

At the **MEETING of COUNCIL**, held via video conference, on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 commencing at 6.00pm.

### **PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard (Mayor)

Councillors J. Ball, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, A. R. James, A. S. Johnson, B. Jones, K. R. Jones, Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. L. McAlpine, B. Mellor, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, P. Prendergast, Miss S. L. Roberts, Ms V. Roberts, T. Thomas, R. Turner and Miss C. L. Williams.

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

### **16. APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Apologies received from Councillors B. Blakeley and A. J. Rutherford.

### **17. MINUTES**

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

Meeting of Council - 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 - Min.Nos. 1-15

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and seconded by Councillor Mrs D. L. King and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 - Min.Nos. 1-3  
Council

Proposed by Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James and seconded by Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 - Min.Nos. 4-7

Proposed by Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James and seconded by Councillor Mrs D. L. King and **RESOLVED** that the decisions were approved.

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General - 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 - Min. Nos.1-6  
Purposes Committee

Proposed by Councillor Mrs D. L. King and seconded by Councillor Miss C. L. Williams and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

### **18. MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor referred to her report (circulated with agenda) giving details of the events she had attended recently, for members' information. The Mayor referred to attending the socially distant paying of her respects outside of the home of

Mrs Tony Mellor, wife of Councillor Barry Mellor, on the afternoon of her funeral, and to the opening of the relocated Cambrian Credit Union on the high street.

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

Further to minute no.143 of the meeting of council held on 15<sup>th</sup> 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) and details of one additional supplier to be added to the suppliers list after members' approval.

***RESOLVED*** that the following was approved for payment and would be signed by two councillors in due course.

*Schedule B payments for approval (October-November 2020)*

Supplier	Details of Supply	Voucher Number	Amount £
North & Mid Wales Association	Annual subscription for 2020/21	1063	90.00
Pottles Premier Plants Ltd	Winter plants	1064	1,570.56
Rhyl BID	Bid levy 01/04.20 to 01/03/21	1065	251.64
Rhyl BID	Bid levy 01/04/20 to 01/03/21	1066	23.29
Canda Copying	Rental and b&w copies	1067	280.27
Canda Copying	Colour copies	1068	36.22
Rhyl Silver Band	Donation for services provided on Remembrance Sunday	1069	50.00
GoToMyPC	4xannual subscriptions including VAT and non Sterling transaction fees	1070	1,509.43
<b>Total Schedule B</b>			<b>£3,811.43</b>

**20. ANNUAL RETURN 2019/2020 – CONCLUSION OF AUDIT**

The Town Clerk reported that he had not yet received the external auditor's report so the town council was not in a position to approve its Annual Return.

The Town Clerk added that this was due to the backlog of work created by this year's lockdowns as all documents have been submitted at the same time, and was not a real cause for concern.

***RESOLVED*** that the report be submitted to the December meeting of Council for members' approval should it arrive in the next few weeks.

**21. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2019/20**

The Town Clerk explained that the financial statements were linked to the Annual Return and so again, could not be approved by members.

***RESOLVED*** that the statements be submitted to the December meeting of Council for members' approval.

**22. TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOMINATION TO PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

The Town Clerk reported that Prestatyn Town Councillor, Councillor Gareth Sandilands had been successfully nominated to the board, having received three nominations.

In addition, nine town councillors had emailed him offering their support for the nomination.

**RESOLVED** *that the information was received.*

**23. MEMBER'S ITEM: PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TOWN CENTRE**

Councillor K. R. Jones referred to Denbighshire County Council's (DCC) widening of the pavements in the town centre that was underway to enable people to effectively social distance, following receipt of a grant for the works by Welsh Government.

Councillor Jones said that whilst he understood the objective, there had been quite a backlash on social media to the works as they seem to have appeared without any prior notice given to anybody, including the town council.

The bollards that had been erected were also not reflective and causing navigation through the works difficult. However, he was not now going to focus the item on this matter as he believed that DCC were looking to rectify the problems raised, and in any case the complaints had been superseded by another with regard to parking tickets issued in the town centre.

Councillor Jones brought a number of Denbighshire County Council IT problems to members' attention which were causing much confusion and frustration to those looking to come into Rhyl and use the car parks, as follows:

- On their website the new car park on Water Street is not listed and the car park on West Kinmel Street is also omitted.
- When he clicked on the Queen Street car park link, he was taken to a very informative webpage giving all of the details he would need, however when clicking on the provided link to take him to a Google map, he discovered that DCC had not named it on the map so it was not clear where it was.
- Whilst viewing the map he found that other car parks were not properly 'named' and other points of interest that had been, like the new charging points, were misleading because the charging points had not yet been installed.
- The two-hour free parking at the Water Street car park was not publicised anywhere on the website.
- The one-hour free parking spaces offered in West Kinmel Street and Morley Road car parks were also not publicised.

- In 2006 Welsh Government launched the 'Active Travel Action Plan' with a shared ambition with DCC to get more of us walking and cycling. 'Active Travel' meaning travelling with a purpose like to get to work, to go shopping, to get to school/college rather than taking the dog for a walk. From his reading of the plan on DCC's website, he was not convinced that DCC understood that?
- On looking at the 'Active Travel Action Plan' initiative on Welsh Government's website, it offers the opportunity to see how your local authority's travel plan is coming along, but when he entered 'DCC' into it, taking him to DCC's website via a link, he was met with 'Page Not Found'.

Councillor Jones felt that all of the above did not serve to encourage people into Rhyl, especially in the run up to Christmas.

In a related matter, a councillor reported that DCC's 'Free After 3pm' parking scheme had been announced that day, to run from 26<sup>th</sup> November until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, and that they had also announced the two-hour free parking at the Town Hall car park.

Another councillor advised that he and a number of other drivers were recently stood at the pay point in the Water Street car park trying to work out if they needed to pay or not? The signage is unclear and the print is too small.

***RESOLVED*** that the Town Clerk to arrange a meeting with DCC's Mike Jones, Councillors Mrs E. M. Chard and K. R. Jones and himself to make him aware of all of the issues raised and seek to have them addressed as soon as possible.

***FURTHER RESOLVED*** that the Town Clerk to proceed with Rhyl's five free car parking days on 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> December with Councillors Mrs E. M. Chard, A. R. James, K. R. Jones and Ms V. Roberts to assist with putting up the signs in the car parks.

#### **24. MEMBER'S ITEM: CHRISTMAS WINDOWS 2020**

Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James sought members' assistance with delivering entry forms to town centre businesses.

***RESOLVED*** that Councillors Mrs D. L. King, R. Turner and Mrs E. M. Chard to assist Councillor Mullen-James.

#### **25. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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

Mayor: .....

Date: .....