

At the hybrid **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 16th April 2025, commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Miss C. L. Williams (Mayor)

Councillors M. Blackwell, Mrs M. A. Blakeley-Walker, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE,
Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs J. M. Evans, S. Feeney, A. R. James, K. R. Jones,
Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. L. McAlpine, B. Mellor, W. Price, Ms R. S. Roberts,
Ms V. Roberts, D. Simmons and A. Walker.

Mr G. J. Nickels – Town Clerk

Mrs H. J. Mead – Deputy Clerk

Mrs T. A. Jones – Civic & Administration Support Officer

153. OPENING OF MEETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS & APOLOGIES

The Mayor opened the meeting and referred to the sad passing of Councillor A. J. Rutherford's father. The meeting observed a period of silence as a mark of respect.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Mrs E. M. Chard and A. J. Rutherford.

154. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor asked if members had any personal and/or prejudicial interests to declare with regard to any of the business to be considered on the agenda?

Councillor A. R. James declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item no.11 on the agenda (Consultation: Commuted Sums – Diocese of St. Asaph – St. Thomas's Churchyard Project) due to being a friend of Rev. Gheorghiu Gould and a member of the church congregation. Councillor James would vacate the chamber for this item.

155. VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR

The Town Clerk referred to his report (circulated with agenda) on the co-option of a community councillor for the Bodfor Ward.

The Town Clerk advised that a notice inviting applications from individuals interested in becoming a councillor and filling the vacancy, would be published on the town council's website tomorrow. The closing date for applications would be 30th May 2025, after which, members would consider the written submissions.

RESOLVED *that the information was noted.*

156. MINUTES

The minutes of the following meeting of council and committee were submitted for approval as a correct record:

Meeting of Council - 19th March 2025 - Min. Nos. 136-152

Proposed by Councillor Miss C. L. Williams and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 19th March 2025 - Min. Nos. 54-57

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

157. **MAYOR'S HONOUR CADETS**

The Mayor welcomed her Honour Cadet, Sergeant Evie Mitchell and Reserve Cadet, Sergeant Orezi Onibere to the meeting and presented them with letters of achievement in acknowledgement of their roles during her year in office.

158. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor submitted details of events she and the Deputy Mayor had attended over the past month, and in particular to Prestatyn and Meliden Town Council's Charity Ball, which she said had been a wonderful night.

RESOLVED that the report was received.

159. **PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT - MARCH 2025 (SCHEDULE A)**

The Town Clerk referred to his report (circulated with agenda) detailing the schedule of payments made and income received.

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount	Description of Goods & Services
n/a	Tesco	3.00	Mobile phone insurance
1985	HSBC	8.00	Bank charges
1986	BT	355.13	Broadband & phone lines
n/a	Tesco	12.99	Mobile phone charges
1989	RTC staff	8,644.11	Net salaries for March 2025
1987	HMRC	3,103.76	PAYE deductions for Feb 2025
1988	Flints CC – Clwyd Pension Fund	3,269.74	Pensions deductions for Feb 2025
1848	Benefits Advice Shop	1,213.33	Appeals Officer – payment 12 of 12
1849	Citizens Advice Denbighshire	2,000.00	Energy Efficiency Officer – payment 4 of 4
n/a	Tesco	3.00	Mobile phone insurance
n/a	Tesco	12.99	Mobile phone charges
	Total payments	£18,626.05	

Category	Description	Amount
Santander	Interest on 31 Day Notice Account	234.74
HSBC	Interest on 1m Deposit matured 24 th March 2025	805.74
Various	Ticket / Raffle / Donations for Mayors fundraising event	565.10
	Total income	£1,605.58

RESOLVED that the report was received and approved.

160. AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS/ADDITIONS TO APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST (SCHEDULE B)

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

Voucher Number	Supplier	Details of Supply	Amount £
2000	Cllr C. L. Williams	Mayoral expenses claim for Feb-March 2025	300.00
2001	Rhyl Little Theatre	Ticket for Ahava event 28 th March 2025 (Deputy Mayor)	10.00
2002	North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils	Meals for 2x delegates for meeting on 2 nd May 2025	44.00
2003	Delwedd Ltd	Domain registration fee	24.47
2004	Denbighshire CC	Service charges for Civic Offices, Wellington Road CC to end of March 2025.	5,847.33
2005	Mark Moorhead	Lawn treatment at Remembrance Gardens	42.00
	Total Schedule B		£6,267.80

RESOLVED that the schedule was approved for payment and signed by the Town Clerk and two Councillors.

161. INVESTMENTS PERFORMANCE 2024/25

The Town Clerk referred to his and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda) advising that the interest generated over the 2024/25 financial year was £16,512. A substantial figure, £12,512 more than was anticipated, thanks to the Finance Officer's efforts.

RESOLVED that the report was received, with many thanks to the Finance Officer.

162. MAYOR'S CHARITY ACCOUNT

The Town Clerk reported that a mayoral charity bank account had now been established, following comment from both the town council's internal and external

auditors, that monies raised by the Mayor each year should not be paid into the town council's bank account.

The Town Clerk advised that the account would accrue an annual charge of around £100 and offered members two options to meet that cost:

Option 1 – for the Mayor of the day to set aside £100 from their mayoral allowance.

Option 2 – for the town council to agree to meet the cost by paying £100 into the Mayor's Charity Account each year and topping it up, if the charge was more than £100.

The Town Clerk advised that Option 2 would need the town council to make the payment as a Section 137 expenditure, and so would need to declare that the money was being spent for the direct benefit of some or all of the Rhyl area commensurate with the level being spent.

RESOLVED that Option 1 was members' preference.

163. CONSULTATION: COMMUTED SUMS – DIOCESE OF ST. ASAPH – ST. THOMAS'S CHURCHYARD PROJECT

Further to min.no.115 of the meeting held on 17th January 2024, the Town Clerk referred to a previous request from the church for a letter of support for their application for commuted sums, which the town council had provided.

This request for the same support for a further application for a second phase of the project (correspondence circulated with agenda) was now before members for their consideration.

Members felt that although they supportive of the application, the information provided was a little vague.

RESOLVED that unfortunately, members could not support the application as it stands, but would reconsider it if further detail and estimated costs could be provided.

164. MEMBERS' ITEM: TIDY TOWN

Councillors Mrs M. A. Blakeley-Walker, K. R. Jones and W. Price sought members' support in introducing the Tidy Town initiative for Rhyl during May 2025.

Councillor Jones talked about the evident community spirit when it came to litter-picking, and hoped that this could be harnessed to create a larger, organised group to litter-pick for three weeks in May, beginning on Monday 12th May in key locations and working alongside Penny the Postcode Gardener and Denbighshire County Council's Streetscene officers.

Councillor Jones said that he and Councillors Blakeley-Walker and Price were not acting as councillors on this matter, but as individuals and invited all councillors along to the fun, positive 'Project Tidy Rhyl' sessions throughout May.

Councillor Jones asked for the town council's support in joining them for the sessions and to help to promote them via their own social media platforms, etc.

RESOLVED that the town council fully supported 'Project Tidy Rhyl'.

165. QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

166. 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.

167. CONFIDENTIAL MEMBER'S ITEM

On behalf of Councillor A. J. Rutherford, Councillor B. Mellor advised that they had met with an organisation with a view to introducing an established and well-known event to the south-west area of Rhyl (The Cob, Marsh Tracks and footpaths along the River Clwyd), which would promote health and wellbeing for participants.

Councillor Rutherford was seeking the town council's support for providing a one-off set-up cost to enable the weekly event to take place.

RESOLVED that the event and the one-off cost of £4,000 + VAT was approved.

168. TOWN COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENT

The Town Clerk provided members with a confidential update on the work of the Staffing Committee so far in reviewing all four town council posts due to his impending retirement, to make sure that they are fit for purpose in taking the town council forward.

The Town Clerk asked members to give the Staffing Committee full authority to proceed as swiftly as possible.

RESOLVED that the Staffing Committee was given full authority to proceed.

169. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: