

At the **MEETING of COUNCIL**, held via video conference, on Wednesday 21st July 2021 commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs D. L. King (Mayor)

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

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

35. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors B. Mellor, P. Prendergast, Miss S. L. Roberts and Mrs M. Walker.

36. MINUTES

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

Meeting of Council - 16th June 2021 - Min. Nos. 19-34

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

Planning Committee - 16th June 2021 - Min. Nos. 5-8

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

Planning Committee - 7th July 2021 - Min. Nos.9-13

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 - 7th July 2021 - Min. Nos. 15-25

Proposed by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and seconded by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

37. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor referred to the list of engagements (circulated with agenda) over the past month and in particular, mentioned the official opening of Harrison's Bistro on Wellington Road, which she was delighted to see and had enjoyed.

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

Further to minute no.143 of the meeting of council held on 15th 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 (30th June to 13th July 2021)

Voucher No.	Supplier name	Amount £	Description of Goods & Services
1197	Pottles Premier Plants Ltd	10,129.85	Summer plants
1198	BJS Solutions	1,411.78	Broadband and wi-fi upgrade
1199	Delwedd Ltd	51.84	Upgrading email boxes
1200	Rhyl Community Association	2,625.00	Tynewydd CC management fee Q2
1201	Cllr D. L. King	433.34	Mayoral allowance 21/22 – payment 1 of 3
1202	Cllr D. L. King	166.67	Senior role allowance 21/22 – payment 1 of 3
1203	Cllr J. L. McAlpine	133.34	Deputy Mayoral allowance 21/22 – payment 1 of 3
1204	Cllr J. L. McAlpine	166.67	Senior role allowance 21/22 – payment 1 of 3
1205	Cllr M. Walker	150.00	Costs and expenses allowance 21/22
1206	Cllr J. Hughes	150.00	Costs and expenses allowance 21/22
	Total payments	£15,418.49	

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

39. INVESTMENTS PERFORMANCE 2021/22 (QUARTER 1)

The Town Clerk presented his and the Finance Officer's report (circulated with agenda) on how the council's investments had performed from 1st April to 30th June 2021, which in total had earned £57.11.

RESOLVED that the report was received.

40. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS TO 30 JUNE 2021 (QUARTER 1) AND FORECASTS FOR THE 2021/22 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Town Clerk referred to his and the Finance Officer's report (circulated with agenda) on the council's financial position as at 30th June 2021 and the broad forecasts for the year-end.

In summary members were asked to note the key variances throughout, the forecasted deficit of £65,070, the intention to utilise £100,000 from the SC2 Loan Reserve and £20,000 from the Tynewydd CC Reserve, the intention to transfer £15,000 to the Major Projects Reserve and £5,000 to the Elections Reserve, and finally that all reserves would be reviewed later in the financial year.

RESOLVED that the report was received.

41. INFORMATION ITEM: RHYL CENTRAL COASTAL DEFENCE

The Mayor welcomed Mr Wayne Hope (DCC Flood Risk Manager), Mr Ian Beckett (Balfour Beatty) and Ms Corinne Marti and Mr Nicholas Price (Mott MacDonald) and thanked them for attending at short notice.

Mr Hope explained the gap in the middle of the sea defences to the east and west of the coastline left Rhyl vulnerable to future flooding as what was there currently was over 100 years old and in need of upgrading.

That the total cost of the central defence scheme was thought to be in the region of between £30 and £40 million, with DCC contributing 15%.

A public consultation had started that day.

Ms Marti advised that the scheme was at the design stage with a further statutory round of consultation planned for September.

Mr Price informed members that the large rocks (rock armour), like those currently being installed to the east of the beach, would be buried under the sand, with a new sea wall created, along with a raised promenade via a new concrete revetment (stepped concrete).

In response to members' queries, Mr Hope said that:

- The last time the promenade flooded was in December 2013, with the worst affecting the Splash Point area to the east.
- Sand loss was not dramatic as the beach re-claims it over time.
- Preserving the beach and tourism was very much a part of the scheme.
- In contrast to the residents' comments conveyed to some town councillors, he had received more positive feedback than negative about the use of rock armour, with many asking for it since it was introduced in Towyn.
- Most of the rocks would be below the beach and therefore unseen.
- There had been no adverse comments from the RNLI station and that all of the small businesses / kiosks were being consulted on the proposals as they would probably need to be demolished.

- The idea was to improve access to the beach from the town centre in-line with the major DCC regeneration scheme underway.
- We usually get complaints that our consultation documents are over detailed, not the other way around, but that he would take that back and have some visuals included, as suggested.
- Groins do a great job in managing the sand, but the rock armour protects the whole beach and frontage.

Mr Beckett reassured members that beach access would not be less and that Mott MacDonald had done extensive research on the beach and that raising the promenade would actually improve access.

Mr Hope further advised that:

- The designs were not finished and that disabled access was currently provided via a ramp in the vicinity of the SeaQuarium.
- It was hoped that the existing Balfour Beatty compound would remain for the duration of the works with an additional compound planned at Quay St, car park.
- There would be massive disruption whilst the works were underway, but that this was unavoidable if we were serious about protecting the town from future flooding?
- The Central Car Park and Village would remain.
- They would come back to the town council if there were any big changes to the plans.

The Mayor thanked the representatives from DCC, Balfour Beatty and Mott MacDonald, once again before they left the meeting.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) *The Town Clerk to formally respond to the consultation on the town council's behalf and members to also respond individually.*
- (ii) *The Town Clerk to share the consultation link on the town council's social media to encourage resident engagement.*

42. AUGUST RECESS

The 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:

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| 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

43. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It is recommended, pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business, on the grounds of confidentiality.

44. TYNEWYDD COMMUNITY CENTRE PROPOSED TRANSFER TO RHYL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Further to min.no.46 of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 5th May 2021, the Town Clerk presented his confidential report (circulated with agenda).

RESOLVED that following the outcome of the consultation with the centre's user groups, the following actions were instructed:

- (i) The Town Clerk to formally notify the external auditor of the council's intention to transfer the centre.
- (ii) The Town Clerk to incur expenditure with regards to the necessary legal fees.
- (iii) That the terms and conditions of the transfer to be delegated to the council's Risk Assessment Sub-Committee.

45. CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

Mayor:

Date: