

At a **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 16th April 2014 in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Wellington Road, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor A. J. Rutherford (Mayor)

Councillors I. W. Armstrong, B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Butterfield MBE,
Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, Ms J. Hughes, A. R. James,
Mrs P. M. Jones, J. May, B. F. Moylan, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James,
P. Prendergast, S. H. Ratcliffe, Miss S. L. Roberts, Miss R. Siddall, D. Simmons,
W. N. Tasker and Miss C. L. Williams.

Mr G. J. Nickels – Town Clerk
Miss H. J. Windus – Personal Assistant & Secretary

150. OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor's Chaplain, Rev. Stan Walker, commenced proceedings by leading all present in prayer.

151. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs M. McCarroll (family commitment) and B. Mellor (on holiday).

152. MINUTES

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

Council - 19th March 2014 - Min.Nos. 134-149

Proposed by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and seconded by D. Simmons and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 19th March 2014 - Min.Nos. 60-64

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 2nd April 2014 - Min.Nos. 65-69

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General Purposes Committee - 2nd April 2014 - Min.Nos. 159-176

On the Finance Officer's behalf, the Town Clerk advised that with regard to Minute No.162 (Internal Audit – Interim Report) the words 'and recommendations implemented' be added to the **RESOLVED**, and that with reference to Minute No.166 (Risk Assessment 2013 / 2014 Review and 2014 / 2015 Work Plan) the words 'approved and implemented' be added to the **RESOLVED**.

RESOLVED that the amendments to the above Minute Nos. be approved.

Proposed by Councillor P. Prendergast and seconded by Councillor Miss S. L. Roberts and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

153. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1974 – VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF COUNCILLOR

The Town Clerk confirmed that as 10 electors from the Bodfor Ward had not requested an election to fill the vacancy, the seat would be filled by way of co-option. An advertisement would appear in the Rhyl Journal w/c: 5th May inviting interested parties to submit a CV to the Town Council for its consideration by 30th May.

154. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor referred to his list of engagements over the last month and in particular to the Hoverlink presentation at the Town Hall, which was really impressive and an exciting prospect for Rhyl. The Mayor also advised that he and Councillor Mrs Mullen-James had not been able to present the Christmas Windows certificates on 10th April and that this would be happening tomorrow on 17th April.

The Mayor added that another Flood Drop In session had been held yesterday, which he and the Ward Members had attended and that he would be going along to support the fundraiser at the Botanical Gardens on Saturday.

155. PRESENTATION: RHYL IN BLOOM

Further to Minute No.138 of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 5th February 2014, the Mayor invited Councillor Mrs Mullen-James, in her capacity as Chair of the Rhyl in Bloom Committee, to provide Members with an update on this year's entry.

Councillor Mullen-James advised that:

- This year the Royal Horticultural Society were celebrating their 50th anniversary and that Rhyl's entry would therefore have a golden theme.
- There is £4,000 in the kitty but £10,000 was needed to make the desired impact on the town. They had received a firm promise of another £3,000 from a water company currently carrying out work at Marine Lake with a further £3,000 to come from their contractor.
- Whether they raised the full £10,000 or not, Rhyl would be entered into 'Wales in Bloom'.
- They had six local schools onboard with the children growing their own golden flowers from seed.
- The Guides were involved with the garden at Bradshaw Manor, as were the staff.
- The Mens' Sheds initiative were showing support.
- They would be promoting the entry on Point FM.
- They were applying for grants.

- The Rhyl Show would be held at the Town Hall on 6th September to hopefully raise a little in readiness for next year's entry.
- That DCC's Gary Davies would be introducing a boat in the harbour incorporating local driftwood as an additional feature.
- That DCC would be installing sculptures in the raised beds at the top of the High Street as extra points of interest and free of charge.
- That a group of local young people would be compiling the entry's portfolio with help from a number of community groups.
- Any ideas Members may have on attracting more funds for the entry would be greatly appreciated.
- Any kind of help from anybody was more than welcome.

In response to a Member's concern about the quality of the proposed sculptures at the top of the High Street and how they might clash with the planned sculptures being introduced as part of the County Council's Town and Area Plan for Rhyl, another Member advised that the DCC officer involved was aware of the other sculptures referred to which wouldn't be introduced until later in the year, so there would be no clash, and that the temporary Rhyl in Bloom sculptures would be very tasteful and fitting for the town.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Mullen-James for her presentation.

156. RHYL TOWN COUNCIL EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY POLICY

In accordance with the recommendation of the joint meeting of the Staffing Committee and the Risk Assessment Sub-Committee, the Town Clerk referred to the policy the meeting had endorsed (circulated with agenda) for Members' approval.

RESOLVED that the policy be approved.

157. PRESENTATIONS FROM RHYL GOING FORWARD OFFICERS (IF REQUIRED)

Further to Minute No.29 of the meeting held on 3rd July 2013, the Town Clerk reported that there had been no request to report to the Town Council.

157. MEMBER'S INFORMATION ITEM: RHYL SILVER BAND

Councillor B. Blakeley advised that the band had contacted him to inform him that they were experiencing some financial difficulty and asked for any help the Town Council could offer them.

The Town Clerk reminded Members that when they made the decision to withdraw the Town Council's annual grants scheme, they deferred the matter to the SOP Committee and asked it to look at alternative ways the Town Council could support the town. The Town Clerk suggested that the SOP Committee be allowed to report back before the Council considered any request for financial assistance.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk to write to the Silver Band to inform them of the above.

158. MEMBER'S INFORMATION ITEM: RHYL HIGH SCHOOL

Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James was pleased to report that Denbighshire County Council had today passed the plans for the new build.

159. QUESTION TIME

No questions were asked by members of the public.

160. 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.*

161. RHYL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

As Chair of the Risk Assessment Sub-Committee, Councillor P. Prendergast provided Members with a progress report.

***RESOLVED** that the report be received.*

162. INVITATION TO HM THE QUEEN'S GARDEN PARTY

The Town Clerk referred to the recent invitation to the Mayor and his Consort to attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday 21st May 2014, to which both have accepted.

At Members' request, the matter of personal expense incurred to both Councillors in fulfilling the mayoral role, was brought to Council for its consideration.

***RESOLVED** that the Council will meet the full cost of the Mayor and Mayor's Consort's train tickets and will contribute £150 towards their overnight accommodation.*

163. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: