

At a **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 via hybrid meeting, commencing at 6.00pm.

## **PRESENT**

Councillor A. J. Rutherford (Chair)

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

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

### **42. APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. L. McAlpine, P. Prendergast and Mrs M. A. Walker.

The Chair referred to the passing of Her Majesty the Queen and also of the past Mayor, Mr Derek Davies, and asked members to observe a period of silence as a mark of respect for both.

The Town Clerk suggested that agenda items no.9 (Exclusion of Press and Public) and 10 (Presentation: DCC – Mr Mike Jones – Rhyl Promenade Development) be brought forward.

**RESOLVED** *that the items be duly brought forward.*

### **43. 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.*

### **44. PRESENTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – MR MIKE JONES – RHYL PROMENADE DEVELOPMENT**

The Chair welcomed Mr Mike Jones to the meeting and invited him to address members.

Mr Jones advised that the development work was born out of the Rhyl Town Centre Vision document, with the over-arching objectives being to reunite the beach and the town centre predominantly by improving the safe movement of pedestrians by decluttering East and West Parade, widening pavements and providing more links/access between the two areas.

The development would also improve National Cycle Network 5 which runs along the Promenade and attracts 400,000 trips each year, according to Sustans.

The development area along the Promenade would be from SC2 to the roundabout at the top of Bath Street.

The works would be split into phases and progressed as and when funding was secured.

Phase 1 would include works within the existing highway, and as Denbighshire County Council owned the land there was no requirement for any land acquisition or planning consent, which would streamline this part of the development. This would be funded by the Levelling-Up Fund.

Phase 2 would involve works between the highway and sea wall and would be funded by a Welsh Government Regeneration grant.

The proposals had been presented to the Rhyl Member Area Group (MAG) earlier this month, and would be going to Denbighshire County Council's Chief Executive Team (CET) and then to Cabinet on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Public engagement would begin late October and would include approaching the local MP and MS, meeting with business directly affected and Rhyl BID, 'pop-up shop' in the town centre, online consultation and a stakeholder workshop.

After the various engagement, funding and design approvals and Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO), construction was hoped to start in October 2023 and to finish in September 2024.

The project incorporated into the Coastal Defence Project Board, liaised regularly with the Queen's Buildings Project Team and meet with the various DCC teams and services.

To mitigate the impact of the construction works, the plan was to have just one contractor to deliver the highway/public realm scheme as well as the Coastal Defence Project. A Business Liaison Officer role would be introduced and there would be weekly updates for key stakeholders on the planned works as it progresses.

In response to members questions, Mr Jones advised that:

- If the bid for Levelling-Up funding was to be unsuccessful, then they would revert back to the original plan, which was for the entire project to be funded by the Welsh Government Regeneration grant.
- If the five-year lifespan of the Rhyl BID comes to an end next year, then direct engagement with local businesses and the 'pop-up shop' period would hopefully be effective.
- Use of a Business Liaison Officer, employed by the contractor but funded by DCC and the provision of a weekly newsletter worked really well during a project in Llangollen as a communication tool and point of contact, so should be of the same benefit to this project.

At the end of the presentation, the Chair thanked Mr Jones and Mr Hope for their time.

#### 45. MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the following Council and committee meetings (copies enclosed):

Meeting of Council - 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - Min. Nos: 26-41

Proposed by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and seconded by Councillor B. Mellors and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

With regard to min.no.38 (Illuminations Display 2022), the Town Clerk advised that he had now received quotes for the repair of the illuminations that were repairable and reminded members that he had been given a budget of between £7,000 and £10,000.

To repair eight illuminations would cost £1,340 which could possibly come out of the normal budget, and would be re-introduced as part of this year's display.

The Town Clerk advised that the five cross-street illuminations in the town centre should not be part of this year's scheme as the wall fittings could not be trusted to hold up in high winds. The Town Clerk reminded members that in last winter's storms one of them came down and caused significant damage to the Bright Spot building. He did not feel comfortable with what might happen again should strong winds occur this winter.

The Town Clerk further advised that two solar powered illuminations would be displayed on the Wellington Community Centre building this year to see how effective and viable they are.

The Town Clerk suggested that the town council receives presentations from illumination providers with a view to entering into a new three-year lease scheme.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to proceed with the repairing of the eight illuminations and bring a detailed report to the October meeting of Council for consideration of the cross-street lights, etc.

With regard to min.no.39 (Rhyl Community Bonfire & Fireworks) and in response to a member's query, the Town Clerk advised that he had contacted the Rhyl Fire Service to ask about the possibility of silent fireworks for next year's event and that they were very enthusiastic. He was waiting on them coming back to him.

Planning Committee - 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - Min. Nos: 10-16

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

Planning Committee - 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 - Min. Nos: 17-20

Proposed by Councillor Mrs W. M. Mullen-James and seconded by Council A. J. Rutherford and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

To confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General - 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 - Min. Nos: 19-29  
Purposes Committee

Proposed by Councillor A. J. Rutherford and seconded by Councillor Mrs W. M. M. Mullen-James and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action

#### 46. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Chair referred to events the Mayor and Deputy Mayor had attended on behalf of the Council over the past month (circulated with agenda).

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

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 be signed by two councillors in due course.

Supplier	Details of Supply	Voucher Number	Amount £
Cllr D. L. King	Mayoral expenses for August 2022	1492	170.59
Cllr D. L. King	Mayoral Allowance 22/23 – payment 2 of 3	1493	433.33
Cllr D. L. King	Senior Members Allowance 22/23 – payment 2 of 3	1494	166.67
Cllr J. L. McAlpine	Deputy Mayoral Allowance 22/23 – payment 2 of 3	1495	133.34
Cllr J. L. McAlpine	Senior Members Allowance 22/23 – payment 2 of 3	1496	166.67
Royal British Legion	Wreathes x3	1497	150.00
Rhyl BID	BID contribution – 1/4/22 to 1/3/23	1498	251.64
Rhyl BID	BID contribution – 1/3/22 to 1/4/22	1499	23.36
Rhyl Catholic Church	Refreshments for Civic Sunday	1500	400.00
<b>Total Schedule B</b>			<b>£1,895.60</b>

**Emergency Payments:** No emergency payments were made.

**Card Payments:** One card payment (Voucher No.1497) for £150.00 was made.

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

**48. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS TO 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2022 AND FORECASTS FOR 2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Town Clerk referred to his and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda) showing performance against the budget, which was on-track, but advised that a lot can change over a six-month period.

With regard to the forecast expenditure of £25,000 above that budgeted for, the Town Clerk added that the council had specific reserves available to cover it.

**RESOLVED** *that the report was received.*

**49. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS: RHYL URBAN GREENING**

The Chair reported that the town council's representative on the above organisation, Mrs E. M. Chard had resigned and sought nominations for a replacement representative.

**RESOLVED** *that Councillor K. R. Jones was appointed.*

**50. REQUEST FOR TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORT – FRIENDS OF KINMEL HALL**

The Town Clerk reported receipt of the above from the Chairman of the Friends of Kinmel Hall (circulated with agenda) seeking the town council support for their efforts to restore the Kinmel Hall building.

**RESOLVED** *that the Town Clerk to send a letter of support.*

**51. MEMBER'S ITEM: MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

Councillor K. R. Jones sought members' support for a letter of support to be provided for the above organisation for a funding application as per his email to the Town Clerk (circulated with agenda).

**RESOLVED** *that the Town Clerk to send a letter of support.*

**52. ADDITIONAL ITEM: CANCELLATION OF THE OCTOBER FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

The Town Clerk advised that he had three further additional items to bring to members tonight, and that with their permission, if they agree to consider them, he suggests cancelling the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

**RESOLVED** *that the three items be considered and that the October Finance and General Purposes Committee be cancelled.*

**53. ADDITIONAL ITEM: FIVE FREE PARKING DAYS**

The Town Clerk suggested that the five free parking days be from Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December this year.

A member wondered whether Denbighshire County Council might consider extending its own 'Free After 3pm' parking initiative to all day free parking on the Saturdays running up to Christmas, to encourage shoppers into Rhyl and support local businesses in what is set to be a very difficult time for businesses.

**RESOLVED** that the five suggested days were approved and the Town Clerk to write to Denbighshire County Council to ask them to consider offering free parking all day on the Saturdays running up to Christmas this year.

**54. ADDITIONAL ITEM: BEACH RAKE**

The Town Clerk reported that, as instructed, he had asked Denbighshire County Council if a demonstration could be arranged for town councillors, and that they had said that the rake would only be operational until the end of September, as winter conditions were not appropriate for its use.

Denbighshire County Council advised that a demonstration would be better in Spring 2023, but were willing to arrange a special viewing in October if councillors wished.

**RESOLVED** that a demonstration in Spring was accepted.

**55. ADDITIONAL ITEM: REQUEST FROM RHYL COLLEGE TO PROVIDE A PRESENTATION TO THE TOWN COUNCIL**

The Town Clerk reported receipt of an email from the college asking if the college's Principal Mr Lawrence Wood could provide the town council with progress report on the current works taking place to the college.

**RESOLVED** that the request was approved.

**56. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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

Chair: .....

Date: .....