

Cyngor Tref
Rhuddlan
Town Council

**Rhuddlan Town Council – Minutes of the Biodiversity Committee meeting on the 12th
September 2023**

Hybrid Meeting

Present:

Cllr Mike Kermode (Mayor)
Cllr Val Simmons (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Jackie Burnham
Cllr Arwel Roberts
Town Clerk
Clerical Assistant/Minute Clerk

Members were informed that the meeting was not being recorded
Cllr Gareth Rowlands was present as an observer.

1. Appointment of Chairperson

Cllr Arwel Roberts proposed Cllr Val Simmons as Chairperson. Seconded by Cllr Jackie Burnham. **Resolved.**

A draft Terms of Reference for the committee had been circulated for Members approval. Cllr Arwel Roberts proposed they be approved, seconded by Cllr Mike Kermode. **Resolved**

2. Apologies

Cllr Ivor Beech

3. Declarations of Interest

None

4. Review of Biodiversity Plan & Policy

The Clerk informed Members that it was a legal requirement within the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 for Town Council to maintain & enhance biodiversity in the exercise of their functions via the Council's biodiversity plan and policy, and by publishing an annual biodiversity report. Placed before Members was a list of 9 completed actions from 2023, along with an action plan agreed by Council on 8th December 2022 for their review.

- a) Completed Actions – Members updated the Clerk on several of the completed actions which will be inserted in the plan before bringing back to the committee

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for approval. The Clerk was tasked with asking Ysgol Y Castell for a report on woodland skills undertaken by the trained teacher by the end of term. Proposed by Cllr Arwel Roberts, seconded by Cllr Mike Kermode. **Resolved**

Members agreed to insert a statement that the Council was proud to have supported various environmental and biodiversity projects delivered by both the Council and community groups. **Resolved.**

b) Future Action – Using the 6 themes of the Environment Wales Act template, the Members proceeded to agree on updates and future actions which the Clerk will insert and amend where necessary before bringing back to the committee for their approval. **Resolved**

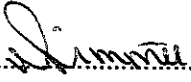
- A 2024 mid- summer consultation event using biodiversity experts to raise awareness and local groups to demonstrate their biodiversity work.
- The Council saves energy with LED lights & insulation within the Hwb and LED lights at the MUGA.
- Investigate a biodiversity area in front of the library which the librarian is happy to support.
- Continue to link with DCC and other town councils and to share Council's biodiversity plans.
- Acknowledge residents gardens that may already be supporting biodiversity.
- Although Council's land ownership is limited look at a strategy for Admiral's Field and Vicarage lane areas using the National Scheme for land management.
- Continue to support the various biodiversity project in Rhuddlan such as the Nature Reserve, CADW, DCC Countryside Services. Rhuddlan bowling club, Keep Wales Tidy, litter picks, allotment, environment association, and DCC wilding project.

Several future projects/ideas were mentioned:

- a. Potential Beavers visit to the allotment
- b. Odyn visit by Peter Barton-Price and Cllr Gareth Rowlands
- c. Hedge trimming enhancement at Admirals Field & Vicarage Lane areas.
- d. Invite DCC officer Helen Vaughan Evans to Council meeting
- e. Plant more trees
- f. Heddwyn Jones, Glascoed to be asked ref his work on hedges on behalf of Council.
- g. Seek species list gathering
- h. Organise a walk around the nature reserve for Councillors by DCC officers pointing out the various flora, fauna and animals present.
- i. Use Cyfnod to help our biodiversity work.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday December 5th 2023

U.S.

Signed..........Cllr Val Simmons (Chair)

