

At the hybrid **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 19th July 2023, commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Miss C. L. Williams (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors M. Blackwell, Mrs M. A. Blakeley-Walker, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, Ms J. M. Evans, S. Feeney, A. R. James, K. R. Jones, Mrs D. L. King, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, P. Prendergast, Ms V. Roberts, A. J. Rutherford and A. Walker.

Mr G. J. Nickels – Town Clerk
Miss H. J. Windus – Deputy Town Clerk

37. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine and D. Simmons.

38. MINUTES

The minutes of the following meetings of council and committees were submitted for approval as a correct record:

Special Meeting of Council - 21st June 2023 - Min.Nos. 19-22

Proposed by Councillor Miss C. L. Williams and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Meeting of Council - 21st June 2023 - Min.Nos. 23-36

Proposed by Councillor Miss C. L. Williams and seconded by Councillor Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 21st June 2023 - Min.Nos. 4-6

Proposed by Councillor Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones and seconded by Councillor Mrs M. A. Blakeley-Walker and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

39. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Deputy Mayor referred to the events she and the Mayor had attended over the last month (circulated with agenda), and particular to Mold Town Council's 'United by Music' charity event which was wonderful cultural evening, including singing from children from Ukraine.

The Deputy Mayor also mentioned Denbighshire County Council's Flag Flying Ceremony to mark the 75th year of the NHS.

40. PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT (SCHEDULE A)

The Mayor referred to the Town Clerk's report (circulated with agenda) detailing the schedule of payments made and income received.

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount	Description of Goods & Services
1526	Tesco	3.00	Mobile phone insurance HW
1646	BT	270.77	Telephone Line & Broadband
1647	HSBC	10.55	Bank charges
1526	Tesco	12.99	Mobile phone charges HW
1648	HMRC	2,983.51	PAYE deductions May 2023
1649	Clwyd Pension Fund	4,737.10	Pension deductions & deficit funding May 2023
1650	RTC Staff	7,861.90	Net Pay June 2023
1617	Denbighshire CC	753.00	NNDR WRCC Civic Office 2023/24 – payment 3 of 10
1539	Tesco	3.00	Mobile phone insurance GN
1539	Tesco	12.99	Mobile phone charges GN
1657	Denbighshire Homestart	2,000.00	Funding for HomeStart initiative in Rhyl
1658	Benefits Advice	3,500.00	Appeals Officer 23/24 – payments 1 to 3 of 12
1659	Citizen's Advice	2,000.00	Energy Efficiency Officer – payment 1 of 4
	Total payments	£24,148.81	

Category	Description	Amount
Santander	Interest on 31 Day Notice Account	252.67
HSBC	Interest on Money Maker Account	354.70
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	26.87
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	26.87
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	26.87
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	26.87
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	26.87
	Total income	£741.72

41. AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS/ADDITIONS TO APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST (SCHEDULE B)

Further to min.no.143 of the meeting of Council held on 15th March 2017 and in accordance with the council's adopted financial regulations, the Chair referred to the Town Clerk's submitted schedule B (a list of non-regular payments to be released over the coming month) (circulated with agenda).

Voucher Number	Supplier	Details of Supply	Amount £
1661	Fingerprints Art Ltd (Racecraft Signs)	Updating of Honours Board	264.00
1668	Audit Wales	External audit fee 2021/22	200.00
1669	Pottles Premier Plants Ltd	Summer plants 2023	11,320.40
1670	Cllr S. Feeney	Members' Allowances 23/24 (£156+£52)	208.00
<u>R</u> 1671	Cllr A. Walker	Members' Allowances 23/24 (£156+£52)	208.00
<u>E</u> 1672	Cllr J. Hughes	Members' Allowances 23/24 (£156+£52)	208.00
<u>S</u> 1673	Amazon UK	Copier paper	170.00
<u>O</u> 1674	Morrisons	Flowers for Honorary Freeperson	15.00
<u>L</u> 1675	NMWATC	AGM lunches for 4 delegates	80.00
<u>V</u> 1676	Scottish Power	Electricity for illuminations 22/23	218.73
<u>E</u>	Total Schedule B		£12,892.13
<u>R</u>			

RESOLVED that the schedule was approved for payment and signed by two councillors.

42. **APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST**

The Town Clerk referred to his report and to the current Approved Suppliers List (circulated with agenda) for members' approval.

RESOLVED that the list was approved.

43. **REVIEW OF ANNUAL INVESTMENTS STRATEGY 2023/24**

The Town Clerk made reference to his and Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda) asking members to approve the revised strategy and a suggested deposit of £85,000 on a six-month term basis with HSBC. The Town Clerk explained that it made financial sense to invest for a period of 31 days rather than the current 7 days as the interest rate increased from 0.4% to 3.5%, and that £85,000 was the maximum amount the Town Council could invest without risk.

The Town Clerk advised that the Finance Officer would look for another 31 Day Notice account or term deposit facility with other banks to get the best risk-free return.

RESOLVED that the strategy was approved and the £85,000 deposit was also approved for a 31 Day Notice account with HSBC.

44. **WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT – RHYL TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL CORPORATE REPORT 2022/23**

The Town Clerk referred to his report (circulated with agenda) for members to amend/approve.

The Town Clerk reminded members that the document was required to be published annually by the Welsh Government and showed how the Town Council had contributed to their Wellbeing Goals and to Conwy and Denbighshire Public Service Board's Wellbeing Plan.

The Town Clerk added that he had prepared a draft Plan for members to consider.

RESOLVED that the draft Plan was approved as the Town Council's Annual Report for 2022/23.

45. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, on the grounds of confidentiality.

46. RHYL TOWN COUNCIL STRATEGIC TOWN PLAN 2017 – 2022

The Town Clerk made reference to his and the SOP Committee's joint report (circulated with agenda) relating to the success of the 2017-2022 Plan in achieving its actions.

In summary the committee had reviewed the document and determined that of the 108 actions contained within it, 56 had been achieved, 48 were in progress and just four had yet to be achieved.

RESOLVED that members approved the SOP Committee's recommendations, enabling a final report to be prepared and published on the Town Council's website.

47. ADDITIONAL ITEM: MAYOR'S CHAIN OF OFFICE

The Town Clerk reported that the chain of office was in need of refurbishing (re-plating, cleaning & a replacement velvet collar) and having received three quotes, the price ranged from £1,500 to £2,500.

The Town Clerk suggested that now was a good time to send the chain for refurbishing as the Town Council was in recess during August, which is traditionally a quieter time for use of the chain, and asked for members authorisation to proceed.

The Town Clerk advised that should the Mayor or Deputy Mayor attend events whilst the Mayor's chain is away, that the Deputy Mayor's chain would be worn.

After some debate it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to call a Civic & Social Events Sub-Committee, at which members could view all of the previous Rhyl Urban District Council chains and the current Mayor's chain and be given delegated authority to proceed as they see fit, with an approved maximum spend of £2,500.

48. ADDITIONAL ITEM: CEFNDY WARD ELECTION

The Town Clerk advised that the Notice of Election would be available from tomorrow and that he would forward it on to all members for their information and publish it on the Town Council's website.

49. ADDITIONAL ITEM: CIVIC SUNDAY

The Town Clerk asked for those members who had not yet responded to the invite from the Mayor to please do so as soon as possible, to enable seats to be reserved in Church and appropriate catering numbers.

50. ADDITIONAL ITEM: HONORARY FREEPERSON OF RHYL MRS PATRICIA JONES

The Town Clerk asked if any members were in contact with Mrs Jones and if they would ask her to respond to the Mayor's invitation to her Civic Service please?

51. AUGUST RECESS – DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE POWERS

The Deputy Mayor requested members' approval of the arrangements for the delegation of executive powers to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the appropriate chairs during the August recess, as follows:

- Civic Matters - Mayor and / or Deputy Mayor
- Planning Matters - Chair and / or Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee
- SOP Committee - Chair and / or Vice-Chair of SOP Committee
- All Other Business - Chair and / or Vice-Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED that the arrangements were confirmed.

52. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further items of business the Deputy Mayor declared the meeting closed.

Mayor:

Date: