

At the hybrid **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023, commencing at 6.00pm.

**PRESENT**

Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine (Mayor)

Councillors Mrs M. A. Blakeley-Walker, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, Miss S. Fleming, R. James, K. R. Jones, B. Mellor, Mrs W. M. Mullen-James, Ms R. Roberts, Ms V. Roberts, A. J. Rutherford, D. Simmons, A. Walker and Miss C. L. Williams.

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

**88. OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES**

The Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Helen Gheorghiu Gould, commenced proceedings by leading all those wishing to take part, in prayer.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Mrs J. M. Evans, S. Feeney and Mrs D. L. King.

**89. ELECTION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR – RHYL CEFNDY WARD**

The Town Clerk advised that Miss Sonia Fleming had been elected to represent the Cefndy Ward, had signed all of the necessary documents and welcomed her to her first meeting as a Councillor.

**90. MINUTES**

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

Meeting of Council - 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - Min. Nos. 77-87

Proposed by Councillor Ms J. L. McAlpine and seconded by Councillor Miss C. L. Williams and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - Min. Nos.26-28

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

Planning Committee - 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 - Min. Nos. 29-32

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

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General - 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 - Min. Nos. 51-64  
Purposes Committee

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

**91. MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor submitted details of events attended by herself and the Deputy Mayor over the past month (copy circulated with agenda) and in particular referred to the Christmas Lights Switch-On in Rhyl and the Chernobyl Children Lifeline concert in Prestatyn. Both being great events.

The Deputy Mayor commented on Abergele Town Council's charity Christmas concert and said it had been an enjoyable evening.

**RESOLVED** that the report was received.

**92. PRESENTATION: RECORD OF YEAR IN OFFICE**

The Mayor advised that due to Councillor Mrs D. L. King's absence, the above item would be deferred to the next meeting of Council.

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

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 £
1749	Sandra Williams	Translation services	250.14
1750	Delwedd Ltd	Office 365 subscriptions – 4 staff	593.28
1751	GoToMyPC	3 subscriptions for staff to enable remote working	626.40
1752	Denbighshire County Council	Rent for Remembrance Gardens	13.50
1753	Denbighshire County Council	Rent for Tir Morfa bus shelter	1.00
	<b>Total Schedule B</b>		<b>£10,538.69</b>

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

**94. MEMBER'S ITEM: RHYL BONFIRE & FIREWORK DISPLAY**

The Town Clerk advised that the Councillor wishing to raise a matter regarding the Bonfire and Firework display, had now withdrawn the item.

**95. PROPOSED SPECIAL MEETING**

Further to min.no.63 of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Town Clerk reported that the consultants appointed by Denbighshire County Council to evaluate proposals to co-relocate the Rhyl Tourist Information Centre and Rhyl Museum had asked to meet with Town Councillors in January 2024.

The Town Clerk suggested a Special Meeting of Council be called on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 4.00pm to accommodate the consultants.

***RESOLVED*** that the Town Clerk to proceed with the calling of the Special Meeting, preferably for 5.00pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

**96. CONSULTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE**

The Town Clerk reported receipt of the above correspondence (circulated with agenda) extending an invitation to the Chair/Mayor and Clerk to one of three proposed meetings to consider an alternative refuse collection service.

***RESOLVED*** that the Mayor and Clerk to attend the meeting at 5.00pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at Ysgol Glan Clwyd, and the Deputy Clerk to take the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting to be held that evening.

**[Councillor B. Mellor declared a prejudicial interest in the above item, due to his position as Denbighshire County Council Cabinet member with this matter part of his portfolio and vacated the Chamber, taking no further part in discussions or voting thereon]**

**97. CANCELLATION OF A MEETING**

The Mayor advised that the planned meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee to be held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024, left very little time for the officers to prepare papers for, given the Christmas and New Year holidays, and asked members to consider cancelling it.

***RESOLVED*** that the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 was cancelled.

**98. 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.

**99. HONORARY FREEMAN / FREEWOMAN REPORT**

In accordance with the Town Council's adopted policy, the Mayor reported that there had been no nominations put forward.

## **100. DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION**

The Mayor reported receipt of correspondence from Denbighshire County Council's Streetscene Co-ordinator (circulated with agenda) asking members to consider contributing a third of the cost (£1,666) to refurbish the waterfall feature off the Clock Tower roundabout, with Denbighshire County Council and the Rhyl BID providing the other two thirds.

**RESOLVED** that the request was approved, with the funds to be taken from the Town Council's Reserves.

## **101. ANNUAL BUDGET / FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN**

Further to the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Town Clerk asked members to formally approve the Strategic and Operational Planning (SOP) Committee's budget recommendation that the precept of £555,954 be levied on Denbighshire County Council which represents a standstill precept of £57.85 for a Band D property (report circulated with agenda).

The Town Clerk advised that since the recommendation was made, the Town Council had been notified of an amended property base number which had increased from 9,611 to 9,890, giving two options, as explained within the report.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) ~~a £555,594 level of precept be levied on Denbighshire County Council~~

Option 1 be approved in that the Council maintains the Band D Charge at the 2023/24 level of £57.85 per property (same as for 2023/24) this will then generate an additional £16,181 meaning that the Precept levied on Denbighshire County Council will increase from the recommended £555,954 to £572,094. The additional £16,140 being provisionally added to the Contingency budget.

- (ii) the suggested Budget Setting Policy as laid out in the report be approved.
- (iii) the estimated income and expenditure for the 2023/24 financial year as laid out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved.
- (iv) it approves the recommended budget expenditure for 2024/25 as laid out in Appendix 2 of the report.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk to bring a report back to the January 2024 meeting of Council with regard to the establishment of a small committee to consider all future requests for funding received from Denbighshire County Council.

## **102. CHRISTMAS RECESS – DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE POWERS**

The Mayor sought members' approval for the delegation of executive powers to the Town Clerk in consultation with the following members for the period 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 until 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

- 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

**103. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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

Mayor: .....

Date: .....