

At the **MEETING of COUNCIL**, held via video conference, on Wednesday 15th December 2021 commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs D. L. King (Mayor)

Councillors J. Ball, B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, A. R. James, A. S. Johnson, K. R. Jones, J. McAlpine, B. Mellor, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, P. Prendergast, Ms V. Roberts, A. J. Rutherford and T. Thomas.

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

79. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillor Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Miss S. L. Roberts, Mrs M. Walker and Miss C. L. Williams.

80. MINUTES

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

Meeting of Council - 17th November 2021 - Min. Nos. 69-78

Proposed by Councillor Mrs D. L. King and seconded by Councillor B. Blakeley and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 17th November 2021 - Min. Nos. 33-35

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

Planning Committee - 1st December 2021 - Min. Nos. 36-38

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

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General Purposes Committee - 1st December 2021 - Min. Nos. 59-68

Proposed by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

81. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor referred to the list of engagements (circulated with agenda) over the past month and in particular to Christmas Pops at the Pavilion Theatre. The Mayor said that it was a fantastic night with £851 raised for a local children's charity.

Members added that Councillors W. M. Mullen-James and A. R. James worked hard selling raffle tickets and that even with a reduced attendance to adhere to social distancing rules, the amount raised was amazing and all thanks to the generosity of Rhyl residents.

A member felt that the event perhaps needed to be promoted a little more, as a number of his residents were unaware of it.

82. 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 Town Clerk submitted schedule B (a list of non-regular payments to be released over the coming month) and details of one additional supplier to be added to the suppliers list after members' approval.

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

Schedule B payments for approval (24th November to 7th December 2021)

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount £	Description of Goods & Services
1285	Collisons Ltd	238.94	Mayor's Christmas Cards
1290	Design to Print Ltd	457.00	Rhyl Read October edition printing (invoice received late)
1291	Delwedd Ltd	12.96	Increase 'enquiries' mailbox
1292	Fool's Paradise	1,292.40	Bouncing Elves for Bouncing into Christmas event on 11/12/21
1293	Gunsmoke Communications	11.76	Sweets for Bouncing into Christmas on 11/12/21
1294	Cllr D. L. King	134.89	Mayoral expenses November 2021
1295	Design to Print Ltd	377.00	Rhyl Read additional print run
1296	Cllr D. L. King	173.00	Mayoral expenses October 2021
	Total payments	£2,697.95	

Emergency & Card Payments: One emergency payment was made during the period – Voucher No. 1285 for Collisons. No payments were made with the town council credit card.

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.

83. PROPOSED BEACH RAKE: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Further to minute no.72 of the meeting of Council held on 17th November 2021, the Town Clerk referred to an email from Mr Andy Clark (circulated with agenda) confirming that the Rhyl Business Improvement District (BID) was supporting the purchase of the rake 'in principle' pending any changes that might arise.

The majority of members were pleased with the BID's support and said that they were keen to proceed with the town council's 'in principle' support to speed up the purchase and get the rake up and running as soon as possible.

RESOLVED that upon being put to the vote (with three abstentions) members instructed the Town Clerk to speak to Mr Andy Clark to offer the town council's 'in principle' support and open up discussions around the town council's financial contribution being paid over a number of instalments with a final decision being taken at the January meeting of Council.

84. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS – DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – RHYL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The Mayor referred to the above correspondence (circulated with agenda) inviting the town council to consider appointing a representative to the Board.

RESOLVED that the Mayor, Councillor Mrs D. L. King, was appointed to the Board. An appointment that would run until the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2022, along with all other current representations on outside organisations.

85. 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.

86. STORM DAMAGE

The Town Clerk advised that there was nothing new to add to his previous verbal report given to the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 1st December 2021, but would keep the matter a standing item on future agendas.

87. HONORARY FREEMAN / FREEWOMAN REPORT

In accordance with the adopted town council policy, the Mayor referred to the Town Clerk's confidential report (circulated with agenda) and to the nomination put forward by a member for the council's consideration.

RESOLVED that upon being put to the vote, there was unanimous support for the nomination and the Town Clerk was instructed to write to the individual to inform them and to ask if they would accept the award.

88. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

To receive the following minutes (circulated with agenda) for information and to approve the recommendations contained therein:

Grounds Maintenance - 26th October 2021 - Min.Nos 22-29
Sub-Committee

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

Grounds Maintenance - 30th November 2021 - Min.Nos 30-37
Sub-Committee

The Town Clerk drew members' attention to:

- i) a request from the Grounds Maintenance Sub-Committee (min.no.25 refers) to increase the Remembrance Gardens budget from £8,000 to £9,000 to help to keep on top of the new improved maintenance works.
- ii) the SOP Committee's recommendation to Council (min.no.23 refers) to accept a tender from Gunsmoke Communications for the Small Events & Publicity contract 2022/23 – 2023/24 (with the option to extend for a further 12 months).

RESOLVED that the minutes and the recommendations contained therein, were approved.

89. **ANNUAL BUDGET / FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN**

Further to the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 1st December 2021, the Town Clerk members to formally approve the budget recommendations and five-year financial plan (circulated with agenda); to levy a precept for the financial year 2022/23 and to advise Denbighshire County Council accordingly.

Having considered the recommendations of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, members approved them and the recommended precept of £552,383. This would represent a slight decrease of 0.22% on the 2021/22 precept (due to a reduction in property numbers in Rhyl) requiring a charge of £57.66 for a Band D property (representing a 0% increase to the 2021/22 charge).

RESOLVED that the Council:

- (i) approves and levies a precept of £552,383 (Five Hundred and Fifty Two Thousand, Three Hundred and Eighty Three Pounds) upon Denbighshire County Council for the financial year commencing 1st April 2022, Denbighshire County Council to be advised accordingly.
- (ii) approves the Five-Year Reserves Recovery Plan, which has now been achieved.

(iii) *thanks the officers and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for their work in achieving the recovery plan and on the 2022/23 budget.*

90. 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 16th December 2021 to 19th January 2022, 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.*

91. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: