



Rhuddlan Town Council – Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 14th November 2024

Hybrid Meeting

Present:

Cllr Val Simmons (Mayor)
Cllr Jackie Burnham (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Ivor Beech
Cllr Reg Davies
Cllr Mike Elgin
Cllr Mike Kermode
Cllr Arwel Roberts
Cllr Bleddyn Williams
Steve Wilson - Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

There were 3 members of the public present for the full meeting.

1. Presentation of Awards

The Mayor welcomed the award winners, friends and family.

The Mayor presented:

- The 2024 Aelwyn Morgan Award to Maggie Thompson-Williams.
- The Past Mayoress medal to Marianne Elgin.
- The Wales in Bloom prestigious John Woods Environmental award to Cllrs Arwel Roberts and Mike Kermode who were representing Anita Fagan from Rhuddlan Nature Reserve.
- The Wales in Bloom Your Neighbourhood RHS Certificate of Distinction to the Rhuddlan Allotments Society represented by Dafydd Lloyd-Borland and Pat Williams
- RHS Certificate Wales in Bloom Your Neighbourhood Level 5 Outstanding Certificate to Rhuddlan Bowls Club represented by Cllr Mike Elgin, Cllr Arwel Roberts and Max Richardson

The Mayor congratulated all the award winners for their significant contribution to the Community in Rhuddlan.

The meeting was recorded from this point (audio only)

2. Apologies

Cllr Gareth Rowlands – illness, absence accepted by Council

DCC Officer Gary Williams

The Mayor welcomed all present and reminded Members to follow the Code of Conduct and be respectful to other members.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Arwel Roberts – agenda item 13.

4. Urgent Matters

The Mayor stated that the Remembrance Sunday Parade was a great success and proposed that the council make a donation of £200 to the Rhyl Marching Band and £100 to the Blind Veterans UK to recognise the contribution of the Council's Standard Bearer Lisa Lee.

Seconded by Cllr Mike Kermode. **Resolved.**

The Council also asked the Clerk to write to Stuart Williams to thank him for his great photography and to Tim Wynn-Jones for acting as Parade Marshall.

5. Police Matters

The Clerk ran the council through the crime figures for September.

6a. Minutes of Town Council Meeting held on 10th October 2024

Subject to changing "Beyond" to "Behind" the gate the minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr Jackie Burnham, seconded by Cllr Arwel Roberts. **Resolved.** The Minutes were signed by the Mayor

6b. The Minutes of the Events Committee meeting held on 29th October 2024. Cllr Mike Kermode took members through the minutes. The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr Mike Elgin and seconded by Cllr Jackie Burnham. **Resolved.**

7. Progress Report from Minutes

The Clerk updated councillors regarding the following:

- Letter to Mr Williams sent regarding resignation.
- DCC Standards Committee have been given an open invitation to attend a future Council meeting.
- Further information off DCC regarding the public toilets.
- Equipment for Youth Club purchased.
- Code of Conduct training will take 2hrs so the Clerk will obtain the Monitoring Offices availability and arrange.
- Flags at the castle will be flying again in the Spring once Cadw have carried out required repairs.
- The riverbank bench is in storage in Rhyl.
- Regarding e-scooters and bikes the Clerk has written to the Chief Constable of North Wales Police and is awaiting a response.
- The Mayor stated the parking charges were not impacting the Community Centre and updated members on the Blind resident with dog walking issues.

8. Reports from

a. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor had submitted a written report and stated that the Community Centre meeting was rescheduled to tonight therefore she was unable to attend, **The report was accepted.**

b. The Town Clerk had circulated his report and the following item needed Members approval.

- Feedback from Community Market vendors asking if there would be discount if they commit to all 10 markets. Cllr Jackie Burnham proposed one free if commit to 10 on the proviso they let the council know if they are not attending any markets so the stall can be used by another vendor. Seconded by Cllr Mike Kermode. **Resolved.**

The report was accepted.

9. County Councillor Reports

Cllr Arwel Roberts had circulated his written report for Members attention. In addition, he updated members on the Rhuddlan element of the LDP candidate sites including the formal Rhuddlan Foundry and Rhyl Showground for mixed use development and 192 additional houses in the area behind Tirionfa. He provided an update to the recent CCTV meeting.

The report was accepted

10. Planning

a. 44/2024/1369/TP - Crown reduction of 20% to one sycamore and one pitch pine subject to Denbighshire County Council Tree Preservation Order No 1/2004 at 7 Tirionfa, Rhuddlan, Denbighshire, LL18 6LT. Proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode and seconded by Cllr Jackie Burnham that the council has no comments or objection. **Resolved.**

b. 44/2024/1477/PS – Variation of condition no 2 of planning permission code No 44/2017/0153 to allow alterations in the design at Pen-Y-Lon, Dyserth Road, Rhuddlan, Denbighshire, LL18 5RD. Proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode and seconded by Cllr Reg Davies that the council has no comments or objection. **Resolved.**

c. 44/2024/1479/HH – Erection of a single storey extension to rear dwelling and associated works at Oaklands, Abbey Road, Rhuddlan, Denbighshire LL18 5RH. Proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode and seconded by Cllr Mike Elgin that the council has no comments or objection. **Resolved.**

11. Budget & Finance Matters

a. The Clerk ran members through the 2023/24 “Qualified” audit report. He explained the reason was the same bookkeeping issue as in the 2022/23 audit report.

b. Grant requests were discussed by councillors and:

- North Wales Superkids, Cllr Arwel Roberts proposed a £50 grant, seconded by Cllr Jackie Burnham. **Resolved.**

- Urdd National Eisteddfod, Cllr Jackie Burnham proposed a £50 grant, seconded by Cllr Arwel Roberts. **Resolved.**
- Wales Air Ambulance, Cllr Mike Kermode proposed a £500 grant, seconded by Cllr Mike Elgin. **Resolved.**
- c. There were no ideas submitted for 2024/25 budget.
- d. The Clerk informed members that the standing order for his salary needs to be amended to £2050.06 from December. Proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode and seconded by Cllr Mike Elgin. **Resolved.**
- e. The payments listing was presented. The acceptance of the payments listing was proposed by Cllr Arwel Roberts and seconded by Cllr Mike Kermode. **Resolved**

12. Statement from Mike Elgin regarding parking on Abbey Road

Cllr Mike Elgin read out his statement to Councillors regarding inaccuracies in information given to councillors by Cllr Ann Davies in the October meeting. However, Cllr. Ann Davies was not present to give any response on the matter, so Cllr Mike Kermode proposed that the Clerk writes to her to ask for a formal response to Cllr Elgin's statement, seconded by Cllr Mike Elgin. **Resolved.**

Cllr Ivor Beech asked if Cllr Elgin had declared an interest regarding the Abbey Road yellow lines issue because he has business interests there. Cllr Elgin replied that had done so when the issue was discussed by councillors.

Both Cllrs Val Simmons and Arwel Roberts stated that they had spoken to SM Gareth Davies and both concurred with Cllr Elgin's statement.

Cllr Jackie Burnham reminded Cllr Elgin that he could refer the matter to the Ombudsman but Cllr Mike Elgin said he would prefer it be resolved locally.

13. Complaint received regarding MUGA lighting

The Clerk shared a complaint from a resident whose property bordered Admiral's Field regarding the overspill of lighting from the MUGA lights. Members discussed the issue and possible solutions; Cllr Mike Kermode proposed the Clerk look at the effectiveness practicality and cost of installing shrouds and that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor can decide to go ahead rather than wait for the next meeting. Seconded by Cllr Reg Davies. **Resolved.**

Cllr Arwel Roberts reminded Members to ensure it does not affect the CCTV camera.

14. Provision of CPR and defibrillator training

Cllr Mike Kermode ran Members through new guidelines regarding CPR and use of Defibrillators.

The Clerk stated that The Welsh Ambulance Service offer free training. Cllr Mike Kermode proposed the Clerk source training for residents especially those local to defibs, seconded by Cllr Jackie Burnham. **Resolved.**

15. Community Matters

Cllr Jackie Burnham identified an issue with the path along the riverbank where a large crack has developed and a loose paving slab on the High Street path opposite the Council's notice board. The Clerk will report to DCC.

Cllr Arwel Roberts shared information from Robert Green at Natural Resource Wales regarding NRW's responsibilities.

Cllr Reg Davies asked whether signs could be installed on the bank to state where the Old Foundry used to be. This was discussed by councillors and Cllr Mike Kermode proposed that the Council write to DCC and ask when Planning Permission is granted on this site that a sign and information board is put up, seconded by Cllr Arwel Roberts. **Resolved.**

Cllr Ivor Beech shared information regarding the Castle Howell initiative to increase the amounts of vegetables grown in Wales for use in schools and other public buildings saying that over 200 farms had signed up to plant at least ½ acre of vegetables on their farm. He also shared concerns regarding car park charging potentially impacting local businesses and gave Rhyl cinema as an example.

Cllr Val Simmons shared with councillors regarding Rhuddlan Town Council being given the opportunity to help celebrate resident's significant special occasions.

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. Cllr Arwel Roberts proposed the council moved to part 2. Seconded by Cllr. Mike Kermode. **Resolved.**

The recording was switched off and the member of the public asked to leave

16. Minutes of the Personnel Committee 29th October 2024

The Minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and Cllr Mike Kermode ran through the minutes. He highlighted that the estate of the late Paul Smith should be paid backpay of approximately £66. This was proposed by Cllr Arwel Roberts and seconded by Cllr Mike Kermode. **Resolved.**

The Mayor thanks everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

18. Date of next meeting – 12th December 2024 Full Council Meeting 7pm

Signed Cllr Val Simmons (Mayor)