

At a **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 17th January 2018 in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Wellington Road, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor A. R. James (Mayor)

Councillors B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, Ms J. Hughes, A. S. Johnson, B. Jones, K. R. Jones, Mrs P. M. Jones, Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. L. McAlpine, B. Mellor, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, P. Prendergast and T. Thomas.

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

95. OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor's Chaplain, Rev. Andy Grimwood, commenced proceedings by leading all present in prayer.

96. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Ms V. Roberts, A. J. Rutherford and Miss C. L. Williams.

97. MINUTES

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

Council - 20th December 2017 - Min. Nos.81-94

Proposed by Councillor A. R. James and seconded by Councillor B. Mellor and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 20th December 2017 - Min. Nos.40-43

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

98. PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT – DECEMBER 2017

The Town Clerk presented his report (circulated with agenda) detailing the schedule of payments made.

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount £	Description of Goods & Services
392	Sage & Co	30.00	Payroll service for Dec 2017
393	BT	123.24	Internet line rental
394	HSBC	8.05	Bank charges 17 th Oct to 16 th Nov 2017
395	Neopost	200.00	Franking machine top-up
396	Sioned Graham-Cameron	410.11	Translation services

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount £	Description of Goods & Services
401	HSBC	32.00	Annual fee for charge card
402	Flintshire CC	4,140.80	Pension contributions & deficit funding for Nov 2017
403	HMRC	2,557.42	Payroll deductions Nov 2017
404	RTC staff	6,669.96	Staff salaries for Nov 2017
405	Gunsmoke Communications	1,440.00	Services provided for Nov 2017
260	Benefits Advice Shop	916.66	Appeals Officer contribution 9 of 12
258	Denbighshire CC	686.00	Council Tax 2017/18 payment 9 of 10
406	BT	138.50	Line rental
	Total payments	17,352.74	

RESOLVED that the report was approved.

99. **AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS / ADDITIONS TO APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST**

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 signed by two councillors.

Schedule B payments for approval (13th December 2017 – 9th January 2018)

Supplier	Details of Supply	Voucher Number	Date	Amount £
Denbighshire CC	Rent for Tir Morfa bus shelter	412	01/01/18	1.00
Denbighshire CC	Rent for Remembrance Gardens	413	01/01/18	13.50
Petty Cash	Top-up	414	19/12/17	200.00
Denbighshire CC	Contribution to 2017/18 events – Air Show, Christmas & Arena	415	04/01/18	19,000.00
North & Mid Wales Association of Town Councils	Lunch for four delegates at meeting on 19/1/18	416	11/01/18	64.00
Total Schedule B				£19,278.50

100. **INVESTMENTS PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Town Clerk submitted his and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda) on performance in the third quarter of the 2017/18 financial year.

RESOLVED that the report was received.

101. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR 2018/19

The Town Clerk presented his and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda) on the appointment of the Council's auditors.

The Town Clerk reminded members that the external auditor was appointed by the Welsh Audit Office and would be BDO LLP.

The Town Council's current internal auditor was JDH Business Services.

The Town Clerk advised members to declare any personal or business interest they may have with both companies.

RESOLVED *that the appointment of JDH Business Services was approved.*

102. INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Town Clerk referred to the report (circulated with agenda) identifying four areas requiring consideration and / or action by the Town Council.

The Town Clerk briefly explained the auditor's advice in these areas and suggested that the report be referred to the Town Council's Risk-Assessment Sub-Committee for thorough consideration.

RESOLVED *that the report be referred to the Risk-Assessment Sub-Committee.*

103. CONSULTATION: WELSH GOVERNMENT – REVIEW OF COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL SECTOR IN WALES

The Town Clerk reported receipt of the above (circulated with agenda); an important document that would shape the future of Community and Town Councils.

Members felt that Community and Town Councils should have more responsibilities, but that those new responsibilities should be chosen by them not imposed upon them, and come with the necessary level of funding.

They felt that the six month rule of attendance for councillors should be reduced, as lack of attendance at meetings put more pressure on the councillors that regularly attend, to make decisions on their behalf and also to form the number of other committee and sub-committees with the increase in workload that they bring.

In addition, members believed that more could be done to encourage people to stand for election on to Community and Town Councils, and that this would go some way to improve the level of true representation of their communities.

The Town Clerk further advised that the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils were due to hold a seminar to determine its response to the questions.

A representative on the Association advised that it would be beneficial for the Council's views to be known prior to the Seminar so as to enable them to be reported.

RESOLVED *that*

- (a) the Town Clerk to e-mail the four questions put by the Independent Review Panel to all councillors to enable him to put all comments together for approval by the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
- (b) That Councillor B. Mellor also attend the next meeting of the North and Mid Wales Association to participate in the Seminar and those Members able to, respond to the Town Clerks email so as to inform the representatives responses..

104. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – LAND AT RHYL HIGH SCHOOL, GRANGE ROAD, RHYL.

The Town Clerk reported receipt of the above (circulated with agenda) seeking the Town Council’s views on the disposal of a strip of land to an adjacent business.

RESOLVED that the ward councillors did not object.

[Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James declared a personal interest in the above item due to her position as an LEA Governor at Rhyl High School and remained in the Chamber but took no further part in discussions or voting thereon]

105. INFORMATION ITEMS

The Mayor advised that there were no urgent matters to raise.

106. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions asked.

107. 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.

108. STANDING ITEM: POLICE CLOSURE ORDERS

Further to minute no.79 of the meeting held on 3rd February 2016, the Town Clerk advised that no applications had been received from North Wales Police.

109. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: