

At a meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held via video conference on Wednesday 3rd November 2021 commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor A. J. Rutherford (Chair)

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

Mr G. J. Nickels – Town Clerk

48. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors J. Ball, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs P. M. Jones, B. Mellor, P. Prendergast, Miss S. L. Roberts, Mrs M. Walker and also from Miss H. J. Windus – Deputy Town Clerk

49. PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT (SCHEDULE A) OCTOBER 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
1245	Shire Leasing	337.33	Avaya Telephone System Lease Rental 21/22 3 of 4
1246	BT	497.54	Line Rental & Maintenance & Call Charges
1247	HSBC	6.50	Bank Charges 17 August 2021 to 16 Sept 2021
1140	Denbighshire CC	736.00	NNDR Wellington Rd Civic Offices – Payment 7 of 10
1168	Benefits Advice Shop	916.66	Appeals Officer Payments 7 of 12 2021/22
1252	Gunsmoke Communications	1,600.00	Management Fee Sept 2021
1253	HMRC	2,794.89	PAYE Deductions Sept 2021
1254	Flintshire CC (Clywd Pension Fund)	4,294.23	Pension Contributions & Deficit Funding Sept 2021
1255	Staff Salaries	7,362.97	Staff Salaries Oct 2021
	Total payments	18,546.12	

Category	Description	Amount
Santander	Interest on 31 Day Notice Account	22.81
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Money Market Deposit	0.77
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HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Money Market Deposit	0.77
HMRC	VAT Refund for Quarter 2 (July to September 2021)	3,904.61
	Total income	3,930.61

RESOLVED that the report was approved.

50. 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 £
1264	Town Square Spaces Ltd	Hire of Room for September Sizzler Event	£60.00
1265	Sage & Co	Payroll Services for July to September 2021	£93.00
1266	Fire Brigade Welfare Committee	Contribution to Rhyl Bonfire & Fireworks	£5,000.00
1267	Royal British Legion	2 x Wreathes	£100.00
Total			£5,253.00

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

51. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS TO 30TH SEPTEMBER AND FORECAST FOR 2021/22 FINANCIAL YEAR

Further to minute no.40 of the meeting of Council held on 21st July 2021, the Town Clerk referred to his and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with the agenda) on the Council's financial position as at 30th September 2021 and the forecasts for 2021/22 year end.

In summary members were asked to:

- note the key variances throughout,
- the forecasted deficit of £69,870, mainly due to the repayment of £100,000 off the SC2 Loan,
- to note that there were still areas of uncertainty and that further as yet unknown expenditure might be required in respect of events, remembrance gardens, illuminations and community defibrillators.
- the intention to utilise £100,000 from the SC2 Loan Reserve and £20,000 from the Tynwydd CC Reserve, the intention to transfer £15,000 to the Major Projects Reserve and £5,000 to the Elections Reserve, and finally that all reserves would be reviewed later in the financial year.
- The intention to make transfers to and from the various named reserves and that a full review of the named reserves would be undertaken later in the financial year
- To note the General Reserves are currently forecasted to be at 35% of precept at year end and very close to the Reserves Policy target of 33% in accordance with the adopted policy plan.

RESOLVED that the report be received

52. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 PROPOSED STOPPING UP OF PART OF THE HIGHWAY: ALLEYWAY TO THE REAR OF EDWARD HENRY STREET, RHYL

The Chair submitted correspondence (circulated with agenda) from Denbighshire County Council consulting on the proposed stopping-up of an alleyway to the rear of Edward Henry Street, Rhyl and sought Members views on the proposal.

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

53. CONSULTATION: CENTRAL PRESTATYN COASTAL DEFENCE SCHEME

Further to the joint meeting of the Rhyl Area Members Group held on 15th October 2021 the Chair advised that the Council had now received a pre-application for planning, consultation notice (copy circulated with Agenda) in respect of the above proposal and requested Members to indicate their views.

A member advised that he believed that there was some confusion between the different schemes being progressed and that the current application did not relate to rock armour.

RESOLVED that no comment be made on the application at this stage.

54. DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED JOINT PURCHASE OF BEACH SURF RAKE

The Chair advised upon a proposal received from Denbighshire County Council (copy circulated with Agenda) inviting the Town Council to consider the joint funding/acquisition (with Denbighshire County Council and Prestatyn Town Council) of a Beach Surf Rake to assist with the removal of litter from Rhyl and Prestatyn beaches.

The Town Clerk recommended that if Members were minded to be supportive of the proposal in principle then a representative of the County Council should be invited to attend a future meeting to respond to Members questions in respect of the equipment.

RESOLVED that Mr. Andy Clark of Denbighshire County Council be invited to an early meeting to discuss further.

55. 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.

56. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Chair referred to receipt of a request for financial assistance (copy circulated with agenda) from a local author to assist with the publication of his book. Members noted the subject matter of the proposed book was and that it did not receive and determine a request from a local individual for the council to consider providing financial support to assist with the publication of his new book.

RESOLVED *that the request be declined.*

57. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ITEM: CHRISTMAS WINDOWS COMPETITION

With the consent of the Chair, Councillor Mrs W. Mullen-James advised that arrangements were proceeding for this year's competition and invited members interested in assisting to contact her.

RESOLVED *that those members to contact Councillor Mullen-James directly.*

58. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Chair:

Date: