

At a **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 21st January 2015 in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Wellington Road, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor D. Simmons (Mayor)

Councillors I. Armstrong, C. S. Ball, B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Butterfield MBE, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, Ms J. Hughes, A. R. James, J. May, B. Mellor, B. F. Moylan, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, P. Prendergast, S. H. Ratcliffe, A. J. Rutherford and W. N. Tasker.

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

107. OPENING OF MEETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Mayor welcomed Denbighshire County Councillor Bill Cowie to the meeting who was present as a member of the County Council's Standards Scrutiny Committee to observe the meeting.

108. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs P. M. Jones (indisposed), Miss S. L. Roberts (work commitment), Miss R. Siddall (indisposed) and Miss C. L. Williams (indisposed) and also the Finance Officer, Mr R. A. Hughes (on leave).

109. MINUTES

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

Meeting of Council - 17th December 2014 - Min.Nos. 98-106

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

Planning - 17th December 2014 - Min.Nos. 41-43
Committee

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

Planning - 7th January 2015 - Min.Nos. 44-46
Committee

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

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General - 7th January 2015 - Min.Nos. 93-97
Purposes Committee

Proposed by Councillor P. Prendergast and seconded by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

110. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor referred to the list of engagements he had attended over the last month for Members' information.

111. QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

112. ADDITIONAL ITEM: NOTICE OF CEFNDY WARD VACANCY

The Town Clerk advised that the above vacancy had now been declared and that an election was likely to be held towards the end of March if the Returning Officer received the required 10 requests from residents on the electoral role living in the ward by 12.00pm on Monday 9th February 2015. If not then the vacancy would be filled by way of co-option.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

113. ADDITIONAL ITEM: CHANGING PERCEPTIONS OF RHYL

The Town Clerk reported receipt of an invitation to attend a meeting, which he felt should perhaps be attended by a Councillor rather than himself. The Town Clerk therefore asked if the Council would like to appoint a Councillor to attend the meeting at 3.00pm on Monday 2nd February in the Pennaf Housing Group building on the St. Asaph Business Park.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk to attend the meeting.

114. 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.

115. DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET REDUCTIONS – GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

The Town Clerk presented his confidential report (circulated with agenda) relating to the level of assistance to be offered to DCC for grounds maintenance in Rhyl.

The meeting went through each flower bed, planter and hanging basket display currently provided and determined which should be retained and filled with bedding plants or alternative sustainable plants and which should be removed all together.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) *the decisions taken to be relayed to Denbighshire County Council.*
- (ii) *a Sub-Committee to be established to manage future provision and that membership of the Committee to be determined at the February Finance and General Purposes Committee.*

116. ANNUAL BUDGET

The Town Clerk presented the recommendations of the Finance and General Purposes Committee (circulated with agenda) to levy a precept for the 2015/16 financial year and advise Denbighshire County Council accordingly.

The Committee recommended a £76,206 increase in the precept from £415,140 which represented at 16.41% increase for a Band D property in Rhyl or in real terms an annual increase of £7.57 payable over the usual 10 month period.

RESOLVED *that the Council approves the Committee's recommendation and levies a precept of £491,346 (Four Hundred and Ninety One Thousand, Three Hundred and Forty Six Pounds) upon Denbighshire County Council for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2015, Denbighshire County Council to be advised accordingly.*

117. ADDITIONAL ITEM: ESTABLISHMENT

The Town Clerk and Chair of Staffing Committee reported upon a staffing issue and action taken and recommendations to resolve the matter to date.

RESOLVED *that the recommendations of the Town Clerk and Staffing Committee be approved.*

118. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: