

At a **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Wellington Road, Rhyl commencing immediately following the conclusion of the Special Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

### **PRESENT**

Councillor D. A. J. Thomas (Chair)

Councillors J. B. Bellis, B. Blakeley, J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Butterfield, Mrs P. M. Butters, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, M. C. Espley, Ms D. Hannam, Miss M. A. Jones, Mrs M. McCarroll, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, G. J. Pickering and W. N. Tasker.

Mr G. J. Nickels - Town Clerk  
Mr P. M. Thomas - Finance Officer

### **125. OPENING OF MEETING**

In the absence of his Chaplain, the Rev. Prebendary John Glover, the Mayor led all present in prayer.

### **126. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors C. Davies (other commitment), Mrs L. M. Edwards, (work commitment), I. A. Gunning (work commitment), Ms G. A. Jones (indisposed), Mrs P. M. Jones (indisposed), D. W. Lee (work commitment) and G. Williams (family illness) together with Miss H. J. Windus - Personal Assistant & Secretary (indisposed).

### **127. MINUTES**

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

Council - 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010 - Min.Nos.104-121

Proposed by Councillor G. J. Pickering and seconded by Councillor B. Blakeley and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning - 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010 - Min.Nos.40-41  
Committee

Proposed by Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James and seconded by Councillor G. J. Pickering and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Special Meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 - Min.Nos.122-124  
of Council

Proposed by Councillor G. J. Pickering and seconded by Councillor Mrs M. McCarroll and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning - 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 - Min.Nos.42-45  
Committee

Proposed by Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James and seconded by Councillor M. C. Espley and ***RESOLVED*** as a correct record. – subject to deletion of Councillor Miss M. A. Jones as an apology as she was actually in attendance

**To Confirm or otherwise:**

Finance & General - 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 - Min.Nos.149-176  
Purposes Committee

Proposed by Councillor D. A. J. Thomas and seconded by Councillor B. Blakeley and ***RESOLVED*** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

The Mayor advised that further to Minute No.168 (Members Item: Request to Visit Council Chamber) the event had now been cancelled and Members would no longer be required to attend.

**128. MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor referred to the list of engagements he and the Deputy Mayor had attended since the last meeting of Council (circulated with Agenda).

***RESOLVED*** that the information be received.

**129. BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2010/11**

The Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Councillor D. A. J. Thomas proposed and Councillor J. B. Bellis seconded the recommendations of the Special Finance and General Purposes Committee held prior to this meeting that the draft Budget and the precept be approved and upon being put to the vote it was ***RESOLVED*** that the Council adopt the Annual Budget recommendations of the Finance and General Purpose Committee, held prior to this Council meeting, and specifically that it should levy a precept of £390,000 upon Denbighshire County Council for the financial year commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010, Denbighshire County Council to be advised accordingly.

**130. PRESENTATION: RHYL CITY STRATEGY**

Further to Minute No.130 of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009, the Mayor welcomed Ms Alison Thomas, Project Manager, to the meeting and invited her to provide Members with an update on the work of the Strategy.

Ms Thomas duly thanked the Town Council for inviting her and advised that the Strategy was one of 15 UK City Strategy Pathfinders, two of which were in Wales and that the strategy was deliberately seeking to identify the potential beneficial impact to be made on seaside towns.

She advised that the Strategy had been extended to 2013 following early successes and had generated £4.9 million into the Rhyl economy and was primarily supported by the Department of Works and Pensions and Welsh Assembly Government.

Governance of the project was controlled by an executive board of 15 Members drawn from the public, private and business sectors which was supported by a wider stakeholder group on which the Town Council was represented.

Details of projects supported were given.

The current programme for 2009 – 2011 involved three main projects – Careers Ladder, Future Jobs Fund and Fit for Work and specifically identifying their involvement in the North Wales Women's Centre, Dyserth Farm, Walks with Hawks and an East Parade Restaurant.

City Strategy initiatives had led to 455 unemployed persons being engaged in work related activity, with 299 gaining job specific skills, and 70 entering into work.

In response to Members questions Ms Thomas responded:

- that the East Parade Restaurant was not in the Pavilion Theatre
- she would examine further a member's suggestion relating to gardening maintenance job opportunities
- that the Fit for Work Programme was designed to work with people who while currently in employment, might become unemployed due to an illness and would be based in the new West End Health Centre. The scheme would enable doctors from across Rhyl to refer patients who were at risk of losing their employment through illness to specialist advisers who would work with the patients to overcome obstacles to their continuing in work.
- the member's objection to the use of the word "worklessness" was noted.
- that connecting with the long-term unemployed was undertaken through communication and networking, particularly with other agencies and to an extent the service relied on the co-operation of those agencies to provide links to clients.
- the difficulties faced by young people in care who had succeeded in achieving University placements but who needed support during the holiday periods were noted and would be addressed by organisations such as the County Council.

- that it was impossible to measure the success or otherwise of the project against the original target of the Strategy creating 350 full-time jobs due to difficulty in identifying whether jobs created were the result of the intervention of the Strategy or would they have been achieved in any event by a partner organisation?

**131. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: FOOTPATH NO.1 RHUDDLAN**

The Mayor reported receipt of correspondence from Denbighshire County Council's Head of Highways and Transportation (circulated with Agenda) advising of an application to extend an existing Closure Order on Footpath No.1 in Rhuddlan.

***RESOLVED*** that the correspondence be received.

**132. FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT**

The Mayor reminded Members that Fairtrade Fortnight would begin on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February and requested that Members show their support at every opportunity.

**133. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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

Mayor: .....

Date: .....