

At the hybrid **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024, commencing at 6.00pm.

**PRESENT**

Councillor Miss C. L. Williams (Mayor)

Councillors M. Blackwell, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, S. Feeney, A. R. James, K. R. Jones, Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. L. McAlpine, Ms V. Roberts, A. J. Rutherford, D. Simmons and A. Walker.

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

**21. OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES**

The Mayor's Chaplain, Father Anthony Nnamah MSP, led all those who wanted to take part, in prayer.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Mrs M. A. Blakeley-Walker, Mrs J. M. Evans, Miss S. Fleming, B. Mellor, Ms R. S. Roberts,

**22. PRESENTATION TO THE BENEFITS ADVICE SHOP AND RHYL SEA CADETS**

The Mayor welcomed representatives from the Benefits Advice Shop and Rhyl Sea Cadets to the meeting, and invited past Mayor, Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine, to present them with certificates confirming the donations of £558.11 to both organisations as raised by Councillor McAlpine during her 2023/24 year of office.

**23. 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.

**24. DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – CONSULTATION ON PUBLIC TOILETS**

Further to the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024, the Town Clerk reminded members that officers were invited to tonight's meeting to answer questions and that the newly established sub-committee would then consider Denbighshire County Council's request and make recommendations to the July Finance and General Purposes Committee to meet the response deadline of 5<sup>th</sup> July.

Unfortunately the officers had submitted their apologies earlier in the day due to pressing operational matters, and so have agreed to an extension of the deadline if need be.

The officers had also agreed to take questions raised by members at tonight's meeting, and respond to them either by email or by attending the sub-committee, with members approval.

After discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the questions raised be submitted to the Denbighshire officers prior to the first meeting of the new sub-committee for their responses either by email or in person at the meeting.

**25. OPEN SESSION**

**RESOLVED** that the remainder of the meeting continued in open (non-confidential) session.

**26. MINUTES**

The minutes of the following meeting of council and committee were submitted for approval as a correct record:

Annual Meeting                      -            15<sup>th</sup> May 2024                      -            Min. Nos. 1-20  
of Council

Proposed by Councillor Miss C. L. Williams and seconded by Councillor A. Walker and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee                      -            5<sup>th</sup> June 2024                      -            Min. Nos. 1-3

Proposed by Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine and seconded by Councillor D. Simmons and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General                      -            5<sup>th</sup> June 2024                      -            Min. Nos. 1-15  
Purposes Committee

Proposed by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and seconded by Councillor Mrs D. L. King and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

With regard to min.no.4 (Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Members Allowances), the Town Clerk reported that eight members had not yet responded to confirm that they did or did not wish to accept the allowances they are entitled to. The Town Clerk asked for those members to do so as soon as possible.

Referring to min.no.8 (Member's Item: Beach Rake), the Town Clerk reported that, as instructed, he had emailed Denbighshire County Council's Mr M. Bennion and read aloud Mr Bennion's response, advising that unfortunately the Beach Rake could not be deployed as the tractor used to pull it had had to be returned to Denbighshire County Council's Countryside Services, as they had provided the funding for it. Mr Bennion went on to say that they were trying to procure a tractor of their own, but that this would not happen for another few months yet.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to reply to Mr Bennion to convey the town council's disappointment that the Beach Rake would not be in operation during the busy summer months.

**27. MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor submitted details of events she and the Deputy Mayor had attended over the past month, and referred to the Rhyl & District Musical Theatre's production of 'Musical Memoir' at the Little Theatre, as really enjoyable and to her Civic Service at St. Mary's Church, which was wonderful.

The Deputy Mayor highlighted the funeral of Councillor Mrs Win Mullen-James, which was so well attended and a fitting tribute to her and her work.

**RESOLVED** that the report was received.

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

Further to min.no.143 of the meeting of Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> 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).

<b>Voucher Number</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Details of Supply</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
1850	Homestart	Commissioned Services – Rhyl Families Project	2,000.00
1851	Rhyl Steam Preservation Trust	Insurance recharge for Billy & nameplate	254.80
1852	Rhyl Catholic Church	Catering for Civic Sunday	600.00
1853	Denbighshire Leisure Ltd	Contribution to Summer and Christmas events 2024	13,000.00
	<b>Total Schedule B</b>		<b>£15,854.80</b>

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

**29. INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT 2023/24 (FINAL)**

The Town Clerk referred to the Internal Auditor's final report (circulated with agenda), which would be passed to the Risk Assessment Sub-Committee to action and monitor in the usual way, but just for members information, the report identified two issues.

To consider ways to increase the number of quotes and tenders received for procurement and contracts, and to formalise the budget setting process that has worked well over the last five to six years, for 2025/26 and beyond.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) *The report was received and the issues and required actions noted.*
- (ii) *The issues raised to be referred to the Risk Assessment Sub-Committee for full consideration, actioning and monitoring.*

**30. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023/24**

The Town Clerk asked members to confirm the statement (circulated with agenda) and authorise the Mayor to sign it, for inclusion within the town council's Annual Return 2023/24.

**RESOLVED** *that the statement was approved and signed.*

**31. LOCAL COUNCILS IN WALES ANNUAL RETURN 2023/24**

The Town Clerk made reference to the Annual Return (circulated with agenda) for members' approval and authorisation for the Mayor, as Chair of the meeting, to sign it on the town council's behalf before submission to the External Auditor.

**RESOLVED** *that the Annual Return for 2023/24 was approved and signed by the Mayor for submission to the External Auditor, the Welsh Audit Office.*

**FURTHER RESOLVED** *that members asked that their thanks be passed on to the Finance Officer for his sterling work, once again, which was very much appreciated.*

**32. CONSULTATION: WELSH GOVERNMENT – REVIEW OF 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS**

Further to the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024, the Town Clerk reported receipt of the above consultation from Ken Skates MS, Cabinet Secretary for North Wales and Transport, seeking the town council's views on the 20 mph speed limit.

After a range of opinions were expressed and upon being put to the vote, it was **RESOLVED** *that the consensus view was that all Rhyl roads currently restricted to 20 mph should remain.*

**33. LEVELLING UP CONFERENCE**

Further to min.no.147 of the meeting of Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024, the Town Clerk referred to the full transcript of the conference (circulated with agenda), and advised that he had invited the newly appointed Chair of the Rhyl Town Board, Mr Adam Roche, to attend the July meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee to address the town council and for members to put any questions they have to him directly.

Councillor Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE then gave a comprehensive report on the conference, following her attendance on the town council's behalf, which gave some context and depth to the transcript.

Councillor Butterfield said that she had come away from the conference feeling enthused and hopeful.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) *the Town Clerk to forward the Guidance Notes, as provided by the conference organiser, to all members as Councillor Butterfield felt they offered a good overview.*
- (ii) *members would put questions directly to Mr Roche when he attends the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.*

**34. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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

Mayor: .....

Date: .....