

At a **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 20th July 2016 in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Wellington Road, Rhyl commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor A. R. James (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Miss E. M. Chard, Mrs P. M. Jones, Ms J. McAlpine, B. Mellor, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, P. Prendergast, S.H. Ratcliffe, W. N. Tasker, T. Thomas, Rev. S. Walker and Miss C. L. Williams.

Mr G. J. Nickels - Town Clerk

30. OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor's Chaplain, Rev. Andy Grimwood, commenced proceedings by leading all present in prayer.

31. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors I. W. Armstrong (indisposed), B. Blakeley (indisposed), Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones (family illness), Ms J. Hughes (indisposed), B. F. Moylan (indisposed), Miss S. L. Roberts (other commitment), A. J. Rutherford (work commitment), Miss R. Siddall (no reason given), D. Simmons (family commitment) and the Deputy Town Clerk, Miss H. J. Windus (on holiday).

32. MINUTES

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

Meeting of Council - 15th June 2016 - Min. Nos. 19- 29

Proposed by Councillor A. R. James and seconded by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 15th June 2016 - Min. Nos. 4 - 7

Proposed by Councillor A. R. James and seconded by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 6th July 2016 - Min. Nos. 8 - 10

Proposed by Councillor A. R. James and seconded by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General Purposes Committee - 6th July 2016 - Min. Nos. 22 - 37

Proposed by Councillor P. Prendergast and seconded by Councillor Mrs. W. M. Mullen James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

33. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Deputy Mayor referred to the list of engagements he and the Mayor had attended over the last month and in particular to his attendance at St. David's Care Home for a very enjoyable 107th birthday celebration.

34. PRESENTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Mr Tim Wynne-Evans, Senior Public Protection Officer and Mr John Dunn and Mr Warren Hodgkinson, both from Kingdom, to provide Councillors with an update on enforcement activities in Rhyl and to respond to Members' questions.

Mr Wynne-Evans initially apologised for his failure to attend previous meetings and advised:

- on the history of the County Council's enforcement regime from 2012 to address environmental crime which was a national problem.
- that the County Council had initially appointed Kingdom's predecessor to undertake the contract for litter and dog fouling enforcement.
- that the Kingdom team in Denbighshire comprised of six officers (one Team Leader, one Administration and four Operational Officers) and now responded to Littering, Dog Fouling, Graffiti, Fly Posting and smoking in enclosed places.
- on the Enforcement Officers uniform.
- of initiatives and tactics utilised which concentrated on hotspots and intelligence led patrols but also included distribution of dog waste bags, "stubby" pouches, education, 'Bin it to win it' competitions, personal cameras on operatives, and more recently the deployment of mobile CCTV cameras with appropriate signage.
- on the outcome being a cleaner county with national acknowledgement and a fall in the number of tickets having to be issued over the four year period.
- that complaints about the issue of tickets represented 1.036% of the total issued and the importance of the operatives cameras in resolving disputed tickets. That complaints against operational officers were falling but where there was clear evidence that a particular officer was not acting in accordance with proper procedure, they were either subject to training or replaced by Kingdom.

In response to Members' questions the Officers advised that:

- a specific hot spot identified by Councillors had been noted but Members should report such locations to the County Council so as to enable them to be monitored.
- in the event of an enforcement officer's actions resulting in legal action against the authority, depending upon the nature of the actions, it was likely that Kingdom would need to respond.
- the Council could not control social media comments.
- Mr Wynne-Evans would examine CCTV at the Green Gym on the promenade to ensure appropriate signage.

- they welcomed the idea of entering schools to provide environmental crime education for young people, however the priority in schools was highway safety.
- they would investigate further the amount of time spent by officers in cars and while this was not classed as covert surveillance it was important to achieve a balance between foot patrols and time spent in vehicles.
- they would seek to provide statistics as to where tickets had actually been issued.
- they would ensure that appropriate and clear contact details were included on the tickets issued.

At the conclusion of the presentation the Deputy Mayor thanked the officers for their attendance and presentation.

35. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS – RHYL WEST NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE GROUP

Further to minute no.26 of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 6th July 2016, the appointed representative advised upon her attendance at the above Group and indicated:

- that housing association letting policies for tenancies were weak on addressing issues of tenants using drugs.
- there had been 16 arrests for drugs over the past month within Rhyl.
- an issue of modern day slavery having been identified within Denbighshire.
- significant child deprivation in the town.
- the evolving role of Communities first in Rhyl.

RESOLVED that the information be received and the Member thanked for her report.

36. COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND

Councillor Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE advised upon the availability of the above fund (copy of press release enclosed).

RESOLVED that the information be received.

37. AUGUST RECESS – DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE POWERS

The Chair 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 & the Chair and / or Vice-Chair of the SOP Committee |

RESOLVED that the arrangements be confirmed and the Town Clerk instructed to take the suggested action during the recess period.

38. MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEM: CYCLING IN HIGH STREET

A Member advised that she had been approached by Rhyl Town Centre businesses complaining about an increase in bicycles been ridden at speed in groups around the pedestrianised area.

RESOLVED that Denbighshire County Council be asked to take appropriate action.

39. QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

40. 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.

41. MEMBER'S ITEM: SHIRLEY SMITH'S BLACK BELT KARATE ACADEMY

Councillor B. Mellor advised of the Academy's forthcoming trip to Sicily to take part in the World United Martial Arts (WUMA) Championship and put forward a request for Members' consideration.

The Town Clerk advised that Council policy was not to provide grant funding to external organisations. The Town Clerk further advised that should members wish to review the policy it should be referred to SOP Committee for consideration.

RESOLVED that the application be declined and a letter be sent to the group explaining the Town Council policy and the availability of alternative funding within Rhyl.

42. EVENTS ARENA – FAN ZONE

The Town Clerk sought Members' confirmation of the Council, in partnership with Denbighshire County Council, providing a Fan Zone at the Events Arena and the final costs thereof.

The Town Council advised that final costs were still being calculated and would be reported in due course.

RESOLVED that the action of the Town Clerk in consultation with the majority of Members be confirmed.

43. HONORARY FREEMEN / WOMEN

The Town Clerk advised upon a request received via Councillor D. Simmons from an Honorary Freeman and sought the Council's instructions thereon.

RESOLVED that the request be noted but no action be taken at this time.

44. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: