

At the zoom **MEETING of COUNCIL** held at 6.00pm on 17th December 2025.

PRESENT

Councillor A. Walker (Mayor)

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

Mrs H. J. Mead – Town Clerk

Mrs T. A. Jones – Deputy Town Clerk

Mrs R. A. Wheatley – Comms, Grants & Admin Support Officer

112. OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

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

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

As it was her last meeting, Reverend Helen was thanked for her guidance and support to the people of Rhyl and to the town council during her time here.

The Mayor welcomed all to the meeting.

113. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor 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.

114. VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR

The Town Clerk advised that the closing date for ten electors to request an election was 12th December, but as yet, she had not heard back from Denbighshire County Council's Elections office as to whether an election would be held.

RESOLVED that the information was noted.

115. MINUTES

Meeting of Council - 19th November 2025 - Min Nos. 94-111

Proposed by Councillor A. Walker and seconded by Councillor E. M. Chard and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Proposed by Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine and seconded by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and RESOLVED as a correct record.

116. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor submitted details of the events he and the Deputy Mayor had attended over the past month (circulated with agenda). The Mayor highlighted the Christmas Lights Switch-On and some of the excellent photographs taken on the night and shared to social media. The Mayor wanted to thank Mrs Skeffington, in particular.

RESOLVED that the report was received.

117. 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
2101	BT	378.00	Town Hall Broadband Services
N/A	Tesco	3.00	Mobile Phone Insurance
2111	O2	79.38	Mobile Phones x 3
N/A	Tesco	9.00	Mobile Phone
1999	Denbighshire CC	838.00	NNDR for Civic Offices WRCC - Payment 8 of 10
2104	RTC Staff	9,338.93	Net Pay for 4 Staff Nov 2025
2102	HMRC	3,763.74	PAYE for Oct 2025
2103	Clwyd Pension Fund	3,737.81	Pensions Contributions for Oct 2025
2034	Benefits Advice Shop	1,255.83	Benefits Appeals Officer 7 of 12 for 2025/26
N/A	Tesco	3.00	Mobile Phone Insurance
Total Payments		19,406.69	

Category	Description	Amount £
Santander	Interest on 31 Day Notice Account	205.75
HSBC	Interest on 1 month Deposit	944.57
	Total Income	1,150.32

RESOLVED that the report was approved.

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

Further to min.no.143 of the meeting of Council held on 15th 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	Supplier	Details of Supply	Amount £
2129	Stuart Parry (Bugler)	Donation for Services on Remembrance Sunday	£30.00
2137	Canva Pro	Subscription for Artwork software	£100.00
2138	Bay of Colwyn Town Council	Charity Quiz Night & Supper 12 Jan 2026 – 1 Ticket	£8.00
2139	Amazon	Book about Rhyl	£10.94
2140	Delwedd Ltd	Website Re-design and photography	£4,617.73
2141	HSBC	Annual Fee for Credit Card	£32.00
2142	Scottish Power	Electricity Supply for Illuminations October 2025	£262.09
2143	Go to My PC	3 x Subscriptions for Staff @ £208.80 each	£626.40
2144	Denbighshire CC	Annual Ground Rent for Remembrance Gardens	£13.50
2145	Denbighshire CC	Annual Ground Rent for Tir Morfa Bus Shelter	£1.00
2146	Scottish Power	Electricity Supply for Illuminations November 2025	£287.75
2147	MDM Gardening & Lawn Services	Lawn Treatment @ Remembrance Gardens	£42.00
2148	Flintshire CC	3 x Tickets for Chair Charity Dinner 6 th March 2026	£120.00

	Total Schedule B		£6,151.41
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RESOLVED that the schedule was approved for payment and signed by two councillors.

119. QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

120. 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.

121. BUDGET & PRECEPT 2026/27

The Town Clerk referred to her and the Finance Officer's confidential report (circulated with the agenda) recommending that the outline draft budget be brought to February or March Council, after the planned workshop event, to be held in January 2026; to levy a precept for the financial year 2026/27 and to advise Denbighshire County Council accordingly.

RESOLVED that a precept of £580,000 be levied upon Denbighshire County Council, resulting in a charge for a Band D property of £58.15 (no increase from 2025/26) Denbighshire County Council to be advised accordingly.

122. COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

The Town Clerk referred to hers and the Comms, Grants & Admin Officer's report (circulated with agenda), and invited Mrs Wheatley to take members through the document.

Mrs Wheatley explained that the draft strategy would be used as a pro-active vehicle to communicate the work carried out by the council.

[Councillor Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones left the meeting at 6.30pm]

RESOLVED that the Communications Strategy for 2026 was approved.

123. HONORARY FREEMAN/FREEWOMAN POLICY

Further to min.no.109 of the meeting of Council held on the 19th November 2025, and in accordance with the Town Council's adopted policy, the Town Clerk reported that she had not received any nominations.

RESOLVED that the information was received.

124. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

The following minutes were submitted (circulated with agenda) for members' information and approval of the recommendations contained therein:

Civic & Social Events - 11th December 2025 - Min.Nos. 9 - 15

The Town Clerk drew members attention to the decision taken by the Sub-Committee to recommend the approval of a new mid-range Mayor's chain, up to a cost of £5,500. However, due to an increase in the price of gold since, this cost had risen sharply to just under £9,000, including carry case.

Members were mindful that this was a significant spend in times of continued financial challenges for many of Rhyl's residents. They were also very aware that the current chain was now 25 years old and that more refurbishment work to it was unsustainable, both materially and from a cost-effective point of view in the longer term.

After considerable debate it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes were approved and the quote for the chosen chain and pendant, was accepted.

125. CHRISTMAS RECESS – DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE POWERS

The Town Clerk sought members' approval for the delegation of executive powers to herself in consultation with the following members for the period 17th December 2025 until 21st January 2026.

Civic Matters - Mayor and / or Deputy Mayor

Planning Matters - Chair and / or Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee

SOP Committee - Chair and / or Vice-Chair of SOP Committee

All Other Business - Chair and / or Vice-Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED that the arrangements were confirmed.

126. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: