



Cyngor Tref
Rhuddlan
Town Council

Rhuddlan Town Council – Minutes of the meeting on the 13th October 2020

Virtual Meeting during the Covid 19 Restrictions

Present:

Cllr Arwel Roberts (Mayor in the Chair)
Cllr Mike Elgin (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Jackie Burnham
Cllr Ann Davies
Cllr Reg Davies
Cllr Syd Gaskin
Cllr Mike Kermode
Cllr Gareth Rowlands
Cllr Andrew Smith
Cllr Bleddyn Williams
Town Clerk
Clerical Assistant/Minute Clerk

1. Apologies

Cllr Charlotte Frobisher

Although members of the public were invited to join the meeting, and following the guidance, there were no members of the public who had taken up the invitation.

2. Declaration of Interest

Cllr Ann Davies - Planning Matters

3. Urgent Items – having been advised to the Mayor 24hrs in advance

None had been received

The Town Clerk informed the Members that the issue of what is urgent and who decides what is urgent is clearly defined in the Council's Standing Orders. The item will be placed on the Agenda for the November meeting for Members information to clarify the issues discussed in September.

Cllr Ann Davies questioned the item of Community Matters and if they are simply mentioned by Members or if they are discussed and decisions made?

The Town Clerk answered that Urgent Items & Community Matters are different and this will be clarified in November.

4. Police Matters

There are no reports for the month of September that are in the interests of the public. No burglaries / thefts / criminal damage etc. In all, a very good report.

There have been 67 reports to NWP for September but not crime related.

Cllr Ann Davies took the opportunity to inform Members that the police in Rhyl are seeing a lot of burglaries and advising residents to be vigilant and lock all doors and windows. Adding that this should be communicated to residents of Rhuddlan.

Cllr Gareth Rowlands noted that the report had 67 reports to NWP but none were crime related. Could this mean Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) which is a highly reported issue in Rhuddlan? The town seems to be going through a bad patch of ASB highlighting the throwing of the stock of dog waste bags around Admiral's Field. Cllr Jackie Burnham had gathered them up and returned them to Cllr Rowlands garden. This was reported and hopes that PCSO Roberts can include ASB in his report next month.

The report was accepted

5. Minutes

a) Town Council 10th September 2020.

P41, Cllr Jackie Burnham asked that the Mayor's statement of welcome should be amended to state that this was not her first Town Council meeting as she had previously been a Councillor, but the first since being recently co-opted to the Council.

P48, Cllr Kermode wished to amend the Idea for a New Cemetery Minute. On the 4th line down after the word cremations add a full stop. The next sentence should then read "As heavy rainfall causes flooding due to the nature of the ground which affects the new burial area."

P53, Cllr Kermode asked that the Minute referring to the recruitment of a Project Manager should read Project Officer throughout & that the interviews are now to be held on the 22nd October not 15th.

Subject to these amendments the Minutes were proposed by Cllr Gareth Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Mike Kermode as a true record, and all voted in favour. **Resolved.**

The Minutes were duly signed.

Matters Arising

a. **Tourist Video** – The Town Clerk had received the video yesterday but was having problems with the sound so had not circulated it to Members yet. This will be done when sorted. The DCC Marketing Manager Angie Platt has been contacted and a copy will be sent to her for comment.

b. **Dog Waste Bag Dispensers** - Cllr Jackie Burnham wondered how many people are using the bags for the purpose intended as she had found 6 rolls of dog bags thrown around Admiral's Walk and rarely sees anyone using them.

Cllr Burnham asked where the bags are going.

Cllr Rowlands and seen residents using them adding that he was now going to make a wooden dispenser for Vicarage Lane, he will send a photo to Members for their information, and suggested increasing the monthly order of the bags.

Cllr Burnham asked that the plastic dispenser on Admiral's Field should be removed as the broken plastic is dangerous.

Cllr Arwel Roberts added that he has more bags from DCC for the Nature Reserve dispenser.

- c. **Seating Bench** – The Town Clerk informed Members that this matter had now arrived at a halt. On Thursday 8th September there was a site meeting with officers of DCC to install the bench. A local resident joined the meeting complaining that no consultation had taken place for the bench. Consequently, the work stopped for further discussion out of courtesy. The request for a bench at this site had come from a local resident so how would Members like to continue?

Cllr Ann Davies said that she was present along with the Lead Cabinet Member, and a street scene officer who confirmed that consultation would be undertaken. Concerns raised were over ASB.

Cllr Gareth Rowlands suggested relocating it.

Cllr Mike Elgin said it was near an existing bench, the mountains can be viewed from there, and it's nowhere near the houses. He suggested going ahead and putting it on the site.

Cllr Andrew Smith supported Cllr Elgin's view adding that he had never seen any ASB in that area.

Cllr Mike Kermode agreed with these points and suggested that Council inform the residents that it will be placed on this site.

Cllr Jackie Burnham stated that the maze only affects the view in the Summer.

Cllr Ann Davies commented that it was demonstrated at the meeting that the view was obscured in the position suggested. She had written to Steve Hodder from DCC Legal Section, who had been a signature on the Agreement for the bench, for clarification on the issue. A DCC decision on how best to proceed is awaited. Cllr Davies stated how important it was to take the views of residents into consideration. Cllr Andrew Smith proposed that The Town Council proceed with this site and monitor any ASB concerns, and if they transpire, relocate the bench. Cllr Kermode seconded.

Cllr Gareth Rowland believed that the issue is now firmly in the hands of DCC, they should have consulted residents on this site for the bench. He proposed that Council awaits DCC decision.

Cllr Smith asked Members if the Council feel this is the right place, if so, then proceed. Cllr Kermode seconded.

Cllr Ann Davies made an amendment that the bench be relocated as residents are unhappy with the suggested site. There was no second.

The Council resolved that the bench site was the right position, but we await a DCC decision on this, offering to monitor ASB, and relocating if concerns are founded.

- d. **DCC Destination Partnership** – Cllr Arwel Roberts asked Cllr Mike Elgin for an update. The Partnership had met this morning and the main focus was on the ever changing Covid 19 restrictions & guidance. There was also mention of a potential funding opportunity which he will pass on to the Town Clerk.

On 10th November 10.30-11.30 the Partnership will be holding an online bitesize forum on Zoom and Members can access this if they want.

- e. **Ysgol y Castell** – Cllr Arwel Roberts informed Members that the school Governors fully understand the difficulties of managing a school under the Covid 19 restrictions. A full class has been sent home to isolate, and as the Chair of Governors, he is concerned for the health & welfare of the staff, the pupils, and their families. Cllr Andrew Smith proposed that the Town Council write to thank the Head & staff for their continuing efforts during this difficult time. Cllr Arwel Roberts seconded. **Resolved.**
- f. **Trees for Admiral's Field** – The Town Clerk informed Members that a meeting with Liam Blazey, the Biodiversity Officer from DCC was organised for 16th October 3.30pm to discuss the provision of a laurel hedge. The invitation is extended to all members.
- g. **Transport for Wales – New Appointment**
The Town Clerk had contacted the new appointee and asked if Members would like her to come & present about her new role, and particularly the Dial a Ride service to the Council in November. **Resolved.**
- h. **Business Award Proposal** – The Town Clerk has circulated a letter to all businesses in Rhuddlan congratulating them for all their hard work during lockdown, and placed it on the Council's website. Cllr Jackie Burnham confirmed she had received one at her business.
- i. **Litter Picking Event** – Cllr Arwel Roberts informed Members that 15 people attended who collected 22 bags of litter in an only an hour and a half. The DCC Enforcement Team are aware of the hot spots for dog muck & litter. He gave his thanks to the Deputy Mayor and Mrs Awen Roberts for their support at this event.
- j. **New Cemetery** – The Town Clerk read out a letter from Michael Bennion, DCC Street Scene officer regarding an extension to the memorial wall. It mentions that this would not address the shortage of burial plots, and that it would require a consultation exercise for which he has no funding. As a consequence, it is not possible to progress this idea. However, he will keep the idea for when the financial situation improves.
Cllr Mike Kermode commented that it was encouraging that the problem is being recognised and understood. The Town Council is well aware of the issues that's why another cemetery is needed and proposed that a reply is sent to state this, and as a thank you to the officer. Cllr Gareth Rowlands seconded adding that this will provide evidence if any grant application is made in the future for a new cemetery. **Resolved**
- k. **County Council Members Reports** – Cllr Arwel Roberts reported that he was disappointed that no officer from DCC has yet responded to the Vicarage Car Park parking restrictions; adding that three sites have been surveyed for speed limit recording, and the police are providing another survey on Rhyl Road. The results are being awaited.
The Parklets project is NOT supported by local businesses and questioned Members as to what the Council would like to pursue.
Cllr Mike Kermode referred to Cllr Ann Davies report to today's meeting, that residents had shown support for Parklets but where is the evidence of this.
Cllr Mike Elgin answered that a social media survey had shown a 65% support from respondents for this.

Cllr Jackie Burnham had created a Facebook post on the idea of Parklets following DCC's posting. Her reason being that she found no consultation had been undertaken and informed Members that from a business point of view parking is a real issue not "Parklets".

Cllr Davies added that it was important to consult with residents too.

Cllr Reg Davies agreed Cllr Burnham as none of his shops had been consulted, and that he did not support the provision of Parklets.

Cllr Kermode pointed out that the social media survey was inaccurate as it was not a reflection of a majority of residents. Many of whom don't have access to social media.

Cllr Davies said that she and Cllr Arwel Roberts had met with residents and businesses and they were in favour. Cllr Burnham could have brought this up in Council and not on Facebook. Pointing out that DCC have now decided not to pursue Parklets in Rhuddlan, and feels as though she is being attacked by some other members of this Council and reminded them that these are difficult times and to be kind to each other.

Cllr Burnham responded by saying she did question Parklets in a Council meeting & was informed that businesses had been consulted.

Cllr Elgin stated that what he did was a survey of Cllr Burnham's post on Facebook which had 101 replies and some of these were not residents of Rhuddlan. He agreed that residents were not consulted.

Cllr Kermode pointed out that there was no issue with using social media just inform people that this is what was used to gauge opinion.

Cllr Davies felt that businesses were not consulted in the right way, and that she did not like the use of Facebook as many local residents also don't. She had heard reference to a Town Councillor bombarding a resident at 1:30am which upset them.

Cllr Elgin wanted to add that the majority of respondents on Facebook were in favour.

Cllr Burnham wanted to know which Town Councillor had bombarded a local resident at 1:30am.

Cllr Ann Davies said "no comment".

Cllr Gareth Rowlands suggested to Members that it was now time to finish this particular debate.

Members resolved to add to the Minutes that the survey was carried out via social media.

Flooding – Cllr Arwel Roberts reported that during the recent wet weather this was becoming more & more of a problem.

Cllr Andrew Smith added that the Abergele Road area especially so.

l. Planning Application - 44 Clwyd Avenue – been approved

m. Pavement Weeding – Cllr Arwel Roberts had passed the problem on to DCC.

Cllr Gareth Rowlands reported that DCC had cleared them today.

n. Donations - The Mayor informed Members that the St Kentigern Hospice & St Mary's Church were on the Payments List for tonight's meeting. The Town Clerk adding that in response to a letter informing the applicants of their successful applications, St Mary's had replied with their thanks and agreeing to a plaque recording the donation by the Council.

6 Correspondence from:

a. The Mayor

- *No invitations from other Town Councils or the City Council because of Covid.*
- *Cleared minute pieces of glass and other litter from the Vicarage Field playground for toddlers. First day was a Sunday, the next day the lady who reported the problem came to assist, Diolch Efa.*
- *You have already received a report regarding the collection of litter on the 3rd of October. 15 persons including a 7-year-old boy collected 22bags of rubbish. Though the weather was really atrocious after 11:00 we did a lot in an hour and a half. The County Enforcement Team are aware where the hot spots are regarding dog muck and litter. Thanks to our Clerk, our Deputy Mayor and my wife for their support.*
- *Reported the fact that parts of the Green Gym Apparatus have been damaged and one bin in Admiral Field to the Clerk.*
- *Site meeting held with Glascoed, Wendy Davies (Street Scene) and Cllr Mike Elgin regarding the placing of a bench near Dyserth Road, have apologised to Cllr Ann Davies not for including her in the invite. (23rd of September)*
- *Received an anonymous letter addressed to the Mayor it's now in the hands of the police.*
- *The good news is that the planning application for Coed y Brain (44/2020/0451) has been approved.*

Cllr Gareth Rowlands commented that the Green Gym rubber matting mentioned had actually perished and that this was not a H&S issue but had caused muddy conditions.

The Town Clerk suggested Members might like to add a budget line for playground maintenance to show the item more clearly.

Cllr Syd Gaskin had concerns that the black hexagonal mats might not be fit for purpose. Cllr Roberts answered that the damage was caused by vandalism.

The report was accepted

6b. The Town Clerk

Cllr Syd Gaskin was thanked for checking the defibrillators which are in good working order.

The Vicarage Lane car park disabled bay had now been repainted by Glascoed, but the Covid snake project had not yet been completed.

Cllr Ann Davies asked if Glascoed had been paid yet. The Town Clerk responded, not yet, not until the works are completed.

Cllr Davies enquired why the parking bays were being painted again when it was not long ago when it was last done. The Assistant Town Clerk explained that the initial bay painting had been done with ordinary yellow paint, this time it has been done with thermoplastic paint as seen on highways. This should mean a longer lasting life and therefore an increased cost.

The report was accepted

6c Ann Jones Member of the Senedd

For Members information Ann Jones MS had written on the progress of A55 Brown Tourist Signs and that the £10,000 contribution from Rhuddlan Town Council was needed. Members had previously agreed to this contribution so the Town Clerk was asked to forward at her convenience. **Resolved.**

6d Payments to Members of Community & Town Councils

The Town Clerk brought to the Council's attention the annual payment for Members which is already in the budget. Members need inform the Town Clerk if they will be accepting this or declining the payment. **Resolved.**

7. County Councillors Report

Cllr Arwel Roberts

a. Bench on River Clwyd Walkway

Reported by one of our residents that the bench was right at river Clwyd edge. It will be one of life's little mysteries as to how it ended up on the river bank. Countryside Services has removed the bench, it had been in place for a number of years and wasn't in a good state. At least it has been removed from a potentially dangerous location.

b. Flooding

You will no doubt be aware of a large burst in the Welsh Water main in Bodelwyddan (6/20/2020). It's Welsh Water responsibility not DCC and National Resources Wales are not involved but both will assist if there is a need.

Though it has been raining heavily I was mystified how the water level was so high along Ffordd Abergele, ditches full to the brim. I have visited the stream Pont Robyn three times, called to see Mr and Mrs Clwyd Parry who live in Rossmore twice and the stream has been very high this week. DCC agree that around the property needs dredging.

I have also called in NRW depot twice, they are going to remove rubbish and growth from the stream in the next two weeks. Difficult in HTM, hopefully they can remove panels at the edge of the stream to finish the work.

Another problem has occurred regarding a lightning strike near the police depot, they use the place for helicopters at times. We believe that it has resulted in an issue with the cable controlling the sluice gates in the river Clwyd. DCC officers are aware but they don't think it will cause any problem. This is NRW responsibility.

c. Community Resources Information Pack from DCC.

Our clerk will send this contact on to you regarding the second wave of Corona Virus.

It includes Coronavirus community resources, Community Resources Packs and Community Response Guidance.

d. Y Fynwent (The Cemetery)

Had a call from a distressed family regarding the state of their daughter's grave, it's waterlogged.

The officer answered this issue thus "The cemetery team do keep an eye on new graves and top them up with new soil as required as the ground settles but given the conditions there is little we can do to prevent this. Unfortunately, there is no solution that the authority can provide to stop some water collecting in very wet weather conditions "

e. Weed spraying.

Our clerk has sent the timetable for this.

f. Castle Street and Pendorlan

Two sections of DCC have come together to find a solution here. Housing and Highways.

g. Parklets

This is ongoing. No details have been received as yet. Just had a message from the officer it's a non-starter.

h. North Wales Economic Ambition Board.

Have listened to a presentation on Webex this Wednesday afternoon. £240million should be provided by the two governments, this during years until 2035.

Projects within Denbighshire will be development of Bodelwyddan for housing and industrial development. North Wales Hospital in Denbigh. Continued development of Queen's Market Rhyl. Optic Centre Business Centre Llanellwyr - Glyndwr University- High Tech innovations. Llysfasi Agricultural College - development of sustainable low carbon farming. Fibre connectivity to be developed.

i. Speeding

DCC have three streets being surveyed in the town. Keep looking for them. The police have promised to place a similar survey on another street. Cycling on pavements on pavements (High Street) should be reported to the police. The DCC highways department have promised to improve the cycling signs within the town.

- The bench on the River Clwyd Bank had now been removed
- Flooding of the area between Borth cross roads & Bodelwydden was caused by a large burst water main.
- Cllr Ann Davies commented that she had been in touch with DCC on the cemetery flooding issue. There was suggestion that the installation of a French drain system might help, but this would impact on available burial space. Cllr Davies proposed that the Town Council support the idea of French drains and if DCC could not fund this work the Town Council could make a part or full contribution to the costs.

Cllr Mike Kermode was pleased to hear of a solution to the problem, if Members agree then let's pay for it.

Cllr Gareth Rowlands had experience of French drains not proving successful as they needed a sizeable soakaway pit to catch the water. He commented that the construction at Clos David Owen had been the main cause of the water logging at the cemetery. The natural drainage system had been compromised and he wondered where the water would go if

installed at the cemetery. There is a history of water filling new graves, and he is not sure it will fix the problem.

Cllr Davies agreed, but proposed that the Town Council ask DCC to investigate further if the Town Council would offer to contribute.

Cllr Mike Elgin did not disagree but felt that a professional survey of the situation was required to ensure it would work. He proposed that DCC complete a survey and that the Town Council will contribute to part of all of the cost. Cllr Gareth Rowlands seconded. **Resolved.**

Cllr Roberts noted that an overhanging tree owned by a resident near the pharmacy had been cut back by DCC Street Team. The resident was not happy.

Cllr Roberts repeated his comments as Mayor about the speeding survey.

The report was accepted

Cllr Ann Davies

a. Speed Survey

Speed surveys are being carried out in Highlands Road and Rhyl Road, opposite Pentre Lane. I have suggested a safe crossing be installed between Pentre Lane and Highlands Road to enable residents to safely cross this particularly wide road. I have also requested a speed survey be carried out in Ffordd Ganol

b. Dropped kerb

Following roadworks in Pentre Lane the dropped kerb wasn't reinstated. I have been informed by officers that this work will be carried out in the next few weeks, so those using mobility aids can mount the pavements safely.

c. Residents' concerns

There have sadly been residents with relatives in hospital for a long period of time who are unable to visit due to the pandemic. I contacted the hospital to see what alternatives are in place to tackle this issue. I was notified that a Mobile App can be downloaded on to relative's mobile phone, the hospital will then ring the family member to enable them to speak to the patient. Residents are encouraged to ask the hospital for this service as it is vital for the health and wellbeing of patients and relatives. This service has proved successful for local residents/carers.

I was contacted by a resident who had lost a family member, where the funeral was to be held out of the County of Denbighshire. They were upset that they could not attend the funeral due to the lockdown restrictions within the County. I made enquiries with the relevant officer and was informed that this was deemed as 'exceptional circumstances', and therefore this would be allowed. Whilst they can attend the funeral service, they would not be allowed to attend the wake.

d. North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority

NWFRA are encouraging residents to keep their homes safe over the winter months. They continue to provide Safe Home advice via a telephone service and will undertake a home visits if needed, particularly for those most vulnerable.

e. Fly tipping

There was a large amount of fly tipping in Gwindy Street. I reported this to DCC Customer Services and it was removed the same day.

f. Emergency Service access issue

An ambulance on blue light failed to get access to Castle Street from Parliament Street, due to a car being parked between the Castle public house and the Crown cafe. I am in discussions with officers on a way forward with this continuing problem.

g. Community Group

The Community Group have completed the planting of winter flowers in the High Street. Many thanks to the wonderful team for all their hard work.

h. Parklets

DCC have decided not to proceed with the implementation of Parklets. Although this was supported by the majority of residents and agreed by businesses, subsequently a few businesses expressed concern about the loss of the two parking spaces.

j. Befriending service

On behalf of Denbighshire Voluntary Service Council, I continue to provide a befriending service to those requesting a telephone call during these difficult times.

k. 75th Wedding Anniversary

I visited Mr and Mrs Basil Pierce to congratulate them on their 75th Wedding Anniversary.

End of Report

- The speeding survey between Rhyl Road and Pentre Lane is not a true record as it was placed in the wrong place by a roundabout.
- Tim Towers is to replace the dropped kerb in Pentre lane
- There is great difficulty being experienced at Glan Clwyd hospital with ward visiting and the NHS response is to use an app to ask for admittance. Not everyone has a smartphone to do this, so people can call at reception and someone will come down from the ward to collect you.
- Parking on Gwindy St is causing difficulty for emergency services access; Advice is to report to the police if on yellow lines.
- Rhuddlan Community Group has completed some planting in the High Street.
- Cllr Davies is going to alter her report on Parklets for accuracy. Since the meeting the Clerical Assistant/Minute Clerk received an amended report item on Parklets. "DCC have decided not to proceed with the implementation of Parklets. Although this was supported by the majority of residents (through social media) and agreed by businesses, subsequently a few businesses expressed concern about the loss of the two parking spaces."
- At DCC Full Council today DVSC gave a presentation about a befriending call system, and worryingly had noted that no men come forward for the service.

- Cllr Kermode supports Cllr Davies's idea of a pedestrian refuge on Pentre Lane by the bus stop, and hopes that DCC will support her by providing it. Would it be possible to also request another refuge on the main road by Admiral's Field main gate? He proposed that If DCC cannot do this, then ask for a cost so Town Council can consider it. Seconded by Cllr Gareth Rowlands. **Resolved.**
- Cllr Rowlands added his observation that the speed survey was in the wrong place and that it should be repeated at a better location. Cllr Ann Davies answered that she has already asked for this.

The report was accepted

8. Budget/Finance Matters

a. The Town Clerk presented the due payment list for Members approval.

The Town Clerk informed Members that there were 4 more cheques to add to the circulated list. Christmas Lights have been received at a cost of £6,605 including VAT which can be claimed back. Further stock of dog waste bags £100.80, Zoom meetings £14.39, and the PO Box facility £277.50.

The list was approved.

b. The Town Clerk then presented the 6-month Budget Report. The Council has received 2 precept payments so far and is awaiting another. To date £33,000 has been paid out with the addition of tonight's payment list above still to come. She reported the accounts being in a good position. Cllr Gareth Rowlands proposed the acceptance of the report, Cllr Mike Kermode seconded. **Resolved.**

9. Planning Applications for comment:

None received

10. Remembrance Day

The Members had been circulated a Daily Post article on the cancellation of Remembrance Day parades and how tributes can still be made.

Cllr Andrew Smith was asked by the Mayor to talk the Members through what would be happening in Rhuddlan this year.

Cllr Smith thanked the Mayor for his donation of the Council wreath 2020, and informed everyone that he had spoken to several other towns in the area who are following the advice of not holding processions but will be conducting a laying of wreaths, limiting the numbers of invitation to one person per organisation. He proposed that groups and individuals to send one representative, Cllr Bleddyn Williams seconded. **Resolved.**

Cllr Jackie Burnham had concerns about how many would actually be present.

Cllr Smith answered that this was usually around 19 people so still under the 30 permitted by Welsh Government guidance.

The Members agreed to place a notice in the noticeboard and parish magazine that due to the guidance the Town Council would only permit one person per wreath.

Cllr Arwel Roberts highlighted that St Mary's church allows 50 people to services observing social distancing, and that the vicar had confirmed this. He asked if Cllr Reg Davies would be kind enough to arrange the bell ringing. Cllr Davies agreed.

Cllr Smith proposed that a reduced number of collection boxes be used this year and that the Town Council make a donation. Cllr Arwel Roberts seconded on the condition that collection buckets be used on the day too. **Resolved.**

Cllr Gaskin suggested a Town Council donation of £100, Cllr Ann Davies suggested £300, and Cllr Gareth Rowlands proposed a £1,000 donation similar to the St Kentigern donation last month. Cllr Ann Davies seconded. **Resolved.**

Cllr Arwel Roberts asked if the Deputy Mayor, and Cllr Andrew Smith assist with ensuring social distancing is observed. They agreed.

Cllr Jackie Burnham enquired who would represent Rhuddlan Town Council on Remembrance Day. The Mayor listed himself, Deputy Mayor, Cllr Ann Davies, and the Town Clerk at the church and for the wreath laying please.

Cllr Mike Kermode added that anyone else wanting to attend could do so from the Parliament Street car park so as to keep within the guidance limits.

Cllr Andrew Smith offered to write an article for the Journal & parish magazine. **Resolved.**

11. Town Plan

A costing of the Town Plan booklet had been circulated to Members for their decision. Following some discussion Cllr Mike Kermode proposed that £894 hard cover leaflet for 2000 copies be agreed. Seconded by Cllr Mike Elgin. **Resolved.**

12. Parking Matters

Cllr Jackie Burnham had noted great difficulties with parking in Rhuddlan and had got local businesses interested in a refund pay & display system to attract shoppers. Denbighshire had not been in favour due to the costs involved for the ticket machine system to be altered for this purpose. Cllr Burnham mentioned that Denbigh Town Council had supported 2 hours free parking for shoppers, adding that this issue was in the Rhodian's Town Plan, and proposed that Members discuss what they can do to support the Rhuddlan town businesses.

Cllr Ann Davies pointed out that its free parking at Vicarage Lane car park noting that Parliament Street car park is pay & display.

Cllr Burnham answered that Vicarage Lane car park never seemed to have any remaining free spaces on many days.

Cllr Arwel Roberts reported that he and Cllr Ann Davies had met with DCC officer Peter Lea about free parking system. He proposed that the Town Council write again to ask what the cost would be if the Town Council sponsored 2-hour free parking in Parliament Street and to clarify the Vicarage Lane car park free spaces situation. Copy in DCC Officer Mike Jones too. This was seconded by Cllr Kermode. **Resolved.**

Cllr Jackie Burnham proposed that the Town Council write to DCC that the parking enforcement officers be returned to Rhuddlan. Cllr Arwel Roberts seconded. **Resolved.**

13. Coed y Brain

The Town Clerk informed Members that the planning Certificate of Decision had been received, and that the Public Loans Board loan can be drawn down.

Cllr Gareth Rowlands stated that he was very pleased to see the approval and suggested that the solicitor be instructed to go to Contract with the vendor repeating therein the conditions previously mentioned in emails.

The Clerk also mentioned that Dragon FC had contacted her to report a big increase in the number of attendees at sessions and wondered if they could store equipment in Coed y Brain. She had advised the club to bide their time and wait until the property is purchased by the Town Council.

Cllr Mike Kermode was pleased to hear the planning approval news, and noted that this would be a good starting point for the new Project Officer.

Cllr Arwel Roberts asked for an update on the No Parking signs on land by Coed y Brain. The Town Clerk will follow up with Good Signs ensuring that the sign points out the conditions of no parking for non-residents but OK for dropping off & collecting children.

Cllr Roberts took the opportunity to say Thank You to the Town Clerk for all her hard work on this item.

14. Community Matters

Cllr Arwel Roberts asked in turn each Member for any matters that need to raise.

- a. Cllr Bleddyn Williams was wondering what advice the Town Council should give for this year's Halloween festival. Perhaps a letter asking that Trick or Treat not be followed in 2020.

Cllr Jackie Burnham suggested advice to residents not to go out but look at other methods of joining in e.g. the parents of the children accompanying them and giving out the treats.

Cllr Mike Kermode said that this was not a function for the Town Council but should be passed to Denbighshire CC for advice to schools.

Cllr Arwel Roberts proposed that the Head of Education Geraint Davies be written to with copies sent to Ysgol y Castell, and Ysgol Mair. The response to be bilingual please. Cllr Gareth Rowlands added that the Town Council could write to the Head of Education and a letter advising not to follow the trick or treat tradition be placed in the noticeboard. **Resolved.**

- b. Cllr Syd Gaskin was concerned about Car Sales at Abbey Court and that the Council should investigate ways of stopping it.

Cllr Andrew Smith wondered if it was a legitimate business.

Cllr Ann Davies said it could not be done on the Highway, and offered to report it to DCC Highways. Cllr Arwel Roberts asked Cllr Davies to do so please.

Cllr Reg Davies had received a complaint about this issue and had noticed that the cars are being driven on trade plates and that the police should be informed.

Cllr Gaskin adding that the registration number could be checked for tax & insurance.

Cllr Mike Elgin thought the cars were not insured and asked that the Town Clerk ask the PCSO to check and enforce the issue along with informing DCC Officer Tony Ward of this issue. **Resolved.**

- c. Cllr Reg Davies had been approached by a resident who had been struck by a cyclist on the river footbridge. Cyclists are supposed to dismount but this one didn't. It has also been reported that cyclists on the Cob don't have warning bells and these issues need reporting to the police.

Cllr Andrew Smith repeated his belief that this is a big problem. Cycling is being encouraged more than ever and he called for an investigation of a cyclist route to circumnavigate the town's pavements.

People think that the shared cycle/pedestrian route continues after Church Street. The signage is poor and needs reporting to DCC. Members agreed to write to Tony Ward & the Police on this matter. **Resolved.**

- d. Cllr Ann Davies offered to look into the issue of cycling on the footbridge.

Cllr Arwel Roberts said he had already done this but is supportive of Cllr Davies trying again and suggested Ben Wilcox-Jones as a contact point.

Cllr Ann Davies was also wondering if it was possible to extend the Admiral's Field car park. Cllr Gareth Rowlands answered that there was no room for any extension on this site. This prompted Cllr Davies to highlight at the top of the field by the gate and maybe this could be discussed at a future meeting.

- e. Cllr Jackie Burnham noted a tree overhanging by the White House in Bodelwydden Avenue and wondered if it could be cut back. **It was resolved that Cllr Arwel Roberts will look into this.**

- f. Cllr Arwel Roberts and the Town Clerk had noticed a piece of land near Aldi that is signposted To Let. Potentially this could be a coach park if the Council is supportive of them investigating further.

Cllr Mike Kermode thought it worthy of support and suggested looking into the rent cost, and an idea of cost for the infrastructure for a coach park.

Cllr Jackie Burnham agreed and suggested a cost for all the land be investigated.

Cllr Gareth Rowlands proposed and Cllr Kermode seconded that the cost of the infrastructure and rent of all the land be investigated. **Resolved.**

Part 2 Exclusion of the Press & Public

By virtue of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press & 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.

15 Minutes of the Personnel Committee 7th October 2020

Cllr Gareth Rowlands as Chair of the committee asked if the Minutes were a true reflection of what took place. Cllr Mike Kermode proposed and Cllr Arwel Roberts seconded. **Resolved.**

Matters Arising

The original date for the interviews had now been changed to 22nd October and the Full Town Council Minutes needed amending accordingly.

Cllr Syd Gaskin had asked in the Minutes for the circulation of the application forms for those Members who were observing at the Personnel meeting. Cllr Gareth Rowlands then mentioned that any Members not involved in the Personnel Committee who would like a copy of the documents please request from the Town Clerk who will provide them.

Recommendations

That the Council invite the three recommended applicants for interview. **Resolved**
That the circulated interview arrangements in Appendix 1 be used. **Resolved.**

16. Date of Next Meeting – Project Officer Interviews Thursday 22nd October at 7pm Full Council Thursday 12th November at 7pm

Signed.....*Arwel Roberts*..... Cllr Arwel Roberts (Mayor)

Date.....*November 2020*.....