



Annual General Meeting – Minutes of the 9th May 2019

Present Cllr Gareth Roberts (Mayor)

Cllr Arwel Roberts (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Reg Davies

Cllr Gareth Smith

Cllr Mike Elgin

Cllr Ann Davies

Cllr Syd Gaskin

Cllr Mike Kermode

Cllr Andrew Smith

Town Clerk

Clerical Assistant/Minute Clerk

There were 8 members of the public present

1. Apologies

None

2. Appointment of Mayor

Cllr Gareth Rowlands asked for nominations for Mayor 2019/20. Cllr Mike Kermode proposed and Cllr Reg Davies seconded Cllr Arwel Roberts. In the absence of any other nominations those present unanimously elected Cllr Arwel Roberts.

3. 2018/19 Mayor's Farewell Speech

Cllr Gareth Rowlands pointed out that 2018/19 was his fourth term as Mayor and it was blessed with several positives but it would not be a Council without some negatives. All in all, he hoped that the positives outweighed the negatives, and that by working together a lot had been achieved. Cllr Rowlands admitted that the work load from when he was last Mayor 9 years ago had increased three-fold, and if he had known that when elected he may have had second thoughts!

In the last few years the Council has come a long way from almost a failing Council to a progressive, modern Council with all members working together for the benefit of the community. Although we have different points of view, which is good, it should not be detrimental to our town. We would not want to be placed in special measures, so please think of our community by working together as a team of individuals with the aim of improving our community.

It is not me you need to thank for the positive work we have achieved but you all need congratulating for the foresight in supporting everything we have done in the last 12 months.

Due to the increase in Council work we appointed a Clerical Assistant, and I welcome Paul and hope he is settling into the new role.

We have introduced new policies, procedures, updated our Standing Orders, Complaints Procedure, and a Code of Conduct. Introduced a Privacy Statement, a Retention & Disposal Policy, and shortly we will be presented with a policy for Training & Development. All updates are available on our website. We should review them occasionally to remind us of our responsibilities.

The Fresh Air gym has been a fantastic success, and the launch of the Dementia Steering Group by Cllr Arwel Roberts and his team has been well received. Remembrance Sunday and Battle's Over celebrations made the National news. Our Christmas lights were the talk of the area. The St David's Day shop window competition and iBeacon project were similarly well received and my thanks to Cllr Arwel Roberts and Cllr Syd Gaskin for their assistance with the latter.

My Civic Sunday event was a great success, our community, special guests, and my family had an amazing day, collecting £349 for the Rhuddlan Dementia Steering Group.

We must not forget our 3rd Gold in Wales in Bloom and the highlight of receiving a Gold in Belfast in the Britain in Bloom competition. This just shows what can be achieved when the Council and community work together.

The winter concert in St Mary's was so well received that Cor Llansilin are coming back in June or July. It raised the sum of £750 which has been donated to St Mary's, the Urdd local appeal, Rotary and Polio Plus, which has been matched by St Asaph Rotary club.

The Fish & Chip's night was arranged instead of the Mayors Civic Ball and it raised £400 for Rhyl Raptors Wheelchair Sports Club.

Nerys and myself have made new friends by visiting our neighbouring towns & communities as well as attending County events. Our thanks to Cllr Arwel Roberts and Awen Roberts for deputising for us when we were otherwise engaged.

Thanks especially to Sian, Town Clerk for her hard work, support and dedication and well done in finishing her CiLCA studies.

Good Luck Cllr Arwel Roberts for the next year.

Cllr Mike Kermode congratulated Cllr Gareth Rowlands on a wonderful year as Mayor, always acting in a professional manner with an independent view of proceedings.

Cllr Gareth Rowlands then invested Cllr Arwel Roberts with the Mayoral Chain of office and Nerys Rowlands invested Mrs Awen Roberts as Mayor's consort 2019/20.

4. 2019/20 Mayor's Welcome Speech

Cllr Arwel Roberts thanked Cllr Gareth Rowlands and Nerys Rowlands for their enthusiasm and hard work throughout 2018/19. He said that it was an honour to live in Rhuddlan having moved from Dyserth in 1995. Cllr Roberts especially mentioned Cllr Rowlands and Mrs Nerys Rowlands great strength in dealing with result of a car accident whilst attending the Britain in Bloom ceremony in Belfast.

Cllr Roberts thanked Gill and Roy Price for their hard work in managing the community centre so well, as well as the town clerk for her sterling work, and welcomed Paul Smith.

5. Appointment of Deputy Mayor 2019/20

The Mayor invited nominations for Deputy Mayor. Cllr Reg Davies proposed and Cllr Arwel Roberts seconded Cllr Gareth Smith. Cllr Smith indicated he was happy to stand and the vote proved unanimous in his favour.

Cllr Arwel Roberts invested Cllr Gareth Smith with his Mayoral Badge of Honour.

6. Appointments – Internal Committees/Working Groups.

- a. Information/Website Committee – **Resolved** Cllrs Gareth Rowlands, Mike Kermode, and Andrew Smith.
- b. Personnel Committee – **Resolved** Cllr Arwel Roberts (Mayor), Cllr Gareth Smith (Deputy Mayor), and Cllr Gareth Rowlands. Cllr Mike Kermode was appointed as adviser.
- c. iBeacon – **Resolved** Cllrs Arwel Roberts, Gareth Rowlands, Syd Gaskin, and Mike Elgin.

7. External Bodies

- a. North Wales & Mid Association of Local Councils. Currently Cllr Kermode attends but felt that Rhuddlan Town Council were not getting anything out of the meetings. Cllr Gareth Smith indicated that he would be prepared to attend and **all voted to so resolve**.
- b. Denbighshire CCTV Partnership – **Resolved** that Cllr Gareth Rowlands and Cllr Syd Gaskin will continue as members of this partnership.
- c. Rhuddlan Community Association – **Resolved** Cllr Arwel Roberts attend.
- d. Governor Ysgol y Castell – Resolved Cllr Mike Elgin to be Governor. Cllr Andrew Smith, Chair of the School Governors, thanked Cllr Mike Elgin for his work in the past.
- e. Rhuddlan Local Nature Reserve – Cllr Arwel Roberts (Mayor)

8. Cheque Signatories.

Resolved to be Cllrs Arwel Roberts, Gareth Rowlands, Reg Davies, Ann Davies, and Andrew Smith.