

At a **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 19th December 2018 in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Wellington Road, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James (Mayor)

Councillors B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, A. R. James, A. S. Johnson, B. Jones, K. R. Jones, Mrs P. M. Jones, Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. L. McAlpine, B. Mellor, P. Prendergast, Ms V. Roberts, A. J. Rutherford, T. Thomas, R. J. Turner and Miss C. L. Williams.

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

100. OPENING OF MEETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor's Chaplain, Archdeacon of St. Asaph, the Rev. Andy Grimwood, commenced proceedings by leading all present in prayer and referred to the sad passing of the Town Council's Civic & Admin Support Officer, Mrs Tracey Jones' father.

101. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors J. Ball, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Ms J. Hughes and Miss S. L. Roberts.

102. MINUTES

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

Meeting of Council - 21st November 2018 - Min.Nos.81-99

Proposed by Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 21st November 2018 - Min.Nos.33-35

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

Planning Committee - 5th December 2018 - Min.Nos.36-40

Proposed by Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine and seconded by Councillor Miss C. L. Williams and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General Purposes Committee - 5th December 2018 - Min.Nos.79-90

In reference to minute no.79 (Apologies & Announcement) Councillor K. R. Jones advised of an error in that his name appears in both the list of Councillors present and as having given his apologies, and confirmed his attendance at the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and seconded by Councillor B. Blakeley and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action subject to the above attendance amendment.

103. PRESENTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE LEISURE SERVICES

Further to minute no.74 of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 7th November 2018, the Mayor welcomed Mr Jamie Groves and Mr Graham Boase and invited them to address the council.

Mr Groves advised that:

- a second visit for town councillors to the SC2 site would be arranged in the New Year.
- SC2 was now three and a half weeks from completion, ahead of schedule and under budget.
- parking facilities would include a new coach 'drop off' area.
- over 1,000,000 people had registered an interest in SC2 via social media with a lot of family packages pre-booked.
- the outside areas would be completed mid-January.
- there would be nine free 'tester' days offered to local people running up to the official opening to test the whole experience, giving the opportunity to iron out any problem areas beforehand.
- the TAG Active element would be the first in Wales and TAG Junior the first in the UK as unique selling points.
- the kitchens were ready and the menus were being worked up.
- 90 jobs would be created providing training and qualifications for those without or with minimal experience but having the right personal attributes for the job.
- numerous local businesses were interested in partnering with SC2 following the successful networking event.

Mr Boase reported that:

- in accordance with Denbighshire County Council and Rhyl Town Council's partnership agreement with regard to SC2, they wanted the town council exclusively to be aware of a different model being put forward for the future of Leisure Services.
- Due to continued Government cuts to Local Authority budgets, savings needed to be made and establishing a Local Authority Trading Company (LATC) owned by Denbighshire County Council, whereby annual savings on both VAT and NNDR of £500,000 would be made, was a strong option under consideration.
- A LATC would also make SC2 more competitive in the market with opportunities to grow and improve.
- The proposal would go before Denbighshire County Council's Cabinet on 22nd January, after which a project brief and business plan would be produced to return to Cabinet on 26th March, before being formally considered by full Council on 9th April.

Mr Groves further advised that:

- He would be employed by the LATC.
- Denbighshire's Leisure Services were thriving.

- The LATC would enable profit to be made, which would be reinvested into the service.
- Should the service remain as it is then it would be limited in terms of growth.
- Denbighshire County Council would be in complete control via an annual legal agreement and was not a Trust model as was the case with Clwyd Leisure and the SunCentre.

In response to members' questions and comments Mr Groves and Mr Boase advised that:

- There would not be a conflict of interest for Mr Groves as he would be employed by the LATC and no longer Denbighshire County Council.
- Mr Groves would not be a board member of the LATC and it would be the board making all of the decisions.
- The new model would not repeat the mistakes of the previous Trust arrangement between Clwyd Leisure and Denbighshire County Council which took four years to wrap up and was outsourced for the wrong reasons.
- The facilities would remain in Denbighshire County Council's ownership and maintenance would still be its responsibility, but they would be operated by the LATC on the county council's behalf.
- The success of Leisure Services was due to the staff. There would not be a 'two tier' staff system. All staff would enjoy the same protections and conditions as they always had.

A councillor felt that until every member of Leisure Services staff had been spoken to about the proposed operational change, the rest of the presentation should move into confidential session to avoid causing any unnecessary concern for them

RESOLVED that the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for consideration of the remained of this item of business in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, on the grounds of confidentiality.

RESOLVED that the Officers be thanked for their presentation and the meeting continue in Open Session.

104. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor advised of the various events she had attended during the past month, and mentioned the North Wales Women's Centre's 'White Ribbon Day' coffee morning, 'Christmas Pops' at St. Thomas' Church and the annual children's Christmas party at the Town Hall as particular highlights.

RESOLVED that the report was received.

105. **PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT (SCHEDULE A) – DECEMBER 2018**

The Town Clerk presented his report (circulated with agenda) detailing the schedule of payments made.

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount £	Description of Goods & Services
633	BT	129.72	Internet line rental
632	HSBC	11.20	Bank charges 17/10 to 16/11/18

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount £	Description of Goods & Services
634	HSBC	32.00	Credit card annual fee
635	BT	151.68	Rental charges
642	Flintshire County Council	4,214.51	Pension contributions & deficit funding November 2018
643	HMRC	2,649.15	Pay deductions November 2018
644	RTC staff	6,888.73	Staff salaries December 2018
639	Gunsmoke Communications	1,600.00	Events management fees
475	Denbighshire County Council	707.00	NNDR for Wellington Road – payment 9 of 10
476	Benefits Advice Shop	916.66	Part-Time Appeals Officer – payment 9 of 12
	Total payments	£17,300.65	

RESOLVED that the report was approved.

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

Further to minute no.143 of the meeting of council held on 15th 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 a number of suppliers recommended to be deleted from the approved suppliers list.

RESOLVED that the following were approved for payment and signed by two councillors.

Supplier	Details of Supply	Voucher Number	Date	Amount £
St. John's Ambulance Brigade	First Aid provision at Remembrance Sunday	629	30/11/2018	50.00
Newsquest Media Group	Advert for Christmas Windows Competition	630	26/11/2018	303.31
BJS Solutions	Renewal of Anti-Virus	631	26/11/2018	179.94
Pottles Premier Plants	Supply of Amelanchier Lamarkll	636	29/11/2018	33.90
Denbighshire County Council	Grounds Maintenance Contract Recharge	637	07/12/2018	35,848.80
CIPFA	A. Williams Professional Fees	638	09/11/2018	325.00
Denbighshire County Council	Rental Garden of Rem.	640	01/01/2019	13.50
Denbighshire County Council	Rental of Bus Shelter	641	01/01/2019	1.00
Total Schedule B				£36,755.45

107. **PRESENTATION: RECORD OF YEAR IN OFFICE**

The Town Clerk advised that due to the Civic & Admin Support Officer's family bereavement and absence from work, the final touches to the previous Mayor's Record of Office had not been made, and would be ready in time for the next meeting of Council.

108. MEMBER'S ITEM: 'PLASTIC FREE RHYL'

Councillor K. R. Jones reported that the initiative had selected its logo from a number submitted by local school children. The chosen logo was a striking turtle design that Councillor Jones had brought along with him to show councillors.

Councillor Jones added that the next Rhyl beach clean would be on 5th January 2019 and was a joint venture with the G2G project.

RESOLVED that the information was received.

109. INFORMATION ITEM: REQUEST TO PRESENT TO COUNCIL FROM DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S MR EMLYN JONES AND MR MIKE JONES RE: CAR PARKING REGIME CHARGES AND FUTURE FUNDING

The Town Clerk advised that the request had been passed through Councillor B. Jones and referred to the planned presentation to update the Town Council on SC2 developments to the January 2019 meeting of Council.

The Town Clerk asked whether members still felt this was necessary given the presentation received from Mr Groves and Mr Boase at tonight's meeting?

If members were in agreement, the January presentation slot could be offered to Mr E. Jones and Mr M. Jones?

RESOLVED that the SC2 presentation slot at January's meeting of Council be offered to Mr E. Jones and Mr M. Jones.

110. QUESTION TIME

No questions were asked.

111. 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.

112. HONORARY FREEMAN / FREEWOMAN REPORT

In accordance with the adopted Town Council policy, the Town Clerk presented his confidential report (circulated with agenda) and confirmed that no nominations had been put forward for consideration for 2018.

RESOLVED that the report was received.

113. ANNUAL BUDGET

Further to the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 5th December 2018, the Town Clerk sought formal approval of the budget recommendations and five year financial plan to recover the Council's reserves; to levy a precept for the financial year 2019/2020 and to advise Denbighshire County Council accordingly.

RESOLVED that the Council:

(a) *approves the committee's recommendations and levies a precept of £543,423 (Five Hundred and Forty Three Thousand, Four Hundred and Twenty Three Pounds) upon Denbighshire County Council for the financial year commencing 1st April 2019, Denbighshire County Council to be advised accordingly; and*

(b) *the committee's recommended Five Year Reserves Plan was approved.*

114. CHRISTMAS RECESS – DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE POWERS

The Town Clerk requested members' approval of the arrangements for the delegation of executive powers to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the appropriate chairs during the period from 20th December 2018 to 16th January 2019, as follows:

- Civic Matters - Mayor and / or Deputy Mayor
- Planning Matters - Chair and / or Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee
- SOP Committee - Chair and / or Vice-Chair of SOP Committee
- All other business - Chair and / or Vice-Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED *that the arrangements were confirmed.*

115. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: