



Rhuddlan Town Council – Minutes of the meeting on the 8th June 2023

Hybrid Meeting

Present:

Cllr Mike Kermode (Mayor)
Cllr Val Simmons (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Ivor Beech
Cllr Ann Davies
Cllr Reg Davies
Cllr Arwel Roberts
Cllr Gareth Rowlands
Cllr Bleddyn Williams
Cllr Robert Williams
Steve Wilson - Town Clerk

Members were informed that the meeting was being recorded, audio only.
There was 1 member of the public present, plus 2 PCSO's.

1. Apologies

Cllr Jackie Burnham, Cllr Mike Elgin and Paul Smith Assistant Clerk

2. Declaration of Interest

Cllr Mike Kermode for Item 11b planning application 44/2023/0325 and Cllr Arwel Roberts in his capacity as a County Councillor for item 11 planning.

3. Urgent Matters

1. Request from Rhuddlan Golf Club for a donation to St Kentigern as part of their annual fund raising day. Will be dealt with in 12a.
2. Facebook post on dog path in Admiral's Playing Field which will be dealt with in the Clerk's correspondence.

The Mayor reminded members of the council of formal protocol for meetings. The Mayor also congratulated Cllr. Val Simmons on being awarded the Denbighshire Volunteer of the Year.

4. Police Matters

PCSO Philip Roberts took the council through his crime report. Discussions took place regarding youths on the public toilet roof, smart water, laughing gas canisters, vape pens in the play area at Vicarage Lane and children playing in Rhuddlan castle and on private land adjacent to the river. A member enquired about progress on a motor theft in Abbey Road and another member asked for an update regarding a vandalised caravan. PCSO Phil Roberts stated he will ensure patrols are made

aware of the issues raised and stated no suspect had been identified regarding the motor theft and the children involved in the caravan vandalization were given a yellow card. The PCSO's were thanked by the Mayor for their attendance and then left the meeting.

5. Minutes

AGM 11th May 2023

The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr Arwel Roberts, seconded by Cllr Val Simmons. **Resolved.**

Town Council Meeting 11th May 2023

The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr Bleddyn Williams, seconded by Cllr Arwel Roberts. **Resolved.**

Both sets of minutes were duly signed.

6. Progress Report from Minutes

The Clerk gave an update regarding the Assistant Clerk and the council agreed to send him a get well card.

- a. **DCC Youth Service** – due to staffing issues the start date of the Youth Club is delayed until 4th September.
- b. **MUGA Light Replacement** – update in Clerk's report.
- c. **Hearing Loop** – installed on 2nd June.
- d. **Admirals Field Circulatory Path** – specification has been amended and refreshed tenders requested.
- e. **Directional Road Signs** – waiting for a response of Denbighshire County Council (DCC) – also the adoption of Clos David Owen will be chased up.
- f. **Litter Pick** – great turn out of volunteers and was very successful.
- g. **Admiral's Field** – Works order issued to jet wash the 2 play areas.
- h. **Admiral's Field Gates** - gate designs discussed by Admiral's Field working group and an appropriate design is to be costed by the Clerk. A member asked about the condition of the gates and the Clerk confirmed they are in a bad state of repair and need replacing or bollards could be installed; it was agreed that the gates were a feature of the entrance and needed to be replaced.
- i. **Internal Audit** – the Clerk confirmed that DCC Auditor had received the required information and the results are expected very soon.
- j. **Barfield Road** – the piece of land is owned by Scottish Power and the Clerk has written to them requesting the area to be cleaned and the area made secure.
- k. **Relocation of SID** – Clerk to obtain costs from DCC.
- l. **Letter of congratulations to Wrexham AFC** – sent.
- m. **Tree on golf club roundabout** – has been relocated off the roadside and onto golf course.
- n. **2m grass cutting on A5151** – has been requested to DCC but no response to date.
- o. **Letters of Support for Nature Reserve MAG** – have been written and sent.
- p. **Defibrillator for Odin** – ordered off Tomos from North Wales Ambulance
- q. **Vape found in play area** – reported to police
- r. **Broken kerb on High Street** – reported and repaired.

7. Correspondence from:

a. The Mayor

The Mayor had circulated his report prior to the meeting. He stated the Gwledd Fest was the best attended and gave his thanks to the councillors who helped on the day. He stated the

litter pick was well supported and raised an issue regarding weeds in the gutters and asked the County Councillors for an update as to when Rhuddlan would be sprayed. Cllr. Ann Davies updated the council stating it is ongoing but there had been concerns on the effectiveness of the weedkiller being used. The Mayor congratulated Cllr Reg Davies's grandson who has been accepted as a volunteer with the RNLI at Rhyl. He read out a letter from the Bowling Club thanking the council for the support in the last 12 months stating that the sets of junior bowls have been well used by local school children.

The report was accepted

b. The Town Clerk Correspondence & Town Plan update.

The Clerk had circulated his report in advance of the meeting and read through the various items of correspondence and project updates from the town plan.

Several elements of the report were discussed - in particular:

- The condition of the Knights Statues, it was agreed to ask the sculpturer for advice.
- Rhuddlan FC had written regarding support in finding a new football ground and helping fund improvements to their existing ground at Pengwern College. This was discussed by members and it was stated that previously the council had agreed Admiral's Field could not be used by adult teams as it gets damaged too much when adults play on it. A proposal was made to write to Rhuddlan FC stating that the council did not have any land they could use but would consider any request for financial support via the normal grant application process. Proposed by Cllr Gareth Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Robert Williams. **Resolved.**
- Twinning survey and sustainability of tourism survey to completed individually by councillors. Twinning item to be added to July agenda.
- Note from Tony Ward at DCC asking whether RTC would part-fund the cemetery improvements. Members discussed the issue in detail and whether RTC could make a meaningful contribution. It was concluded that this is not possible to make a meaningful contribution in the current financial situation. Cllr Gareth Rowland proposed RTC do not offer a financial contribution, seconded by Cllr Bleddyn Williams. **Resolved.**
- Members discussed the suggestion from Richard Polden regarding a museum feasibility study. Cllr Ann Davies suggested the council could help the library display more artifacts. Proposed by Cllr Gareth Rowlands to include the museum in the refreshed town plan and seconded by Cllr Val Simmons. **Resolved.**
- The Facebook post regarding a specific dog path was discussed. Proposed by Cllr Gareth Rowlands not to have a defined dog-specific path, seconded by Cllr Bleddyn Williams. **Resolved.**
- Quotes for MUGA replacement lighting were discussed. Proposed by Cllr. Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Val Simmons to accept the quotation from DCC. **Resolved.**

The report and project update were accepted

8. County Councillor Reports

a. Cllr Arwel Roberts had circulated his written report. In addition, he stated it was great to see Menter Iaith utilizing the Hwb for children's activities. He stated he has dealt with a number of resident's issues. He updated members on Nant Close stating there are 3 options from DCC to manage the area and Cllr Roberts supported option 2 which is to manage the entire area including the junction as a low lying wildflower meadow with fortnightly cutting

between April and August to approximately 15cm high. Cllr Ann Davies stated that a site meeting has been held with residents and that DCC had promised residents a letter detailing the options that has not yet been delivered. Cllr Davies stated she will decide on an option once residents have been informed. Cllr Val Simmons stated that residents have cut some of the grass and DCC have repaired a broken sign.

The report was accepted

Cllr Ann Davies gave a verbal report but said that she would provide written reports for future meetings. She mentioned the problem with traffic on Station Road queuing to get to Aldi and the idea of having a feeder lane to help traffic movement. She updated members on the Abbey Road parking issue site meeting and stated that the proposed new law preventing parking on pavements should help ease the problem. Yellow lines from Hylas Lane to Castlefields were also being considered but no decision has been made. Cllr Davies highlighted the need for a defibrillator in the Highlands Road/Pentre Lane area and that a resident has offered up a potential site. The issue regarding homelessness was mentioned and members were reminded of the DCC Single Point of Access service that can help with these issues. Cllr Davies praised the great work of Love North Wales charity who have helped furnish a number of homes in the last few weeks.

9. Events Committee Minutes 15th May 2023

The Mayor asked those Members of the Committee to confirm the Minutes as a true record.
Resolved.

Cllr Arwel Roberts asked when the bunting will be taken down and the Clerk stated this will be soon.

10. Review of Policies

a. Risk Assessment – The Clerk explained that nothing has changed since last year. Proposal made by Cllr Arwel Roberts to approve the Risk Assessment Policy, seconded by Cllr Ivor Beech. **Resolved.**

11. Planning

Cllr Mike Kermode declared an interest in 44/2023/0325 and Cllr Arwel Roberts declared an interest as he is a member the DCC Planning Committee. They both did not contribute to these items.

Cllr Val Simmons as Deputy Mayor took Members through the following applications:

- a. 44/2023/0318 Erection of 1 no. detached bungalow, formation of access and parking and associated works at Land at (part garden of) 16 Maes Rhosyn, Rhuddlan, Rhyl. No objection or comments.
- b. 44/2023/0325 Erection of a single storey extension to rear of dwelling, alterations, erection of dormer and insertion of rooflights to roof and associated works at 7 Bryn Hafod, Rhuddlan, Rhyl. No objection or comments.
- c. 44/2023/0346 Erection of a single storey extension to rear, porch extension to front, alterations to existing vehicular access and associated works at Cherry Tree House, Waen Road, Rhuddlan, Rhyl. No objection or comments.

Cllr Ann Davies highlighted the importance of drainage and it was stated that DCC will ensure that drainage is considered as part of the planning application.

d. The Clerk suggested the Council should add the following generic statement “that DCC should ensure that there is no adverse effect on bio-diversity as a result of the plans”, proposed by Cllr Gareth Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Val Simmons. **Resolved.**

The LDP candidate sites map was shared with councillors and it was decided that Cllr Val Simmons and the Clerk jointly attend one of the information sessions on behalf of the council.

It was agreed that councillors complete the second home premium charge consultation if they want to on an individual basis.

12. Budget & Finance

a. Grant request from Rhuddlan Golf Club to support their charity golf day in aid of St Kentigern. The support would go toward sponsoring a number of tees and the council would be included in the program. Proposal from Cllr Ann Davies to make a donation of £500, seconded by Cllr Ivor Beech. **Resolved.**

A number of councillors are also attending to support this event.

b. Approve the payments list – Cllr Bleddyn Williams proposed the list be approved for payment, seconded by Cllr Gareth Rowlands. **Resolved.**

15. Community Matters

a. Cllr Ivor Beech reported that he had been approached by walkers regarding the cleanliness of the public toilets in Princes Road. This will be reported to DCC by the Clerk.

b. Cllr Robert Williams asked for clarification on how to book the Hwb. The Clerk explained the process. Cllr Williams asked Cllr Reg Davies if they were building a gypsy site adjacent to his property which Cllr Davies stated as far as he was aware it was just a rumour and no plans have been submitted to DCC. Cllr Williams enquired what the building work being carried out at Morris Mowers by Thorncliffe. It was stated that no plans have been approved and that Cllr. Arwel Roberts would make enquiries with DCC.

c. Cllr Arwel Roberts informed councillors of a Welsh Night at the Community Centre on 16th June. He also requested Prestatyn Iach Practice Manager Joe Lunn be invited to provide an update to the council, agreed to invite to the July meeting.

d. Cllr Gareth Rowland raised the issue of the cemetery being full in a few years and that it should be discussed in the refresh of the town plan.

e. Cllr Val Simmons stated that the trees over the rise on the footway need trimming. The Clerk will report this to DCC.

f. Cllr Reg Davies brought the council's attention to the issue of a person causing anti-social behaviour problems and begging. This was discussed and agreed for the Clerk to get the police to contact Cllr Reg Davies to allow him to report the issue.

The recording of the meeting was switched off.

17. Date of next meeting – 13th July, 2023 Full Council Hybrid Meeting 7pm

Signed.....Cllr Mike Kermode (Mayor)

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