

At the **MEETING of COUNCIL**, held via video conference, on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 commencing at 6.00pm.

### **PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs D. L. King (Mayor)

Councillors J. Ball, B. Blakeley, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE,  
Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, A. R. James, B. Jones, K. R. Jones,  
Mrs P. M. Jones, Ms J. McAlpine, B. Mellor, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James,  
P. Prendergast, Ms V. Roberts, A. J. Rutherford, T. Thomas, Mrs M. Walker and  
Miss C. L. Williams.

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

#### **69. APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Miss S. L. Roberts.

#### **70. MINUTES**

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

Meeting of Council - 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 - Min. Nos. 56-68

Proposed by Councillor Mrs D. L. King and seconded by Councillor Ms J. McAlpine and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 - Min. Nos. 27-29

Proposed by Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James and seconded by Councillor Ms J. McAlpine and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 - Min. Nos. 30-32

Proposed by Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James and seconded by Councillor Ms J. McAlpine and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General Purposes Committee - 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 - Min. Nos. 48-58

Proposed by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and seconded by Councillor A. R. James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

#### **71. MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor referred to the list of engagements (circulated with agenda) over the past month and in particular to the Royal British Legion's Armistice Day service

within Remembrance Gardens and the Remembrance Day Service, also within the Remembrance Gardens, which were both well organised and well attended.

**72. PRESENTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED BEACH RAKE**

Further to minute no.54 of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021, the Mayor welcomed Denbighshire County Council's (DCC) Mr Andy Clarke and Mr Mike Bennion to the meeting and invited them to address councillors on the desire to purchase a beach rake.

Mr Bennion played two short videos of the beach rake in action, which picked up litter, including small items like cigarette ends and broken glass with ease without picking up sand, leaving the beach clean and smooth.

Mr Clarke advised that the cost of the rake and tractor was £54,000. £15,000 of which the Keep Wales Tidy initiative had agreed to provide, with the remaining £39,000 to be found.

In response to members' questions and comments, Mr Clarke and Mr Bennion advised that:

- the work of the rake would not replace the beach clearing work currently undertaken by Streetscene officers, but would be complimentary to it and would free them up to work in the town centre as the rake would clear the beach in a fraction of the time it would take them.
- The rake would not remove seaweed.
- The county council was committed to eventually replacing all of its fossil fuelled vehicles with electric ones, and this would include the beach tractor.
- They had increased the number of bins in the area over the years, but unfortunately some people just won't use them, and that there was more of a reluctance over the last 18 months because of the Covid pandemic with people not wanting to touch any part of the bins. Bins without flaps had now been replaced with covered tops and open sides thanks to funding from Welsh Government.
- They continued to work well with community clean-up groups.
- As the rock armour was only going to be introduced underneath some areas of the beach, with most areas benefitting from stepped revetment, it was not anticipated to be a problem for the rake.
- The rake would improve the resident and visitor experience and might even increase visitor numbers?
- They could arrange for councillors to see a rake in action over in Llandudno if that would help?

- They planned to approach the Rhyl Business Improvement District (BID) to ask for a contribution towards the rake, so the town council could also come in in partnership with DCC, the BID and Keep Wales Tidy?
- The town council's contribution would be a one-off cost and that DCC would cover the maintenance element.
- the level of contribution from the town council would be influenced by the level of contribution from the BID, in terms of the remaining balance after BID money was secured, if at all?
- The rake would be focussed on Rhyl but used in other areas of need as and when required.
- The rake would be used twice daily and determined by tide times.
- They didn't think payments in instalments would be a problem.

The Mayor thanked Mr Clarke and Mr Bennion for their time before they left the meeting.

The Town Clerk advised members on the level of available funds the town council had at its disposal, which was limited, and gave members an idea of the impact on other budget commitments, should they decide to offer any financial support to the rake.

***RESOLVED*** that upon being put to the vote, members were in support of offering a financial contribution subject to further financial costings, the outcome of approaches to other parties and a visit to see the rake in operation in Llandudno.

**[Councillor B. Jones declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the above item due to his position as DCC Cabinet member, and vacated the meeting prior to the vote taking place]**

**[Councillor T. Thomas advised of his position as Vice-Chair of the Rhyl BID but did not believe this to be a conflict of interest, so took part in the vote]**

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

Further to minute no.143 of the meeting of council held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and in accordance with the council's adopted financial regulations, the Town Clerk submitted schedule B (a list of non-regular payments to be released over the coming month) and details of one additional supplier to be added to the suppliers list after members' approval.

***RESOLVED*** that the following was approved for payment and would be signed by two councillors in due course.

*Schedule B payments for approval (27<sup>th</sup> October to 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021)*

| Voucher No. | Supplier name                | Amount<br>£      | Description of Goods & Services                         |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 1273        | Pottles Premier Plants Ltd   | 1,554.48         | Winter planting   |
| 1274        | GoToMyPC                     | 1,480.00         | Annual subscriptions x4 (to enable remote/home working) |
| 1275        | Denbighshire Leisure Limited | 770.00           | Town Hall hire & catering for Civic Sunday on 3/10/21   |
|             | <b>Total payments</b>        | <b>£3,804.48</b> |   |

No emergency payments were made during the period. There was one payment made by card to which voucher no.1274 refers.

**RESOLVED** that the schedule was approved for payment, and would be signed by two councillors in due course.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Standing Orders be suspended to enable the Town Clerk to respond as a matter of urgency.

**74. DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FREE PARKING DAYS**

The Mayor asked members to consider which dates to allocate Rhyl's five free parking days to by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

The Mayor advised that the five days running up to Christmas Day were usually selected, and that this year they would be Monday 20<sup>th</sup> through to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December.

The Town Clerk suggested that the library car park be omitted this year to avoid the confusion that this tended to cause.

The Mayor asked for volunteers to attached signs to the parking ticket machines and Councillors Mrs E. M. Chard, A. R. James, K. Jones and V. Roberts duly offered their services.

**RESOLVED** that the five free parking days would be Monday 20<sup>th</sup> through to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December and would not include the library car park.

**75. MEMBER'S ITEM: NORTH WALES PROBATION SERVICE**

Councillor Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE sought members' support in inviting representatives from the North Wales Probation Services to give a presentation to Council on the services they could offer at no cost.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Butterfield to provide the Town Clerk with contact details and for him to invite the North Wales Probation Service to attend a future meeting of Council.

**76. 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.

**77. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

To receive the following minutes (circulated with agenda) for information:

Risk Assessment - 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021 - Min.Nos 28-36  
Sub-Committee

Councillor A. R. James advised that his apologies had not been included within the minutes.

***RESOLVED*** that the minutes were received and would be amended to reflect Councillor A. R. James' apologies.

**78. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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

Mayor: .....

Date: .....