

At a meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held via video conference on Wednesday 1st December 2021 commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor A. J. Rutherford (Chair)

Councillors B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE,
Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, A. R. James, B. Jones,
K. R. Jones, Mrs P. M. Jones, Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. McAlpine, B. Mellor,
Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, P. Prendergast, Miss S. L. Roberts,
Ms V. Roberts, T. Thomas, Mrs M. Walker and Miss C. L. Williams.

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

59. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor J. Ball.

60. PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT (SCHEDULE A) NOVEMBER 2021

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
1268	HSBC	6.50	Bank charges 17 th Sept – 16 th Oct 2021
1140	Denbighshire CC	736.00	NNDR Wellington Rd Civic Offices – payment 8 of 10
1168	Benefits Advice Shop	916.66	Appeals Officer payment 8 of 12 2021/22
1269	Gunsmoke Communications	1,440.00	Management fee for Oct 2021
1270	HMRC	2,794.89	PAYE Deductions for Oct 2021
1271	Flintshire CC (Clwyd Pension Fund)	4,294.23	Pension contributions & deficit funding for Oct 2021
1272	Staff Salaries	7,362.97	Staff salaries for Nov 2021
	Total payments	17,551.25	

Category	Description	Amount
Santander	Interest on 31 Day Notice Account	23.57
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	0.77
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	1.84
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	0.61
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	0.61
	Total income	27.40

RESOLVED that the report was approved.

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

Further to min.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 £
1276	Denbighshire CC	Wellington Rd Community Centre Service Charges April to Dec 2021	11,469.00
1277	CIPFA	Professional subscription for Mr. A. O. Williams (Finance Officer)	343.50
1278	Rhyl Silver Band	Donation for services on Remembrance Sunday	50.00
1279	St. John's Cymru	Donation for services on Remembrance Sunday	50.00
1280	Bernie's Miles of Smiles	Face painter for 'Bouncing into Christmas' event on 11 th Dec 2021	100.00
1281	TAPE Community Arts Centre	Ghostbusters for 'Bouncing into Christmas' event on 11 th Dec 2021	250.00
1282	SLCC	Professional subscription for Mr G. J. Nickels (Town Clerk)	391.00
Total			£12,653.50

RESOLVED that the schedule was approved for payment, and would be signed by two councillors in due course.

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

62. MEMBER'S ITEM: LEVELLING UP FUNDING BID

Councillor Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE intended to seek members' support in inviting Denbighshire County Council's Public Protection, Regeneration & Economic Development Manager, Mr Gareth Roberts, to a future meeting to provide the town council with an update on the bid. However, Councillor Butterfield advised that it was perhaps a little premature as the bid had not yet been to Denbighshire County Council's Cabinet for approval.

Councillor Butterfield suggested that the invitation be sent in the new year.

RESOLVED that an invitation be extended to Mr Roberts in the new year.

63. COUNCIL CHAMBER

The Town Clerk reported that the equipment to enable future hybrid (some face-to-face and some remote attendance) meetings was due to be installed and connected on Friday 3rd December.

A number of test meetings would then be arranged before a member training session shaped by a new hybrid meeting policy, that the Town Clerk was in the process of writing, followed by a dry run meeting before going live.

RESOLVED that the information was received.

64. 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.

65. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

To receive the following minutes (circulated with agenda) for members to consider the recommendations contained therein for approval:

Strategic & Operational - 8th November 2021 - Min.Nos. 14-19
Planning Committee

The Town Clerk drew members attention to the recommendations to increase the town council's contributions towards the Denbighshire County Council's Air Show, summer Events Arena programme and Christmas Pops events.

Members supported the increases as they felt the events greatly benefitted residents and brought much needed footfall into the town which was good for the local economy, especially given the last 21 months.

Members also noted that the town council's level of contribution had been unchanged for a number of years now, and that costs to hold the events had increased.

RESOLVED that:

- i) *the minutes and the recommendations were approved.*
- ii) *the Town Clerk to congratulate and thank Ms Sian Davies and her team for their continued hard work and commitment to providing good quality events in Rhyl.*

66. ANNUAL BUDGET 2022/23 / FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

The Town Clerk referred to the Strategic and Operational Planning (SOP) Committee's recommendations for the 2022/23 Annual Budget, including a revised Five-Year Reserve Recovery Plan and precept level (circulated with agenda), for members' consideration, amendment and approval to the meeting of Council on 15th December.

RESOLVED that the report was received and approved for recommendation to the meeting of Council on 15th December 2021.

67. ADDITIONAL ITEM: STORM ARWEN DAMAGE

The Town Clerk reported damage to a number of the town council's Christmas illuminations in the town centre as a result of Storm Arwen. Denbighshire County Council's Street Lighting were in the process of counting the damaged units, but that understandably their priority was removing fallen trees causing obstructions and making certain sites safe.

The Town Clerk also referred to the Switch-On event that had to be cancelled, which still incurred costs despite it not going ahead.

In addition, an allegation of one of the illuminations having damaged a wall during the storm had been received, which was being dealt with.

The Town Clerk said he would advise on all of the above once he was in receipt of more detail.

RESOLVED *that the information was received.*

68. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Chair:

Date: