



Rhuddlan Town Council Meeting

Full Council Meeting Thursday 12th March 2026

M I N U T E S

Present:

Cllr Jackie Burnham (Mayor)

Cllr Mike Kermode

Cllr Arwel Roberts

Cllr Val Simmons

Cllr Gloria Lambert

Cllr Reg Davies

Cllr Sophie Baker (remotely)

Steve Wilson - Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Heidi Barton-Price - Assistant Town Clerk

Police: Alexandra Jones PCSO 2839 – Agenda Item 4 and 5

Denbighshire County Council – Ben Wilcox Jones – Agenda Item 5

There was 1 member of the public present

The meeting was recorded from this point (audio only)

1. Apologies

Cllr Ivor Beech (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Bleddyn Williams

Cllr Ann Davies

Cllr Mike Elgin

Police Sergeant Iwan Hughes (PS 3030) - Alexandra Jones (PCSO 2839) in attendance as above.

2. Declaration of Interest

Cllr Reg Davies: Item 11a. b. St Mary's Church – duly signed.

Cllr Jackie Burnham: Item 12. Allotments proposal – duly signed.

The Mayor reminded attendees to follow the Code of Conduct.

3. Urgent Matters as Agreed by the Chairperson

None.

4. Police Matters

Alexandra Jones PCSO 2839 provided an update on calls received over the past 6 weeks: 101 calls received in total, including 4 cases of antisocial behaviour, 1 burglary, and 1 domestic/assault. No further calls had been received regarding Highlands Road. Where the Police executed warrants due to suspected drug activity it was clarified that these were in relation to personal usage.

Councillors were reminded that residents should report any issues or concerns through the 101 number or alternatively to attend a “Cuppa with a Copper” session.

The Clerk ran through the latest Crime data.

5. Safety Issues on Highlands Road

DCC Ben Wilcox-Jones in attendance for this item to discuss improvement opportunities.

He highlighted previous speed survey data from December 2025 which showed the average speed on Highlands Road recorded as 24.7mph with only 1% recorded at driving over 40mph. He explained that Go Safe had taken an educational approach, offering roadside education or penalty points to drivers. Further interrogation of the data is to be carried by DCC to provide the Police with more targeted information to include volume of traffic, speed, and times of day of occurrence.

Various measures were discussed for addressing speeding issues on Highlands Road including speed bumps, chicanes, temporary speed camera, use of a speed indicator device as a potential deterrent, speed camera signs and public awareness promotion, however, all of these raised concerns about safety, the limited resources available and ultimately the impact these would actually make to drivers habits.

Ben Wilcox-Jones informed Councillors that traffic calming schemes are extremely expensive and would need to be sought through the Grant Funding body. They are only granted by being based on speed and the number of collisions. It was confirmed that only 1 injury/accident had occurred in the past 10 years and no collisions in the last 3 years. Therefore, this would not be justified.

The discussion concluded that as a first step/in the short-term, an enforcement campaign by Go Safe would be the way forward with DCC to continue to pressure Go Safe for this to be carried out.

Ben Wilcox-Jones also to contact Go Safe regarding their Communication Strategy around the promotion of the issue,

The Town Clerk to continue to pursue the possibility of setting up of a Community Safety Team involving local residents.

Before leaving the meeting, Ben Wilcox-Jones updated Councillors regarding Active Travel – Castle Street/Hylas Lane. Currently validating assumptions and during April/May real life testing will be conducted on site. Dropped kerb installations are almost complete with only 2 to be done.

Alexandra Jones PCSO 2839 and Ben Wilcox-Jones both left the meeting at this point.

6. Minutes:

- a. To approve minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 12th February 2026.

Amendment: Cllr Sophie Baxter to Cllr Sophie Baker on pages 1 and 6.

It was minuted that Cllr Gloria Lambert's absence at the Town Council meeting held on 15th January 2026 had been due to a miscommunication e-mail error.

p4 – Date amended from 26th to 25th March – Meeting the new DCC CEO for Cllr Arwel Roberts.

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

The Mayor duly signed the minutes.

- b. To approve minutes of any Committee and Working Group meetings held since last meeting.

Minutes of Events Committee held on 11th March 2026.

The Town Clerk confirmed his meeting 23rd February with DCC Youth Services when they discussed the Youth Club and their involvement at the Volunteer Fair Event. It was agreed they will use the 6m x 6m marquee.

The circus skills costs were queried as was the use of Ebenezer Chapel due to footfall concerns. It was proposed by the Mayor, Cllr Jackie Burnham to amend the use of Ebenezer Chapel to accommodate something else such as a children's zone and this was seconded by Cllr Arwel Roberts. **Resolved.**

The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr Mike Kermode, seconded Cllr Arwel Roberts. **Resolved.**

7. Progress Report from Minutes

The Town Clerk confirmed and updated:

- Offer from Tenovus Cancer Care to speak to council about cancer and the work Tenovus does. The invitation has been sent for them to attend a meeting and their response is awaited.

- Met with Rhuddlan Dragons on 4th March to share and agree the SLA regarding the use of Rhuddlan Playing Fields.
- Memorial bench had been installed and a thank you received from residents.
- An accident had occurred with the fence at the field which will be repaired. The Town Clerk to look at grant funding option for this in the future.
- Hazel Court white lining of parking space – completed.

8. Reports from:

a. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor

The Mayor had submitted a written report.

Unfortunately, the Mayor and her Consort were unable to attend 8th March, Chair of DCC, Cllr Arwel Roberts's Civic Church Service in Rhuddlan.

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Ivor Beech also sent apologies for this event.

The Mayor took the opportunity to highlight arrangements for the Remembrance Parade, recommending that the Police Sergeant remain with the parade for the whole route and also all roads be closed next time.

The written report was accepted.

b. The Town Clerk – correspondence and project report.

The Town Clerk updated Councillors regarding the following:

Correspondence:

The following had been received:

1. E-mail from local resident thanking the council for funding the installation of the bench on Vicarage Lane.
2. Email from HSBC informing the council that the interest rate on its accounts will be reduced from 10th March.
3. Response from DCC, Michael Bennion stating *“Rhuddlan Cemetery is now full for full burial interments; however, we still have capacity for ashes interments. With regards to the flooding a few years ago we provided costs for the installation of a ground water drainage scheme which would address the flooding issues at the cemetery, however this wasn't progressed as the costs were prohibitive and Welsh Water would not provide permission for the discharge of the water into their system unfortunately”*.
4. Various One Voice Wales and DCC communications emailed to councillors.

The Town Clerk sought a decision to maintain DCC as Internal Auditors. Cllr Mike Kermode proposed and Cllr Val Simmons seconded. **Resolved.**

The Trim Trail lighting has now been installed around the Admiral's Field path and the Town Clerk will now close the grant.

The Local History Society had requested a free parking day on 27th June, and this request was proposed by Cllr Arwel Roberts and seconded by Cllr Mike Kermode to be accepted. **Resolved.**

Dates for the diary

- Mayor's Charity Evening – Friday 10th April 2026.
- Gwledd – Saturday 16th May 2026
- Volunteer Fair and Summer Picnic in the Park – Saturday 1st August 2026

9. County Councillor Reports

a. Report by Councillor Arwel Roberts

Cllr Arwel Roberts had submitted a written report which he ran councillors through.

In addition Cllr Arwel Roberts requested that the Town Clerk write to DCC regarding the state of Marsh Road and it being a danger to residents (overgrown, litter, etc).

He had attended a Scottish Power event in Llandudno that morning and also Ysgol Gwernant, a school in Llangollen at their Curlew book launch that afternoon.

He reported that the sign in the ditch at Rhualt had been replaced and the pothole in Cross Street work had been completed.

The report was accepted

b. Report by Councillor Ann Davies

Cllr Ann Davies had submitted a written report.

There were no observations made and the report was accepted.

10. Planning

- 44/2026/0013/AD - Display of post mounted sign in relation to Abbey Farm at Strawberry Field, Land Off Dyserth Road, Rhuddlan
- 44/2026/0070/TP - Crown reduction of 1 no. birch tree subject to Tree Preservation Order No. 3 (2026) at The Banquet House Princes Road, Rhuddlan

Cllr Mike Kermode proposed and Cllr Arwel Roberts seconded that there were no comments or objections to these applications.

11. Budget & Finance Matters

a. Grant requests:

- Marie Curie UK

The request for £1000 to support home nursing in Rhuddlan be accepted was proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode and seconded by Cllr Arwel Roberts. **Resolved.**

- St Mary's Church

Cllr Reg Davies left the meeting for this proposal.

The request for £1,000 for events to support Tourism be accepted was proposed by

Cllr Arwel Roberts and seconded by Cllr Mike Kermode. **Resolved.**

c. Rhuddlan Library

The request for £253 for Easter eggs be accepted was proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode and seconded by Cllr Gloria Lambert. **Resolved.**

b. Approve the March payments listing due

The Town Clerk confirmed that the grant at the end of March would be 100% spent.

Councillors reviewed the payment listing. Cllr Arwel Roberts proposed it is paid and Cllr Mike Kermode seconded. **Resolved.**

12. Watering Proposal from Allotment Society

The Mayor, Cllr Jackie Burnham signed a Declaration of Interest as a plot holder for this item.

Councillors discussed the proposal if raised beds are installed and it was proposed on the proviso that the grant is to go ahead that the £500 annual payment be made. Proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode and seconded by Cllr Val Simmons. **Resolved.**

13. Commuted sums

Councillors discussed the £1,200 application.

It was proposed that the Town Clerk make the application for the full amount to fund a piece of accessible play area equipment. The Town Clerk and Cllr Gloria Lambert delegated to assess the current facilities, before determining the specific equipment to request in the grant application due April 24th. Proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode and seconded by Cllr Arwel Roberts. **Resolved.**

14. Community Matters

Cllr Val Simmons still to meet with Sarah, Youth Services.

Expressed thanks to Cllr Mike Kermode for his support in arranging the Easter Egg Hunt with Friends of the Library.

Clarity had been sought regarding the £5,000 grant and it had been confirmed that it can be used by Friends of the Library in any way to support education.

Cllr Reg Davies – None.

The Mayor, Cllr Jackie Burnham – None.

Cllr Arwel Roberts highlighted the poster advertising Rhuddlan & District Welsh Committee – Open Meeting 24th March at the Golf Club. The Town Clerk to promote via social media.

Cllr Gloria Lambert highlighted the Brighter Futures Santa float and that they are now looking for funding for this year. Cllr Mike Kermode advised that they should email the Town Clerk.

Cllr Sophie Baker drew Councillors attention to a post made by LL Estates offering support to Youth Clubs. To raise with the Rhuddlan Youth Club and potential sponsorship of the marquee in August.

Part 2 Exclusion of the Press & Public

PART 2 BUSINESS – It was proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode, seconded by Cllr Arwel Roberts and duly resolved that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the press and the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of discussions of items where publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The member of the public left the meeting.

The meeting recording (audio only) was stopped at this point.

12. Review Reasons for Apologies

Cllr Ivor Beech (Deputy Mayor) – Unwell.

Cllr Bleddyn Williams – Work commitments.

Cllr Mike Elgin – Leave.

Cllr Ann Davies – No reason.

All the apologies were accepted by the council.

13. Date of Next Meetings

- Etifeddiaeth - Heritage Working Group – rescheduled to 31st March 2026
- Full Town Council meeting – Thursday 9th April 2026

The Town Clerk drew Councillors attention to the two meetings scheduled in May: AGM – 14th May 2026 and Town Council Meeting - 21st May 2026.

It was proposed by Cllr Mike Kermode and seconded by Cllr Val Simmons that they be amalgamated as **AGM/Town Council on 14th May 2026.**

Signed:

Date:

Cllr Jackie Burnham (Mayor)