

At a Meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held on Wednesday 6th April 2011, at the Civic Offices, Wellington Road Community Centre, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor D. A. J. Thomas (Chair)

Councillors J. B. Bellis, B. Blakeley, J. Butterfield, Mrs. J. Butterfield, Mrs. J. Chamberlain-Jones, I. A. Gunning, Ms D. Hannam, Ms G. A. Jones, D. W. Lee, Mrs. M. McCarroll, Mrs. W. M. Mullen-James, G. J. Pickering, W. N. Tasker, T. Thomas and G. Williams.

Mr G. J. Nickels	-	Town Clerk
Mr P. M. Thomas	-	Finance Officer
Miss H. J. Windus	-	Personal Assistant & Secretary

207. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors C. Davies (indisposed), Mrs L. M. Edwards (work commitment), M. C. Espley (work commitment) and Ms M. A. Jones (indisposed).

208. ELECTION FOR PENDYFFRYN WARD

The Town Clerk reported that nomination papers were now available from Denbighshire County Council's Returning Officer and that nominations would close at noon on Monday 11th April 2011.

209. DENBIGHSHIRE VOLUNTARY SERVICES COUNCIL – HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELL BEING STRATEGY MEETING

Further to Minute No.132 of the meeting held on 1st December 2010, Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James reported that she had still not received the meeting papers despite making numerous requests for them.

RESOLVED that once the papers had been received by Councillor Mullen-James she would report back.

210. MEETING OF TOWN / COMMUNITY COUNCILS WITH DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Further to Minute No.170 of the meeting held on 2nd February 2011, the Chair referred to the papers circulated at the meeting (enclosed with Agenda) outlining Denbighshire County Council budgetary constraints on its service delivery.

RESOLVED that the document be received.

211. INTERNAL AUDIT 2010 / 11 – INTERIM REPORT

The Finance Officer presented his report including the interim report of the Internal Auditor for 2010/11 (circulated with Agenda).

The report was seeking approval to change the accounting basis for stock and assets based upon the comments by the Internal Auditor and the recommendations of the Finance Officer. The Finance Officer responded to a number of Members' questions and advised that he would implement the changes approved for the accounts ending 31st March 2011.

RESOLVED that the report be approved.

212. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

The Finance Officer submitted his report for the 21st December 2010 to 29th March 2011 period (circulated with Agenda).

In response to a question the Finance Officer reminded Members of the role of the Risk Assessment Sub-Committee in examining any issues of concern referred to it by Council or by Members individually through the Chairman. He undertook to provide a list of bus shelters and other relevant details to the Member who raised the question.

Paid by	Date	Payee	Details	Amount
DD	31/12/2010	AdEPT Telecom	Telephone call charges Nov VN 203	81.19
Credit Card	05/01/2011	HSBC	Annual fee for card VN 215	32.00
SO	06/01/2011	Wellington Community Centre	Quarterly office rent VN 001	4500.00
DD	07/01/2011	HSBC	Bank charges to 16 Dec VN 207	11.40
BACS	12/01/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Bus Shelter cleaning contract Dec VN 211	431.81
BACS	14/01/2011	Bacs payroll	Payroll Jan 2010 VN 212	7437.10
BACS	14/01/2011	Inland Revenue	Payroll Dec VN 190	3073.15
BACS	14/01/2011	Flintshire County Council	Payroll Dec VN 191	2765.01
DD	14/01/2011	Denbighshire County Council	NNDR instalment VN 005	429.00
BACS	19/01/2011	NWN Media Ltd	Grants advert VN 217	455.40
BACS	19/01/2011	Canda Copying Limited	Photocopier rental, copies staples VN 218 219 220	597.86
BACS	24/01/2011	Cyfieithu Cymunedol Conwy	Welsh language scheme translation VN 223	199.92
203310	26/01/2011	NW Assoc of Town Councils	Delegates fees for meeting VN 226	25.00
BACS	31/01/2011	BJS Solutions	Anti virus software VN 227	151.54
BACS	31/01/2011	Denbighshire	Bus Shelter cleaning contract Nov	431.81

Paid by	Date	Payee	Details	Amount
		County Council	VN 228	
BACS	31/01/2011	Hacker Young	Audit fees 2009/10 VN 229	1740.00
DD	31/01/2011	AdEPT Telecom	Telephone call charges Dec VN 221	67.85
203309	01/02/2011	Mrs M McCaroll	Mayoral allowance final instalment VN 222	1230.00
SO	04/02/2011	Wellington Community Centre	Quarterly cleaning and utility charges VN 031	2740.00
BACS	07/02/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Illuminations contract VN 230	25287.96
DD	07/02/2011	HSBC	Bank charges to 16 Jan VN 224	12.41
BACS	08/02/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Bus Shelter cleaning contract Jan VN 231	441.00
BACS	08/02/2011	Racecraft Signs	Honours board inscription VN 232	225.60
BACS	15/02/2011	Inland Revenue	Payroll Jan VN 213	3072.94
BACS	15/02/2011	Flintshire County Council	Payroll Jan VN 214	2765.01
BACS	15/02/2011	Bacs payroll	Payroll Feb 2011 VN 235	7371.09
DD	24/02/2011	Data Protection	Notification fee VN 246	35.00
DD	28/02/2011	AdEPT Telecom	Telephone call charges Feb VN 240	75.61
BACS	02/03/2011	J Chamberlain Jones	Travelling expenses NWATC 28.01.11 VN 238	26.05
DD	10/03/2011	HSBC	Bank charges to 16 Feb VN 239	9.66
BACS	11/03/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Bus Shelter cleaning contract Feb VN 244	441.00
BACS	11/03/2011	NWN Media Ltd	Election advert VN 245	220.80
BACS	15/03/2011	Bacs payroll	Payroll March 2011 VN 243	7424.97
BACS	15/03/2011	Inland Revenue	Payroll Feb VN 236	3072.95
BACS	15/03/2011	Flintshire County Council	Payroll Feb VN 237	2765.01
BACS	18/03/2011	Denbighshire County Council	Townscape Heritage Initiative VN 248	4000.00
DD	20/03/2011	British Telecom	Main line mce VN 247	80.41
			Total	83727.51

List of Income received for the period 21st December 2010 to 29th March 2011

31/12/2010	Alliance	Interest July - Dec 2010 VN 209	58.02
31/12/2010	Denbighshire County Council	Precept VN 206	130000.00
04/01/2011	Alliance	Interest Dec 2010 VN	7.35
11/01/2011	Money Market	BS 289 VN 234	5.75
18/01/2011	Money Market	BS 289 VN 234	5.75
19/01/2011	Denbighshire Coastal Partnership	Grant for notice boards VN 216	2000.00
25/01/2011	Money Market	BS 289 VN 234	5.75
26/01/2011	One Voice Wales	Training course refund VN 225	175.00
01/02/2011	Alliance	Interest Jan 2011 VN 233	7.35

01/02/2011	Money Market	BS 291 VN 241	5.75
08/02/2011	Money Market	BS 291 VN 241	5.75
15/02/2011	Money Market	BS 292 VN 241	5.75
22/02/2011	Money Market	BS 292 VN 241	4.80
01/03/2011	Alliance	Interest Feb 2011 VN 242	6.64
01/03/2011	Money Market	BS 293 VN 253	4.80
08/03/2011	Money Market	BS 293 VN 253	4.80
11/03/2011	HM Revenue and Customs	VAT claim to Feb VN 251	5466.18
15/03/2011	Money Market	BS 293 VN 253	4.80
22/03/2011	Money Market	BS 293 VN 253	4.80
29/03/2011	Money Market	BS 293 VN 253	4.80
		Total	137783.84

Analysis of petty cash for the period 21st December 2010 to 29th March 2011

36.48	Postage
98.40	Newspapers
4.00	Admin
141.05	Civic
102.11	Refreshments
£382.04	Total

RESOLVED that the report be received.

213. STRATEGIC REGENERATION FRAMEWORK AND DELIVERY STRUCTURE

Further to the Rhyl Elected Members meeting held on 23rd March 2011, the Town Clerk reported that only four Town Councillors attended, possible due to meeting papers not being issued to Members, although all meeting dates had previously been provided.

The Town Clerk advised that the Strategic Regeneration Framework and Delivery Structure presentation given at the meeting was particularly important for Members to be aware of and asked for permission to invite the Denbighshire officer back to the meeting of Council to be held on 20th April 2011 to provide the presentation.

The Town Clerk advised that the presentation relating to the Ocean Plaza site given at the Elected Members Meeting would be returning to the Town Council's Planning Committee for due consideration.

A Member felt offended that the Town Clerk had felt it necessary to reiterate that the presentation was confidential, when all Members were fully aware that all information provided to Councillors at Rhyl Elected Members meetings was confidential.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is instructed to invite the Denbighshire officer to the April Council meeting and to not include any other item of business due to the length and importance of the presentation to be given.

214. CONSULTATION: DONG ENERGY – BURBOR BANK EXTENSION OFF-SHORE WIND FARM

The Chair reported receipt of the above document (circulated with Agenda) relating to an extension of the Wind Farm and details of a consultation event to be held on Tuesday 17th May 2011 at the Wellington Community Centre (additional information available in the Committee Room).

RESOLVED that the document be received.

215. CONSULTATION: PARKING AT RHYL RAILWAY STATION

Further to Minute No.174 of the meeting held on 2nd February 2011, the Chair reported receipt of the above document (circulated with Agenda) from Denbighshire County Council asking the Town Council to consider withdrawing its objection to the plans on the grounds of insufficient free parking spaces for those dropping off and collecting rail passengers.

The Chair further advised that 'Stopping Up' Orders would be coming into force soon enabling Enforcement Officers to move illegally parked vehicles on and issue fixed penalty notices, which would hopefully help the problems experienced at the station.

RESOLVED that the Town Council's objection be withdrawn.

216. MEMBER TRAINING

Further to Minute No.98 of the meeting of Council held on 16th February 2011, the Town Clerk presented his report (circulated with Agenda) and asked individual Members to speak to him about their personal training requirements, which he and / or the Finance Officer would then provide on a one-to-one basis or a small group of Members if others have the same specific needs.

A Member suggested that an Induction Pack and Training be put together for all new Councillors in the future.

The Town Clerk advised that Induction Packs were already provided to new Councillors and that he would offer basic training to incoming Councillors in the future.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is instructed to write to all Members to ask about their personal training requirements and that it would then be provided in-house by himself or the Finance Officer, depending on the nature of the requests.

217. TRAINING FOR CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS

The Chair reported receipt of correspondence from Denbighshire County Council's Monitoring Officer (circulated with Agenda) offering Town and Community Councils.

The Town Clerk advised that he had contacted Denbighshire County Council and that they had extended the offer to the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Town Council's Committees as well as the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

RESOLVED that the offer be accepted and that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairs and Vice-Chairs be given as much notice as possible of the proposed dates for the training sessions.

218. INVITATION TO JOIN ONE VOICE WALES

The Chair reported receipt of the above (circulated with Agenda) inviting the Town Council to join One Voice Wales.

Councillor Mrs J. Butterfield briefly explained the difference between One Voice Wales and the North Wales Association of Town and Larger Community Councils for the newer Councillors, and stated that she would write a more comprehensive report on the background of both organisations for submission to a future meeting for Members' information.

RESOLVED that the invitation to join One Voice Wales be declined.

219. ACTION FOR MARKET TOWNS

The Chair reported receipt of correspondence from Denbighshire County Council (circulated with Agenda) advising that they have nominated a number of larger Community Councils in Denbighshire, including Rhyl Town Council, for trial membership of the Action for Market Towns organisation.

The Town Clerk sought Members' views and authorisation to activate the Town Council's membership.

RESOLVED that no action be taken.

220. CORRESPONDENCE: QUEEN ELIZABETH II FIELDS CHALLENGE

Further to Minute No.153 of the meeting held on 5th January 2011, the Chair reported receipt of the above from Denbighshire County Council (circulated with Agenda) in response to representations made by the Town Council.

RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

221. CORRESPONDENCE: CLWYD RETAIL PARK ILLUMINATIONS

Further to Minute No.72 of the meeting held on 1st September 2010, the Chair reported receipt of the above from the Rhyl Business Group (circulated with Agenda) in response to representations made by the Town Council.

Councillor J. B. Bellis advised that the Business Group had conducted a survey of all businesses in the town centre asking what, if any, effect last year's Christmas events had on them and whether they would be prepared to contribute to the town centre's Christmas Lights in the future. Councillor Bellis stated that when the results were in he would share them with the Town Council.

RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

222. CORRESPONDENCE: RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Further to Minute No.70 of the meeting held on 1st September 2010, the Chair reported receipt of a Denbighshire County Council Press Release (circulated with Agenda) informing that their campaign to retain the current recycling arrangements had been successful.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is instructed to write to Denbighshire County Council to offer the Town Council's congratulations.

223. INFORMATION: COMMUTED SUMS

The Chair reported receipt of correspondence from Denbighshire County Council (circulated with Agenda) advising of the availability of Commuted Sums funds.

The Town Clerk advised that the Rhyl developments bringing in the available funds are Fron Ffraith, 63/64 West Parade, 76-83 West Parade, Morville Garage and Westbourne Avenue.

The Chair added that Members wishing to make suggestions for the use of the funds should contact Ms Lara Griffiths at Denbighshire County Council.

RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

224. INFORMATION: BETSI CADWALADR UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD – NORTH WALES GP OUT OF HOURS SERVICE

The Chair reported receipt of correspondence from the above (circulated with Agenda) advising of a new telephone number for the service 0300 123 55 66.

RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

225. 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.

226. ATTENDANCE AT MEETING CALLED BY RHYL RUGBY CLUB

Further to Minute No.109 (extract circulated with Agenda) of the meeting of Council held on 16th March 2011, Councillor I. A. Gunning submitted his confidential written report following his attendance at the meeting on Tuesday 22nd March 2011, for Members' information.

Members thanked Councillor Gunning for a good report.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

227. REFERRAL OF DRAFT MINUTE NO.201 BY COUNCIL

Further to the meeting of Council held on 16th March 2011, the Town Clerk presented his confidential report (circulated with Agenda) following the decision taken by Members not to approve Minute No.201 and defer it to this meeting for further consideration.

The Town Clerk firstly apologised for one small omission to the suggested amendments, to insert 'Mr' before J. Butterfield into the final paragraph of the Minute, and secondly advised Members to accept the original Minute attached as Appendix A, and made reference to Part 2 of his report relating to the statutory requirements relating to minutes and published guidance.

A Member moved that Appendix C, incorporating all of the suggested amendments, be approved, which was seconded.

Another Member moved that Appendix A, the original Minute, be approved, which was also seconded and that a recorded vote be taken.

A recorded vote was held and the outcome was as follows:

Councillors in favour of the second proposal were:

J. B. Bellis, I. A. Gunning, Ms D. Hannam, D. W. Lee, D. A. J. Thomas, T. Thomas and G. Williams.

Councillors against were:

B. Blakeley, J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Ms G. A. Jones, Mrs M. McCarroll, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, G. J. Pickering and W. N. Tasker.

Councillors in favour of the first proposal were:

B. Blakeley, J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Ms G. A. Jones, Mrs M. McCarroll, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, G. J. Pickering and W. N. Tasker.

Councillors against were:

J. B. Bellis, I. A. Gunning, Ms D. Hannam, D. W. Lee, D. A. J. Thomas, T. Thomas and G. Williams.

RESOLVED that the motion to approve Appendix C be carried for confirmation at the next meeting of Council in that Draft Minute No. 201 of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 2nd March 2011 be amended to read:

201. RHYL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Further to Minute No.144 of the meeting held on 1st December 2010, the Town Clerk submitted his confidential report and the Community Association's Progress Report (circulated with Agenda) for Members' consideration.

Before discussion began, Councillor Mrs P. M. Jones reported that she had very recently resigned her position as a Trustee of the Rhyl Community Association and as the Town Council's representative for the Cefndy Ward.

The Secretary and Treasurer of the Association referred to the Progress Report and stated that it was difficult to determine completion dates for much of the work due to being in the midst of a protracted review of employment contracts with two members of the Association's staff. He asked for Members' appreciation of the situation and for them to give the Association more time for these matters to be resolved. Members strongly objected to the defamatory, and unprofessional remarks and wished to be disassociated with them.

Members put their questions to the members of the Association regarding the review of contracts, management style, roles of the Town Council's representatives and of other members and Trustees of the Association along with its future sustainability. In replies to Member's questions it was quiet obvious that the serving members of RTC on the RCA were unaware of Management, Staffing, Governance, Financial and other issues, which in the interest of RTC gave members further cause for concern.

The Trustee/Secretary/Treasurer of RCA then made a statement giving the reason for the resignation of the newly appointed Manager of the Association, as due to the fact that the manager blamed Rhyl Town Councillors intentions on closing the RCA. In response a Member indicated that the Council should clarify the relationship between the actions of the Town Council and the resignation of the Manager of the Community Association to ensure that the Council do not act in a similar way with future Managers of the Community Association or any other organisation that the Town Council have any further action with

The accusation by the Trustee/Secretary/Treasurer so outraged members that five of them [Arising from the debate the following Members left the Chamber prior to any vote being taken Councillors Mr J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Ms G. A. Jones, Mrs P. M. Jones, and Mrs M. McCarroll] left the Chamber prior to any vote being taken

RESOLVED that the Rhyl Community Association be given three months to report back progress to the Finance and General Purposes Committee to be held on 1st June 2011.

228. PROTOCOL FOR APPOINTING MAYOR

Further to Minute No.193 of the meeting held on 2nd March 2011, the Town Clerk presented his confidential report (circulated with Agenda) on the recommendations made by the Town Council's Civic and Social Events Sub-Committee.

A Member moved to retain the 'status quo' arrangement, which was seconded.

After general debate another Member moved the submission of CVs by Councillors expressing an interest in becoming the Deputy Mayor and ultimately the Mayor, which was also seconded.

A Member requested that a recorded vote be taken.

A recorded vote was held and the outcome was as follows:

Councillors in favour of the second proposal were:

J. B. Bellis, I. A. Gunning, Ms D. Hannam, D. W. Lee, D. A. J. Thomas, T. Thomas and G. Williams.

Councillors against were:

B. Blakeley, J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Ms G. A. Jones, Mrs M. McCarroll, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, G. J. Pickering and W. N. Tasker.

Councillors in favour of the first proposal were:

B. Blakeley, J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Butterfield, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Ms G. A. Jones, Mrs M. McCarroll, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, G. J. Pickering and W. N. Tasker.

Councillors against were:

J. B. Bellis, I. A. Gunning, Ms D. Hannam, D. W. Lee, D. A. J. Thomas, T. Thomas and G. Williams.

RESOLVED that the motion to retain the 'status quo' be carried.

229. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2011 / 12

In light of the preceding item, the Town Clerk requested confirmation that Members were not in a position to now determine who would be Deputy Mayor for the 2011/12 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED that the appointing of the Deputy Mayor for the next Municipal Year be determined at the Annual Meeting of Council on Wednesday 18th May 2011.

230. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Chair:

Date: