

At the hybrid **MEETING of COUNCIL** held at 6.00pm on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at the Town Hall.

**PRESENT**

Councillor A. J. Rutherford (Chair)

Councillors M. Blackwell, Mrs M. A. Blakley-Walker, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE,  
Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, S. Feeney,  
A. R. James, K. R. Jones, Ms J. L. McAlpine, B. Mellor, W. Price, Ms R. Roberts,  
Ms V. Roberts, D. Simmons and Miss C. L. Williams

Mrs H. J. Mead – Town Clerk  
Mrs T. A. Jones – Deputy Town Clerk

**76. OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES**

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs J. M. Evans, A. R. James, J. Kenney, Mrs D. L. King, Ms R. S. Roberts and A. Walker.

The Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Helen Gheorghiu Gould, commenced proceedings by leading all those wishing to take part, in prayer.

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

**77. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Town Clerk asked if members had any personal and/or prejudicial interests to declare with regard to any of the business to be considered on the agenda?

No declarations were made.

**78. MINUTES**

Meeting of Council                      -              17<sup>th</sup> September 2025              - Min Nos. 59-75

Proposed by Councillor K. R. Jones and seconded by Councillor E. M. Chard and **RESOLVED** *as a correct record*.

Meeting of Planning                      -              17<sup>th</sup> September 2025              - Min Nos. 9-14

Proposed by Councillor Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones and seconded by Councillor K. R. Jones and **RESOLVED** *as a correct record*.

**79. MAYOR'S REPORT**

In the absence of the Mayor and temporary absence of the Deputy Mayor, the Chair referred to the report (circulated with agenda) for members' information.

**RESOLVED** that the report was received.

**80. PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT MAY 2025 (SCHEDULE A)**

The Mayor 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 Services Provided
2061	BT	87.06	BT Town Hall - System Rental Phones
N/A	Tesco	3.00	Mobile Phone Insurance
2074	BT	414.65	Wellington Road CC Phone System & Charges
N/A	Tesco	12.99	Mobile Phone
2055	BT	378.00	Town Hall Broadband Services July 2025
2062	BT	378.00	Town Hall Broadband Services August 2025
1999	Denbighshire CC	838.00	NNDR for Civic Offices WRCC - Payment 6 of 10
2066	RTC Staff	9,129.82	Net Pay for 4 Staff Sept 2025
2064	HMRC	2,058.55	PAYE for August 2025
2065	Clwyd Pension Fund	2,425.02	Pensions Contributions for August 2025
2034	Benefits Advice Shop	1,255.83	Benefits Appeals Officer 6 of 12 for 2025/26
2033	Citizens Advice Denbighshire	2,000.00	Energy Efficiency Officer 2 of 4 2025/26
N/A	Tesco	3.00	Mobile Phone Insurance
N/A	Tesco	9.00	Mobile Phone
2087	Denbighshire CC	32,037.00	SC2 Loan - Payment 2 of 3 2025/26
	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>51,029.92</b>	

Category	Description	Amount £
Santander	Interest on 31 Day Notice Account	209.82
HSBC	Quarterly Interest on Money Maker Account	736.04
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>945.86</b>

**RESOLVED** that the report was approved.

**81. 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).

Voucher No	Supplier	Details of Supply	Amount £
2090	Abergele Town Council	2 x Tickets for Charity Event on 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	£30.00
2094	MDM Gardening & Lawn Services	Feed & Treatment at Remembrance Gardens	£42.00
2095	North & Mid Wales Association	2 x Lunches for Delegates at Meeting 24 October 2025	£44.00
2097	Sandra Williams	Translation Services	£183.61
		<b>Total Schedule B</b>	<b>£299.61</b>

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

## 82. **INSURANCE RENEWAL 2025-2026**

Further to the council's agreement to change the renewal date of its insurance cover from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> November, the Chair referred to the Town Clerk and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda) for members' approval.

**RESOLVED** that the report was approved.

## 83. **INVESTMENTS PERFORMANCE 2025/26: QUARTER 2 – APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2025**

The Chair referred to the Town Clerk and Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda), for members' information.

[Councillor Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE joined the meeting]

**RESOLVED** that the report was approved.

## 84. **ANNUAL FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS & FORECASTS FOR 2025/26**

The Chair made reference to the Town Clerk and Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda), showing performance against budget and expressed his special thanks to the Finance Officer for a comprehensive piece of work.

The Chair further noted the key forecasted variances and the surplus, also the requirement to plan for the use of the Major Project Reserves over and above the planned spends.

**RESOLVED** that the report was approved.

**85. BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES: DRAFT ANNUAL REMUNERATION REPORT / CONSULTATION FOR 2026/27**

The Town Clerk referred to the draft report (circulated with agenda) and advised that there was no change to the levels of allowances for Town and Community Councils.

She further advised that members could consider increasing the Civic Allowance to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to the maximum of £1,500 (currently set at £1,300) and £500 (currently set at £400) respectively? This is something that the Civic and Social Events Sub-Committee could be asked to consider?

**RESOLVED** *that the report was received, with no changes to be made to the level of Civic Allowances.*

**86. QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

**87. 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.*

**88. PRESENTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – TOURISM**

The Chair welcomed Ms Catrin Roberts, Head of Corporate Support Service to the meeting and invited her to address members.

Ms Roberts thanked members for permitting her to attend the meeting before advising of an exciting opportunity to shape a new tourist information offer at both centres in Llangollen and Rhyl.

Ms Roberts explained that a working group was planned with key stakeholders, including the town council, to determine a modernised offer for Rhyl.

**RESOLVED** *that members welcomed the collaborative approach, and appointed Councillors Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE and M. Blackwell to the working group.*

**89. RHYL TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE**

The Chair referred to the Town Clerk's confidential report (circulated with the agenda) following a request from North Wales Tourism for a financial contribution to enable the centre to remain open during the 2025/26 winter months, for members' consideration.

The Chair advised that the DCC Budget Pressures Sub-Committee had met to discuss the request and were recommending that the full amount be approved.

Members agreed that keeping the centre open until March next year was important to the winter economy of the town.

The Town Clerk noted that the sub-committee had also recommended that the town council instigated talks with Denbighshire County Council (DCC) in the new year, to discuss the long-term future of this key service.

Given Ms Roberts' attendance for the previous item, this very much tied in with the proposed DCC led approach to establish a working group to agree a refreshed offer and longer-term plan.

**RESOLVED** that £16,200 was approved.

**90. ADDITIONAL ITEM: FEEDBACK FROM THE DCC MEETING WITH CITY, TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

The Town Clerk advised that she and the appointed representative, Councillor A. J. Rutherford, had attended the meeting and advised on the main points, which were:

- the two-year appointment of Kate Thew, the new Liaison Officer, who's remit was to improve communication between DCC and City, Town and Community Councils and to review the Charter agreement.
- the support offered to councils and community groups from the Community Resilience Team, which included community gardening, assistance with grant funding applications, food waste management initiatives, commuted sums, etc.
- that as yet the date for the settlement amounts from Welsh Government to local authorities was not known, but they were working on estimated funding gaps to be as prepared as they could be.
- That the new DCC Chief Executive would be announced at the end of October.
- That the new Head of Housing & Communities Service would be in post by January.
- That the re-organisation of councils was now off the agenda, with a view to the focus being on collaborative working going forward.

**91. ADDITIONAL ITEM: PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

The Town Clerk advised that the town council's response and financial offer to DCC was going before DCC's Communities Scrutiny tomorrow and to Cabinet on 18<sup>th</sup> November, so members could expect a formal response shortly after.

**92. ADDITIONAL ITEM: SPECIAL FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

The Town Clerk advised that she would be calling a special meeting on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm, following a recent meeting of the Civic and Social Events Sub-Committee, at which it was agreed that it would be useful to remind members on the funding they had committed so far for next year, and the remaining amounts available for any other areas of spend they might want to consider.

**93. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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

Chair: .....

Date: .....