

At a meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held on Wednesday 4th December 2019 at the Civic Offices, Wellington Road Community Centre, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor A. J. Rutherford (Chair)

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, P. Prendergast and T. Thomas.

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

38. APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted from Councillors J. Ball, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Ms J. Hughes, B. Mellor, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, Miss S. L. Roberts, Ms V. Roberts, R. J. Turner and Miss C. L. Williams.

39. PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT (SCHEDULE A) – NOVEMBER 2019

The Chair referred to the Town Clerk’s report (circulated with agenda) detailing the schedule of payments made and income received.

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount £	Description of Goods & Services
735	Rhyl Community Association	2,550.00	Tynweydd CC Management Fee 19/20 Payment 3 of 4
868	HSBC	6.50	Bank Charges 17 September 2019 to 16 October 2019
870	Flints CC (Clwyd Pension Fund)	4,290.48	Pension Contributions & Deficit Funding Oct 2019
869	HMRC	2,743.31	PAYE Deductions Oct 2019
871	Gunsmoke Communications	1,440.00	Events Management Fees for Oct 2019
872	RTC Staff	7,174.22	Staff Salaries November 2019
716	Denbighshire CC	723.00	NNDR for Wellington Road Offices - Payment 8 of 10
723	Benefits Advice Shop	916.67	Part Time Appeals Officer 19/20 Payment 8 of 12
877	Canda Copying	308.36	Rental & B&W Copies
878	Canda Copying	84.96	Colour Copies
	Total payments	£20,237.50	

Category	Description	Amount
Interest Received	Santander 31 Day Notice Account	41.40
Interest Received	HSBC 7 Day Money Market	28.79
Interest Received	HSBC 7 Day Money Market	28.32
Interest Received	HSBC 7 Day Money Market	28.32
Interest Received	HSBC 7 Day Money Market	28.32
Other Income	Contribution from Rhyl Fire Brigade Welfare Club	1,600.00
Other Income	Photocopying	5.00
	Total income	1,760.15

RESOLVED that the report was approved.

40. AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS/ADDITIONS TO APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST (SCHEDULE B)

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 Chair referred to the Town Clerk's submitted schedule B (a list of non-regular payments to be released over the coming month) (circulated with agenda).

Voucher No.	Supplier Name	Description of Service	Amount £
883	Newsquest Media Group	Poppy Advert 2019	120.00
884	Welsh Audit Office	Audit Fees 2018/19	359.34
885	Conrad Office & Art	Mayor's Christmas Cards	164.90
886	Fox Robinson	Tynewydd CC – Building Survey	594.00
887	Society of Local Council Clerks	Membership Fee for Mr G Nickels	368.00
Total Schedule B			£1,606.24

RESOLVED that the schedule was approved for payment, signed by two councillors.

FURTHER RESOLVED that Standing Orders be suspended to enable the Town Clerk to respond as a matter of urgency.

41. REVIEW OF TOWN COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Chair referred to the Town Clerk and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda) advising that they had reviewed the town council's

financial regulations and recommended that there were no amendments required at present.

RESOLVED that the report was noted.

42. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – BT KIOSKS

The Town Clerk reported receipt of the above (circulated with agenda) proposing the removal of six public telephones from Rhyl due to under use.

RESOLVED that councillors to make their own representations to BT if they feel strongly for or against the proposal.

43. INFORMATION ITEM: DENBIGHSHIRE SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT

The Chair reported receipt of the above document (circulated with agenda) for 2018/19.

RESOLVED that the report was received.

44. MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEM: BBC RADIO 1'S 'THIS IS RHYL' FEATURE

Councillor K. R. Jones advised of a recent positive feature on Nick Grimshaw's show on Radio 1 asking listeners to ring in and sing 'this is Rhyl', and encouraged members and residents to ring in.

45. MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEM: RHYL VISION DOCUMENT

The Town Clerk reported receipt of copies of the above (circulated at the meeting) sent by Denbighshire County Council's Mr Mike Horrocks.

46. MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEM: CHRISTMAS POPS

The Town Clerk distributed tickets to the remaining members wanting them and advised that he would be returning the unclaimed tickets to Ms Sian Davies for her to re-allocate them to the people on the waiting list.

47. 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.

48. ANNUAL BUDGET / FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

The Town Clerk presented the above, as recommended by the Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOP) (circulated with agenda) for members to consider, amend and approve, which included a revised five-year reserve recovery plan and a suggested precept for the 2020/21 financial year, all of which would be put before the meeting of Council on 18th December for its final approval.

The Town Clerk drew members' attention to two areas needing decisions – the proposed 12 month extension of Gunsmoke Communication's contract to provide the town council's small events programme and PR and marketing thereof; and the proposed £5k reduction to the Grounds Maintenance budget thanks to continued savings made by the Grounds Maintenance Sub-Committee and a consequential increase in the Constringency Budget.

The Town Clerk was also pleased to announce a further reduction to the planned increase in precept of 4.5% to just 0.12% due to savings made across all budgets and to an increase in Rhyl's property base of 177 properties in 2019/20. The 0.12% increase is the equivalent of 7p per household per year.

The report also identified progress against the Council five-year General Reserves Recovery Plan.

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to approve:

- (a) the a one year extension of the Small Events contract be approved*
- (b) a reduction to the Grounds Maintenance budget with an equivalent increase in the Contingency Budget be approved.*

And that Council be recommended to approve

- (c) That the five-year General Reserves Recovery Plan be amended as indicated within the report.*
- (d) That Council approve a precept to be levied on Denbighshire County Council of £554,291. This would represent a 2% increase on the 2019/20 precept but would require an increase for a Band D property of £0.07 or 0.12% for the year due to an increase in the property base.*

49. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting.

Chair:

Date: