

At a meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held via hybrid meeting on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 commencing at 6.00pm.

**PRESENT**

Councillor A. J. Rutherford (Chair)

Councillors Mrs M. A. Blakeley-Walker, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, S. Feeney, A. R. James, K. R. Jones, Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. L. McAlpine, B. Mellor, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, P. Prendergast, Ms V. Roberts, D. Simmons and Miss C. L. Williams.

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

**30. APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair referred to the sad and sudden passing of Councillor Brian Blakeley and read aloud some words he had put together about Brian.

On behalf of all councillors and staff, the Chair passed sincere condolences to Brian's wife Evelyn and to Councillor Mrs Michelle Blakeley-Walker and the rest of Brian's family and friends, before leading the meeting into a minute's silence.

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs J. M. Evans.

**31. PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS REPORT (SCHEDULE A) OCTOBER 2022**

The Chair 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
1503	Shire Leasing	337.33	Avaya telephone system – lease payment 3 of 4 2022/23
1504	BT	523.18	Telephone rental & charges
1505	Denbighshire CC	32,037.00	SC2 loan repayment – 2 or 3 for 2022/23
1506	HSBC	8.00	Bank charges 17 <sup>th</sup> Aug to 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2022
1508	Gunsmoke Communications	1,280.00	Management fee for Sept 2022
1509	HMRC	2,936.38	PAYE deductions for Sept 2022
1510	Clwyd Pension Fund	4,339.63	Pension deductions & deficit funding for Sept 2022
1511	RTC staff	7,483.48	Net pay for RTC staff for Oct 2022
1391	Denbighshire CC	736.00	NNDR for Civic Offices, WRCC, Rhyl.
1419	Benefits Advice Shop	916.66	Part-time Appeals Officer – payment 5 of 12
1518	Tesco Mobile	21.99	Insurance cover for 3 phones & first payment for 1 phone
	<b>Total payments</b>	<b>50,619.65</b>	

Category	Description	Amount
Santander	Interest on 31 Day Notice Account	86.30
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	28.87
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	28.87
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	28.87
HSBC	Interest on 7 Day Deposit	28.87
	<b>Total income</b>	<b>£201.78</b>

**RESOLVED** that the report was received.

### **32. AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS/ADDITIONS TO APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST**

Further to min.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 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 £
1519	Sage & Co	Payroll services – July to Sept 2022	97.80
1520	Cllr J. McAlpine	Deputy Mayoral expenses for Oct 2022	28.00
	<b>Total Schedule B</b>		<b>£125.80</b>

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

### **33. CONSULTATION: BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES – 2023 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES**

Further to min.no.62 of the meeting of Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021, the Town Clerk reported receipt of an amended consultation from the Boundary Commission for Wales (circulated with agenda) for members' consideration.

The Town Clerk reminded members that the town council was consulted towards the end of 2021 and its representations were made (4D of the documents circulated), asking for Rhyl to be linked with Prestatyn and not Colwyn Bay as was proposed, as Rhyl had no natural links to the latter.

The amended consultation advises that the new constituency for this area will be Clwyd North and that the number of electors within the area had been slightly reduced, but Rhyl would be joined with Colwyn Bay.

Members expressed their dismay at the way the new boundaries were being drawn-up with apparent disregard for the views submitted by all consultees from across the political board.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to re-submit the town council's previous response.

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

**34. NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

Councillor Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, as one of the three appointed representatives of the town council on the Association, advised that the town council had been affiliated to the organisation for over 26 years and that the representatives always attended the association's quarterly meetings.

There are 36 North and Mid Wales local council members and any member town council can have issues put on to the agenda for wider discussion.

At the last quarterly meeting the Chief Executive Officer of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board had advised of a new bidding process for the delivery of a plan for the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Rhyl.

Councillor Butterfield said that this had come as a surprise as in 2008 plans were made for long-stay patient care and a small Accident and Emergency department

Also that money was to be made available for additional NHS dental provision throughout Denbighshire, and noted that Flintshire had the least provision.

Another issue discussed as a separate agenda item was Free Ports, these being Government assigned special economic zones where customs rules such as taxes do not apply until goods leave the zone, to encourage economic activity near shipping ports or airports.

The UK Government were to introduce 10 Free Ports throughout the UK, and Welsh Government was making a case for one of them to be on Anglesey around Holyhead.

The planned 20mph speed limit throughout all villages and towns in Wales was discussed, as was the Tourism Tax to be brought in next year.

All big issues that Councillor Butterfield felt the town council should consider.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to:

(i) *invite the CEO of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and the relevant Welsh Government Minister to a future meeting to advise on the current position with regard to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Rhyl.*

(ii) *add the Free Port, the 20mph speed restriction and the tourism tax/green levy to a future meeting agenda.*

**35. ADDITIONAL ITEM: FIVE FREE-PARKING DAYS**

The Town Clerk advised that three Councillors had kindly offered their services to attach and remove the signs to and from the ticket machines in the Sky Tower, Central, Railway Station and Town Hall car parks for the five free parking days (Tues 20<sup>th</sup> – Sat 24<sup>th</sup> December), and asked for a further volunteer for the car park on West Kimmel Street.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor A. R. James volunteered for the car park on West Kinmel Street.

**36. ADDITIONAL ITEM: CHRISTMAS POPS**

The Town Clerk advised that Denbighshire Leisure Limited had offered a number of tickets to councillors for the free event at the Pavilion Theatre on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November, and asked members to let him know how many they would each like, if at all, as soon as possible.

**RESOLVED** that the information was noted.

**37. ADDITIONAL ITEM: REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

The Town Clerk reminded members to respond to the Civic & Admin Officer's email inviting them along to the day's services, to enable seating to be reserved and an appropriate level of catering to be arranged.

**RESOLVED** that the request was noted.

**38. 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.

**39. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

The following minutes were submitted (circulated with agenda) for members' information and approval of the recommendations contained therein:

Grounds Maintenance - 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - Min. Nos. 1 – 10  
Sub-Committee

Strategic & Operational - 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 - Min. Nos. 7 - 10  
Planning Committee

Strategic & Operational - 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 - Min. Nos. 11 - 18  
Planning Committee

**RESOLVED** that the minutes were received and approved.

**40. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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

Chair: .....

Date: .....