

Cyngor Tref
Rhuddlan
Town Council

Minutes of Library Working Group Meeting

Held on 7th January 2025

at Hwb Rhuddlan

Present:

Cllr Mike Kermode (Chair)
Cllr Val Simmons (Mayor)
Matt Baker (DCC Libraries)
Deborah Owen (DCC Principal Librarian)
Fran Williams (DCC Community Resilience)
Richard Polden (Rhuddlan Local History Society)
Steve Wilson – (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllr Mike Elgin

2. Declaration of Interest

None given

3. Minutes and progress update from Last Meeting on 27th November 2024

Cllr Mike Kermode ran through the minutes. Matt updated the group on the latest progress of the DCC property team who have put together the site and location drawings, as well as constraints and opportunity mapping. They are in the process of collating existing information on the Library and the nearby utilities that are present then putting together some building concepts for the Heritage Centre through sketches and diagrams. The next steps will be to use the information provided to complete the concept drawings.

4. Other discussions

Discussion on ownership of the new building, agreed it should not be DCC as this will impact the ability to apply for grant funding.

The Clerk stated he will be budgeting the existing council funding plus inflation in the precept budget for 2025/2026.

Discussed future funding opportunities and Matt shared a two page draft information document. Discussed who should apply for funding, cannot be the County but the Town Council could apply but it would be better for an independent group to apply such as Friends of the Library. Funds could be

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used for day to day operations as well as enhancements. Richard suggested the council investigate if any other councils have been successful in obtaining external funding for library operating costs.

Fran Williams explained the concept of a "Friends of a Library" and shared Lancashire's structured approach which is supported by the County Council and has a very good standard constitution that could be used. Cllr Val Simmons highlighted some potential pitfalls of Friends of Groups. Cllr Mike Kermode suggested an Open Day to promote the Group which could be held in the Library or Community Centre. It was agreed that a good terms of reference for the group is important and the Open Day should be held in the Spring. Fran offered to help setting up the Group.

Ideas for sponsorship topics were discussed and included:

Holiday Club for children

Story and a snack

Breakfast and crafts

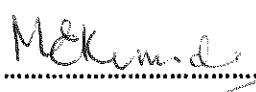
Summer reading challenge

Warm area for families.

How to promote the Friends of concept was discussed, Fran to see if there is any DCC expertise that could be used and Cllr Mike Kermode suggested funding external expertise.

Matt mentioned the Library were looking at an opportunity to get a small funding stream from external lockers on the side wall of the building.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 18th February 2025 at 9am in Rhuddlan Library.

Signed  Cllr Mike Kermode

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