

## **Splashing news as water park plans given green light**

A significant milestone has been reached in the regeneration of Rhyl waterfront, with planning permission approved for the flagship waterpark project.

Members of Denbighshire County Council's Planning Committee, meeting in Ruthin today (Wednesday) gave the green light to the plan for a 1200 metre square water space, with indoor and outdoor flume rides, children's water play frame and slides, double height children's play activity zone, climbing facilities, party rooms, reception, sales areas, outside Splash Pool – two wet splash pads, sun lounge areas and café terraces to provide wet play entertainment.

There will also be beach 'style' cabanas in the outdoor splash zone and WC facilities, as well as a bar and terrace to cater for evening trade.

The Council formally supported the Waterpark proposal earlier this year – with the Council, Rhyl Town Council and Welsh Government providing financial support for the development.

The development will create 60 new jobs and attract 350,000 additional visitors to the town every year, placing Rhyl firmly back on the map as a premier visitor destination. Work will begin on site in September 2017 with the new facilities due to open in early 2019.

The proposals, drawn up in partnership with Alliance Leisure, will also mean that the town's skatepark will be relocated. The County Council will consult with local young people to co-design the skate park, with the new facility offering new, more attractive design features. The paddling pool will be replaced by a significantly enhanced outdoor splash pad and sun terrace, as part of the redevelopment.

Councillor Hugh Evans OBE, Leader of Denbighshire County Council, who is also the Cabinet Lead Member with responsibility for regeneration, said: "I'm truly delighted that the Council has formally given planning permission for the water park. It is a significant project for the Council in the efforts to redevelop the waterfront area, as well as

increasing footfall in the town and creating jobs that will boost the local economy.

“This will be a unique attraction for residents as well as visitors and we can now plough ahead with making preparations to move onto the site after the summer”.

Mayor of Rhyl, Councillor Alan James, said: “The water park development promises to bring a range of benefits to Rhyl, increasing visitor spend and establishing the town as a tourism destination. With planning permission secured, work can now start on developing what will be an amazing facility for local people and future visitors.

“The winds of change are blowing and the patience of the people of Rhyl will be rewarded with a facility we can all be proud of, one that puts our town firmly on the map.”

For further details about the development, please visit:

[www.rhylwaterparkdevelopment.co.uk](http://www.rhylwaterparkdevelopment.co.uk)

**Note to Editors:** For further information, please contact the Communications team, on 01824 706222.