014 STATEMENT OF AUTHORISED PAYMENTS

The Finance Officer submitted a schedule of receipts and payments (circulated with agenda) and advised that in accordance with the recommendation of the Internal Auditor, the statement of authorised accounts would in future be presented to the Committee each month.

RESOLVED *that the schedule of payments and receipts now submitted be approved.*

180. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Further to Minute No. 163 of 2nd April 2014 the Finance Officer sought details of the number of Members wishing to attend training and requested a date for the event to be held.

Two Members indicated that although they would be unable to attend on the agreed date they would still wish to receive the training and it was agreed that they would liaise separately with the Finance Officer to receive one to one training.

RESOLVED that the training be held on Wednesday 28th May 2014 between from 9.00am to 12.00pm. 10 Members indicated that they would be in attendance.

181. TELEPHONY

The Finance Officer submitted his written report (circulated with agenda) seeking to include telephony within the previously approved review of the Council's IT networking on the grounds of potential financial efficiencies to be made.

RESOLVED accordingly.

182. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PURCHASE OF TRIANGULAR SIGNAGE

The Town Clerk submitted details of an e-mail received from the County Council requesting that the Town Council considers the purchase of triangular signs for use within Rhyl to support the anti-fouling strategy.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be instructed to respond declining the invitation and advising that the Town Council considers that such signage should be funded from the surplus generated from the litter enforcement fines.

183. INVITATION: WALES IN BLOOM LAUNCH

The Town Clerk reported receipt of an invitation received for the Town Council to be represented at the launch of the Wales in Bloom Competition in Colwyn Bay.

RESOLVED that due to the Mayor's unavailability the Deputy Mayor to attend.

184. UPDATE FROM RHYL FLOOD RELIEF TRUSTEES

Councillor A. J. Rutherford advised on the current position in respect of the appeal.

A Member advised that a collection bucket was awaiting collection at a Rhyl business and it was agreed that a Trustee would arrange for its collection.

The Town Clerk advised that a number of Rhyl Businesses had started their own collections for the appeal without the knowledge of the Board and if any Member was aware of a collection tin in a local business could they advise a Trustee as soon as possible so that they could be collected.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

185. PROGRESS REPORTS

- i) Rhyl Town and Area Plan
- ii) Rhyl Going Forward Officers

No reports were submitted.

186. MEMBERS' ITEM

Councillor B. F. Moylan sought Members' support for the Town receiving a future presentation from Sustainable Denbighshire.

RESOLVED that the request be approved.

187. MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS

There were no urgent matters arising.

188. 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.

189. GRANT AWARD TO D. L. ELITE

The Finance Officer submitted his confidential report (circulated with agenda) relating to the grant previously awarded to D. L. Elite and to information received from the organisation advising of an issue potentially affecting their ability to progress their initiative.

RESOLVED that in consideration of the circumstances now reported the Finance Officer be instructed to request the return of the grant funding subject to the organisation being advised that the grant would remain available to them should they be able to secure the necessary match funding within three months of the grant return being requested.

190. OFFICE ACCOMMODATION – PROGRESS REPORT

The Chair and Town Clerk reminded Members that all matters relating to this item were strictly confidential.

RESOLVED that the Risk Assessment Sub-Committee is:

- i) instructed to renegotiate with the Rhyl Community Association with regard to the lease at the Wellington Community Centre whilst continuing to explore other available premises.
- ii) authorised to call an extraordinary meeting of Council if necessary.
- iii) authorised to offer up to £150,000 in order to progress any future negotiations.

191. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Chair:

Date: