

Cyngor Tref
Rhuddlan
Town Council

Rhuddlan Town Council Meeting - Minutes of the meeting on the 12th July 2018

Present

Cllr Gareth Rowlands (Mayor in the Chair)
Cllr Arwel Roberts (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Jackie Burnham
Cllr Andy Smith
Cllr Mike Elgin
Cllr Reg Davies
Cllr Syd Gaskin
Cllr Gareth Smith
Town Clerk.

1 member of the public was present

1. Apologies

Cllrs: Heather Ellis, Ann Davies, Mike Kermode

2. Declaration of Interest

Cllr Andy Smith - Item 17a: Grant Application – Ysgol y Castell

Cllr Gareth Rowlands – Item 20c - Letter of complaint

Cllr Reg Davies – Item 20a – Request for financial Assistance: History Society

The Mayor reported that he wanted to bring Item 20c – Letter of complaint to Part 1 so that it could be discussed in public. Cllr Arwel Roberts had been in contact with Steve Price in Denbighshire County Council who had said that the Mayor can move it to Part 1 of the meeting but it would be unusual.

Cllr Andy Smith said that the matter should remain in Part 2 of the meeting but if there are any repercussions in the future then the matter needs to be brought out to the open and discussed under Part 1. **It was resolved** that the matter be discussed in Part 2 in this meeting.

3. Police matters

The following incident report was received from the police

14/06/18 – Shoplifting Coop – Matter under investigation

19/06/18 – Shoplifting Coop – Matter under investigation

26/06/18 – Anti social behaviour Abbey Road – Offenders identified and issued with yellow cards

10/07/18 – Criminal damage – Area outside Rhuddlan Library – Matter under investigation

The corner of the library has been vandalised. This is a project between Pengwern and the Town Council to carry out improvements to the area. Many people have been in contact with the Mayor since the vandalism expressing disappointment.

The police were thanked for their quick response and investigation into the incident.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the 14th of June 2018 were accepted subject to minor amendments.

5. Correspondence from:

a. The Mayor

- June / July Activities:
- June 15th Attended Bryn Roberts funeral (not as Mayor)
- June 16th Dementia Friendly Rhuddlan Coffee Morning
- June 17th Attended Denbigh Town Civic Sunday
- June 19th Blodeuo Meeting
- June 27th Meet with Peter Barton Price to review Britain in Bloom portfolio
- June 29th Met PCSO Rebecca Evans regarding a policing issue
- June 29th Visited Pengwern College regarding Blodeuo
- June 29th Cllr Arwel Roberts and the Mayor put up Neighbourhood Watch stickers
- July 1st Abergele Civic Sunday
- July 3rd Street Cleaning Blodeuo
- July 4th Street Cleaning Blodeuo
- July 5th Wales in Bloom judging
- July 5th Meet with Peter Barton Price and Jim Goodwin to discuss Britain in Bloom Strategy.
- July 6th Official Opening of Fresh Air Gym and afternoon tea at Springfield.
- July 10th Remove vandalised Rhuddlan Welcome Garden for Pengwern College to repair.
- July 10th Meet Peter Barton Price to walk around Rhuddlan regarding Britain in Bloom to improve Blodeuo meeting debrief.

5b. The Town Clerk

- Attended Blodeuo Meeting 19th June.
- Attended Dementia Friendly Rhuddlan meeting on 27th June.
- Grant application submitted to Armed Forces Fund for 10 World War 1 Soldier Silhouettes.
- Wales in Bloom Judging Day - 5th July.
- Official Opening of Fresh Air Gym – 6th July.
- End of Year Account submitted to External Audit.
- Attended a CILCA Day's Training in Mold on the 10th July
- Received confirmation from Cllr Syd Gaskin on the 12th July that the two defibrillators have been checked and are in good working order.

Press releases:

- Special Award to Peter Robinson sent to Rhyl Journal and Daily Post.
- Aelwyn Morgan Award sent to Rhyl Journal and Daily Post.
- Official Opening of Fresh Air Gym sent to Rhyl Journal and Daily Post.
- Wales in Bloom Judging Day sent to Rhyl Journal and Daily Post.

5c. Rhuddlan Community Group

Correspondence received from the Rhuddlan Community Group thanking the Town Council for the 2018 Grant awarded. It has allowed the group to continue to keep the High Street, Picnic area and other boxes looking wonderful.

5d. Dial A Ride

Correspondence received from Dial a Ride thanking the Town Council for the grant and to convey to the Council their gratitude for displaying the Town Council logo on their printed matter

5e. Overhanging Tree

Correspondence received from Streetscene Section of Denbighshire County Council stating that they had received a request about a tree overhanging a private property in Kerfoot Avenue. The Town Clerk arranged for a contractor to go over and assess the situation. The contractor stated that there was no safety issue and that the resident could trim off the bit that is overhanging. **It was resolved** that no further action was required.

5f. Notice Board in the Picnic Area

Correspondence received from the Rhuddlan Community Group requesting permission for a notice board to be put up in the picnic area by the library with the intention to put up information about the wildlife garden, details of meetings, walks etc. It was proposed that the notice board to be located at the end of the shrub boarder by the fence opposite the litter bin / play area. **It was resolved** to agree to this request.

San

6. County Council Members Report – Cllr Arwel Roberts

It was a pleasure to deputise for our Mayor in the occasion organised by Sir Ddinbych – “raising the flag for the Armed Forces” 27th June.

It has been a pleasure to be part of the Blodeuo Team; clearing, brushing in the Nature Reserve and the Stryd Fawr. During the judging day it was a pleasure to be in the company of the pupils of Ysgol y Castell, they really please the judge. I had a chance to sell the fact that we are involved with the iBeacon project. Also, in the Community Centre introducing “Gwledd” and the Flood Wardens Group. For the first time we could inform the judge that Menter Cymdeithas Rhuddlan – the Welsh Society initiative within Rhuddlan.

On the 5th July I was present in the occasion when the £6 million flood Scheme in Llanelwy was officially opened.

Looking forward to be present in Llangollen Pavilion to launch Rhuddlan’s i-Beacon project 16th July.

The Mayor brought to the attention of Cllr Arwel Rowlands a post holding the give way sign at New Road at the end of Dyserth Road is in a disrepair. Cllr Arwel Roberts has referred the matter to the County Council

7. Blodeuo

The Mayor thanked Rhuddlan Town Council for the support for Blodeuo. There were 20 organisations present in the Community Centre on the Wales in Bloom Judging day.

The photographer was thanked for taking photos for the duration of the event and a donation will be given to the Rhyl Raptors Multisport Wheelchair Club for his services.

A video is to be made of the excellent work that the school have done just in case pupils are not available for the Britain in Bloom judging day on the 1st August.

Members expressed concern about going on the by-pass as there is debris everywhere which gives a bad impression of Rhuddlan. **It was resolved** that Cllr Arwel Roberts send a request to Denbighshire County Council to get the by-pass cleaned.

It was resolved that the Town Clerk send letters to Aldi, Premier Inn and KFC. to ask them to make a special effort on the 1st of August to ensure that their sites are litter free. The letter to Aldi to also include a request to take down “Aldi - open soon” seeing that the store has been opened since December 2017.

Blodeuo needs help with street clearing on the 30th and 31st July so that the High Street is clean.

Volunteers helping Blodeuo have expressed that it is expensive to park in Parliament Street. They will need to park vehicles close to the Community Centre as they will need to carry promotional material to and from the Community Centre. **It was resolved** that the Town Clerk ask Denbighshire County Council for a free day of parking at Parliament Street Car Park.

8. Information & Website matters

There was no update on this matter.

9. Gwledd Festival 2019

Cllrs Arwel Roberts and Andy Smith declared an interest

A request was received from Gwledd – Rhuddlan – Food and Craft Festival asking if the Town Council would consider allowing the Group the use of the Parliament Street Car Park by using one of its “free use” days with Denbighshire County Council. **It was resolved** that the Town Clerk follow up with the County Council.

10. Admirals Field

Cllr Gareth Rowlands declared an interest

A request was received from a resident on behalf of Rhuddlan Town Football Club with regards to the use of Admirals Playing Fields for a charity football match for dementia on the 5th of August. **It was resolved** to agree to this request as a one-off situation as there have been problems with regards to over-use of the field. The Football Club need to supply the Town Clerk with a Risk Assessment and proof of insurance before the event. The Football Club must ensure that there is no parking on the lane behind the houses on Rhyl Road just in case emergency vehicles need access. It will be the Football’s Club responsibility to put measures in place to enforce that no one parks on this road.

11. Open Space Assessment Report

Denbighshire County Council have produced a draft document on the Open Space Assessment. Admirals Playing Fields (number 351 on the map) has been classed as Outdoor Sports Facilities which is incorrect and goes against what is stated in the Deeds. The Admirals Fields should be classed as an Amenity Greenspace.

Number 348 on the map has been classed as a Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace. This is not accurate as it is an ancient monument (Town Ditch).

The area numbered 424 has been classed as Amenity Green Space. This is incorrect, it should be classed as Allotments and Community Gardens.

It was resolved that the Town Clerk feed this information back to Denbighshire County Council

12. Code of Conduct

Members had received the Code of Conduct. **It was resolved** to accept the document.

13. Notice Board

A community notice board has been provided by the Town Council to promote organisations, societies, sessions and events. When an organisation/society want to place information on the board, they deliver the information to Rejuva Beauty Salon and this will be put up on the notice board.

Due to annual leave / sickness leave there may be a delay before information is put up. An idea put forward is to make a key available to organisations / societies/ individuals. The key will always be kept in Rejuva but can be collected to place information on the board and then returned immediately. A signing in / return book to be made available. This key will be available Tuesday to Saturday.

There was concern that this procedure may open the door to unsuitable material being placed on the notice board. **It was resolved** to go ahead and make the key available for organisations and societies and for it to be monitored.

14. New path at Vicarage Lane Playing fields

The playing field at Vicarage lane gets extremely wet and boggy and it is proposed that a 55 metres long path is laid down. A quote has been received from a local contractor to supply a path with compacted sub-base, and finish with dust limestone for £1,940 plus VAT. Members were concerned that the path substance would be problematic and pose a safety issue. **It was resolved** that the Town Clerk seek tenders to have tarmac on the path.

15. Planning Application for comment:

a. Application 44/2018/0534 – Erection of a two-storey extension to rear with first floor balcony. 15 Harding Avenue, Rhuddlan. No objections.

b. Application 44/2018/0538 – Extension to site curtilage, erection of two storey extension to industrial unit, alterations to existing vehicular access and associated works. Plumbworkz Coed Park Industrial Estate, Abergele Road, Rhuddlan. No objections.

c. Application 44/2018/0598 – Erection of extension to dwelling. Plas Llewelyn Hylas Lane, Rhuddlan. No objections.

16 Budget/Finance matters

a. To approve accounts due

Members approved the list of accounts due for July 2018

b. To consider a request from Dementia Friendly Rhuddlan Steering Group.

Cllrs Gareth Rowlands, Reg Davies, Andy Smith, Mike Kermode, Arwel Roberts, Gareth Smith declared an interest.

A request was received from the newly formed Dementia Friendly Rhuddlan Steering Group for a £500 grant to go towards producing bilingual questionnaires, promotional flyers and cover cost of hiring facilities.

At a Town Council Budget and Precept meeting on the 18th of January 2018, it **was resolved** to include a budget of £5,000 towards setting up the Rhuddlan Dementia Friendly project.

Concern has been expressed that there may be a conflict of interest as a number of Town Councillors are also members of the Dementia Friendly Rhuddlan Steering Group. The Town Clerk had sought advice from the Monitoring Officer in Denbighshire County Council who had advised that members should declare a personal interest and that they have an exemption from having prejudicial interest where the business relates to a grant, loan or other financial assistance to a voluntary organisation up to a maximum of £500. The exemption relieves them of the effect of having a prejudicial interest (i.e. having to leave the room) so that they may take part in any debate and vote, but they still declare the personal interest. It **was resolved** to award the £500 grant

Cllr Gareth Rowlands has submitted his resignation from the Dementia Friendly Rhuddlan Steering Group. Cllrs Gareth Smith and Reg Davies also stated that they would be resigning and would need to formally write a letter to the Secretary of the Group stating that intention.

c. Remuneration

Following the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Report 2018, The Council must make available a payment to each of its members a sum of £150 to cover general costs incurred in their work as a Councillor. The Town Clerk distributed forms to members to sign to accept or forgo the payment. This form to be returned to the Town Clerk.

17. ID / Security badges

The Mayor explained that it would be good practise that all members to have an I.D. badge. A quote has been received from Goodsigns & Print to supply the Badges at approximate £150. It **was resolved** that the Mayor take photos of members present and forward the photos to Goodsigns & Print.

18. Fresh Air Gym

The Official opening of the gym took place on the 6th July. Two members of Denbighshire County Council Leisure Section staff were on hand to give a demonstration on how the equipment works. It **was resolved** that the Town Clerk liaise with Denbighshire County

Council to provide sessions over the Summer for residents. Cllr Arwel Roberts said that Roger Ellerton from Community Sports will be keen to use the facility and to forward his details to the Town Clerk.

The perimeter of the Admirals Playing Fields equates to half a kilometre which is useful information for those residents wishing to keep fit and using local facilities.

The Town Council have agreed to install two benches on the Admirals Playing Fields. **It was resolved** that the Town Clerk arrange an on-site meeting to agree where the two benches are to be located.

19. Community matters

a. Speed monitoring

Cllr Andy Smith knows a Rhuddlan resident who wishes to work alongside the Community Speed Watch Officer, Cllr Gareth Smith as they want to carry out a speed survey to give to the police. Cllr Gareth Smith is happy to them to contact him. Cllr Andy Smith to supply the Town Clerk with the residents' detail so that she can formally write to them.

b. Pathway along the river

A number of residents have concerns about the pathway along the river. The gate has been padlocked open and the cows are half way down the cob. Members appreciate that the farmer, due to the hot weather, is facing shortage of grass for the animals and that is why the area has been extended to the cows. **It was resolved** that the Town Clerk write to the landowners to ask if the cows can be contained.

c. Safety Issue - corner of Hendre Close leading to Heol Hendre

The corner of Hendre Close leading to Heol Hendre is becoming a cause for concern. There are so many cars parked there that people have to walk on the road. **It was resolved** that Cllr Gareth Rowlands to take photos of the area and forward to Cllr Arwel Roberts so that he can pass on the matter to Denbighshire County Council.

d. Leak at Vicarage Lane

Concern expressed about the leak at Vicarage Lane. This is an ongoing problem that Welsh Water take little notice of. Welsh Water state that it is a natural spring. **It was resolved** that Cllr Arwel Roberts send a contact for Welsh Water to the Town Clerk to follow up.

20. Part 2. Exclusion of press and public.

By virtue of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public are excluded from discussions on the following items on the basis that disclosure thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

a. Request for Financial Assistance – Rhuddlan History Society.

Cllrs Arwel Roberts and Reg Davies Declared an Interest.

A request for financial assistance was received from the History Society. However, a specific sum was not stated on the application form. **It was resolved** that the Town Clerk contact the History Society to confirm a sum and that the application be re-submitted in September. Also, the Town Clerk to add to the grant form a section where applicant have to provide the total sum they are requesting.

b Aelwyn Morgan Award 2018

Applications were received for the 2018 Award. **It was resolved** that there would be two joint winners as both volunteers had contributed greatly to the community of Rhuddlan and shown the same level of commitment. The joint winners selected are Jon Cheshire and Pam Pegram. **It was resolved** to invite both to the September meeting for a photo call and to be awarded the Silver Salver by the Mayor.

c. Letter of complaint

Cllr Gareth Rowlands Declared an Interest and left the room.

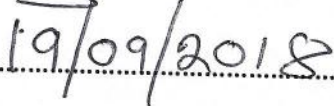
A letter of complaint had been received from a resident complaining about Cllr Gareth Rowlands, Chairman of Blodeuo about the way he had dealt with the matter of the BBC 2 Britain in Bloom programme. The letter states that the opportunity of taking part in in the BBC programme was cancelled by Cllr Gareth Rowlands.

When the Series Producer for BBC 2 Britain in Bloom contacted Cllr Rowlands with regards to the potential opportunity of being selected to go on the Britain in Bloom BBC show, a response was required within 3 days which was unachievable. By the time all three projects had committed, unfortunately it was too late. The Town Council does not see anything improper with regards to how Cllr Rowlands dealt with the matter. **It was resolved** that the Town Clerk write to the resident to with the Town Council's decision

21. Date of next meeting – 13th Sept

There will be a recess in August unless there is an emergency situation.

Signed  Cllr Gareth Rowlands - Mayor

Date 
19/09/2018

