

Minutes of a meeting of Denbigh Town Council held on Monday 25th January 2016 at 6.30pm at the Town Hall, Denbigh.

Present: Councillors Raymond Bartley (chairman), Margaret Bowe, Rob Parkes (arrived 6.50pm), Gaynor Morgan Rees, Medwyn Williams, Colin Hughes, Brian Davies, Roy Tickle, Gaynor Wood-Tickle, Catherine Jones, and Medwyn Jones (Town Clerk).

Apologies: Cllrs Philip Stevens, Mark Young, Colin L Hughes.

The chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

- 155. Presentation by Emily Reddy on the Rural Community Skills Initiative.** The town clerk reported that unfortunately due to unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances the presentation would not take place and it had been agreed to reschedule for the next council meeting on the 22nd February 2016.
- 156. Urgent Matters: There were none**
- 157. Declaration of Personal Interest:** The following declarations were received:
- (1) Cllr Gaynor Morgan Rees – agenda item 19 – Denbigh Museum - personal.
 - (2) Cllr Medwyn Williams – agenda item 19 – Denbigh Museum – personal.
 - (3) Cllr Colin Hughes - all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council.
 - (4) Cllr Raymond Bartley – all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council.
- 158. The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 21st December 2015 and the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on the 11th January 2016 were received and approved.**
- 159. Matters arising:** 21.12.15. Minute 141(5) – Welsh Government Engagement Event 4.2.16. Cllr Colin Hughes reported that he was now unable to attend and sought a volunteer to take his place. Unfortunately the response was a negative one.
- 160. Mayor's Report:** The Mayor reported that a report would be presented to the next full council meeting in February.
- 161. Letters, E-mails and Notices:** 1. It was agreed that three items of correspondence be noted.
2. It was further agreed that the following be noted and actioned accordingly:
- (1) E-mail from Mrs Doris Roberts re the North Wales Cancer Appeal AGM 19.2.16. The Mayor and Cllrs Roy Tickle and Gaynor Wood-Tickle attending.
 - (2) E-mail of thanks from Sion Goldsmith DCC re Denbigh Town Hall. The town clerk added that Cadw had given planning consent for the secure door. The chairman also added that new lights had been erected above the stage.
 - (3) Dial a Ride – letter of thanks and request to use the town council logo on the new mini bus to show that the council sponsored the vehicle. The request was granted.
 - (4) E-mail response from DCC re funding received to carry out preservation work on the five Denbigh Charters. Comment was made that the town council should have been informed, as a matter of courtesy, of what was intended. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Archives requesting information on the type of work that was to be carried out on the Charters.

162. Planning: Following discussion, it was agreed that no objection be raised in respect of the following application for planning permission:

- (1) 1, Lôn Caerau – erection of extension to dwelling

163. Council Committee Minutes. (1) The minutes of the Environment and Finance Committee held on the 18th January 2016 were noted.

(2) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 19th January 2016 were noted.

164. Minutes / Reports of council sub committees. Documents Scrutiny sub-committee. Cllr Margaret Bowe reported that the sub-committee had met, but due to the size of the document under consideration a further meeting was necessary.

165. Reports: (1) WW1 Commemoration Group. The town clerk's written report was considered and accepted.

(2) NWATC. Cllr Raymond Bartley reported on a recent meeting. The meeting was described as a shambles. The secretary had failed to attend due to a broken down car. The vice chairman chaired the meeting. The secretary was due to retire in 2017. Cllr Bartley questioned the future of the association.

(3) NWWTEFC. Cllr Roy Tickle reported that he had attended the link annual dinner on the 23rd at Conwy together with Cllrs Raymond Bartley, Gaynor Wood-Tickle and the town clerk. A most pleasant evening was enjoyed by all who attended.

(4) Ysgol Pendref. Cllr Roy Tickle reported on a recent meeting of the Governors. The school was going from strength to strength.

(5) Theatr Twm o'r Nant. Cllr Medwyn Williams reported that a full programme of events had been produced. A recent meeting had discussed the insurance. The theatre was thriving.

(6) Cllr Gaynor Wood-Tickle reported that the Denbigh in Bloom working group had held its first meeting. Cllr Catherine Jones had been elected as the group chairman.

(7) Cllr Catherine Jones reported that there were surface water problems in Maes Hyfryd. The problems appear to have started after the Hwb was built. Photographs showing the problems were produced. It was agreed that the photographs be forwarded to DCC Planning Environment with copies to Grŵp Cynefin.

There were no other reports.

166. Reports by County Councillors on Matters Appertaining only to Denbigh:

1. Cllr Colin Hughes reported that (1) The temporary closure of Henllan Street would cause inconvenience. Cllr Hughes had requested assurances on signage. (2) DCC had bought out of the housing benefit arrangements from Welsh Government. Cllr Hughes was working with DCC officers to see what could be done with the takings in the area. DCC was looking at improving the public realm areas. In reply to a question Cllr Hughes explained how the housing revenue account worked.

Cllr Hughes, in reply to a query stated that he would investigate the delay on the improvements in Lenten Pool.

2. Cllr Raymond Bartley reported (1) M & H Coaches had lost the no 66 Denbigh town bus route. Cllr Bartley had presented a petition from users to DCC. M & H now accepted the loss

of the contract which will be taken up by GHA from the end of February. The proprietor of M & H wished to thank all the people of Denbigh for their support over the last 10 years or so. Comment was made that many depended on this service. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to M & H. (2) Discussions re development of Station Yard coming to an end – all issues appeared to have been resolved. All units had now been let. The future looked good.

167. Accounts 1. The following accounts were approved for payment:

(1)	Town Clerk - reimburse cost of purchasing postage stamps (Cheque no. 005802)	-	£55.19
(2)	Catrin Gilkes - translation service 11.1.16 (Cheque no. 005803)	-	£95.00
(3)	Zen Internet – ADSL provision (February 2016) (Cheque no. 005804)	-	£18.37
(4)	Ernest Martin – open and lock Dr E P Garden (January 2016) (Cheque no. 005805)	-	£60.00
(5)	Catalyst Systems – off site secure data back-up (December 2015) (Cheque no. 005806)	-	£19.27
(6)	Cllr Raymond Bartley – travelling expenses (Rhos on Sea) (Cheque no. 005807)	-	£20.70
(7)	Sodexo – grounds maintenance Dr E P Garden (January 2016) (Cheque no. 005808)	-	£605.88

Total payments: £874.41.

2. Other financial matters: (1) The town clerk reported that the expenditure limit under S.137 for the financial year 2016/2017 had been received from Welsh Government – an increase of 6p per electorate to £7.42. The S.137 expenditure for the 2016/2017 financial year would be £51,390.92, an increase of £415.56 over the 2015/2016 financial year.

(2) The town clerk reported that a new Insurance renewal proposal had been received from Zurich Municipal for 1 year, 3 years and 5 years. Details of the proposal were submitted and discussed. The town clerk stated that the insurance company had confirmed that the premiums quoted were substantially cheaper this year due to the council's claim record being good and the company having had a major review of its rates. The quotations also included the building insurance on the former courthouse. It was **Resolved (unanimously) to accept the 5 year proposal.**

168. Council Standing Orders. The town clerk submitted the proposed amendments to sections 1 and 3 of the council's standing orders following the decisions made by the council at its meeting on the 21st December 2015 (Minute 151). Each of the proposals were examined and it was **Resolved that the amendments be approved.**

169. Council Vacancy – Upper Ward. The town clerk reported that the list of nominations had been published. Polling to take place on the 4th February 2016.

170. Council Vacancy – Lower Ward. The town clerk reported that the notice of co-option needed be published after the 4th February 2016. It was agreed that a public notice advertising the vacancy be published with a closing date to be determined after discussion with the electoral officer. Candidates to express an interest and submit a résumé and or CV to the council.

171. Nomination for Office 2016/2017:

- 1. Mayor:** Cllr Roy Tickle proposed, seconded by Cllr Gaynor Wood-Tickle that Cllr Margaret Bowe be nominated.
- 2. Deputy Mayor:** Cllr Raymond Bartley proposed, seconded by Cllr Colin Hughes that Cllr Roy Tickle be nominated.

172. Denbigh Open Doors 2016. Cllr Medwyn Williams opened the discussion by stating that the event had been an important one for the town over the last few years. Last year a number of changes had occurred whereby DCC no longer led on the arrangements and the Denbigh Civic Society took the lead. Unfortunately the Civic Society decided that they no longer had the resources or the membership to continue. A temporary committee was pulled together to organise, what turned out to be, a successful event. Cllr Williams suggested that there were two options available, namely (1) the town council to take the lead and organise the event or (2) pull together a working group to organise the event. The second option would enable the group to submit funding applications. The cost of the 2015 event was less than had been predicted by the Civic Society. The chairman thanked Cllr Williams for organising the group during the 2015 event. Comments were received during the ensuing discussion: (1) difficult one to decide – the organising of such an event is time consuming and that a working group should be formed which included town council representatives. (2) Apparently Ray and Margaret Thomas from the Civic Society had stated that it would be good for the group from 2015 continued. (3) Popular event in the town. Cllr Medwyn Williams agreed that he was prepared to contact various persons and arrange a meeting. It was finally **Resolved** (unanimously) **that Cllr Medwyn Williams be asked to contact relevant persons and organise a working group.**

173. Denbigh Museum. The town clerk referred to e-mail received from Cllr Gwyneth Kensler regarding an amendment to the lease on the former courthouse building for the former caretaker's house to be reinstated as a dwelling. Advice had been sought from the council's solicitor Mr Gwyn Lloyd Jones – the town clerk referred to the advice. During the ensuing discussion a question was asked as to the cost of renovating the house – in reply it was stated that a figure as such had not been discussed but it was estimated that it would be in the region of £20,000 to £30,000. It was also confirmed that the museum would be responsible for the upkeep of the house and that any letting arrangements would be handled by a letting agency. It was also stated that a possible use for the house would be as accommodation for a museum caretaker in due course. The Museum would take complete responsibility for the house. It was finally **Resolved to agree in principle for the lease to be amended.** Seven voted in favour with one abstention. Cllrs Gaynor Morgan Rees and Medwyn Williams did not vote as they had declared a personal interest.

At this point the meeting moved to Part 2

Following conclusion of the business under Part 2 and there being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 7.47pm

Signed:.....(chairman)

Date:.....

