Minutes of a Denbigh Town Council meeting held on Wednesday, 22 September 2021 at 6.30pm via Zoom. (Meeting started at 6.32pm to allow all to join)

Present: Councillors Rhys Thomas (Chair), Catherine Jones, Gaynor Wood-Tickle, Roy Tickle, Dyfrig Berry, Alyn Ashworth, Lara Pritchard, Carla Hargraves, Glenn Swingler, Ruth Griffiths, Gaynor Morgan-Rees, Rob Parkes, Philip Stevens & Sylvia Jennings; Jenny Barlow (Town Clerk); Bethan Webber (Civic & Events Assistant)

Apologies: None (Cllr Rob Parkes did advise that he will be late joining)

Observing: Cllr Gwyneth Kensler & Pauline Edwards.

The chair welcomed all to the September meeting and gave a warm welcome to Bethan Webber on her appointment and attending her first council meeting.

Cllr Rhys Thomas advised the Councillors that there was a lot of agenda items for the meeting and requested that the councillors agreed to vary the agenda for this meeting. The councillors agreed. The items to be discussed were: 1 – 5, 7.4, 8-9,12-16.

60 Declaration of Personal Interest: None

61 Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 28th July 2021 were agreed and noted. (Mayor to sign once face to face meetings resume).

62 Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the Special Council meeting held on Wednesday, 18th August 2021 were agreed and noted. (Mayor to sign once face to face meetings resume).

63 Matters arising:

63.1 Fountains – The leak at the fountain has been found. Currently sourcing costings for repair. Need to adhere to listed building regulations. The clerk also advised that the garden has been closed due to algae in the fountain water.

63.2 Fireworks – updates from Cadw, Dave Phillips (Safety Focus Ltd) and Emma Sciesinska (Uproar) were noted. The town councillors discussed at length various options available and resolved for the event to be postponed again this year. The town clerk was requested to send a press release out to the public advising of this.

Cllr Lara Pritchard joined the meeting at 18.42

63.3 Christmas Trees – the clerk confirmed that a reply had been received from Peter Spencer. Further details on costings, long term maintenance of the trees was also required. Cllr Alyn Ashworth requested that the current trees could be used and lit up, this was not agreed however Cllr Rhys Thomas advised that they could visit the location to see the electrical point were and see the feasibility of using them in future years. The town councillors agreed to source teal trees again this year.

Cllr Philip Stevens left the meeting at 18.55

63.4 Dog Walking area – The town clerk confirmed that the request from DCC to have the area transferred to DTC had now been passed to Valuations and Estates. Letters of support were also received from both Cllr Mark Young and Shon Powell – Denbigh Football Club.

Cllr Rob Parkes & Philip Stevens joined the meeting at 18.59.

63.5 Play Gym – The town clerk advised that a meeting is to be held with Housing. Further details to be given at a future date.

63.6 School Governor – The vacancy of school governor at Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn was discussed at the meeting, it was decided to defer until the October meeting. The clerk to advise the school of this.

Cllr Lara Pritchard re-joined the meeting at 19.09.

63.7 Hybrid meetings. The town clerk gave an update on the current standing on Hybrid meetings. The councillors discussed this at length and it was resolved that the town council would continue with Zoom meetings only for the time being while awaiting further updates from Welsh Government as well as updates from other town councils. The clerk also advised that there was still difficulty in having simultaneous translation via zoom as some of the town councillors were using a landline phone to dial into the meeting. Cllr Rhys Thomas requested a meeting with the clerk and Cllr Dyfrig Berry to look at other options available.

63.8 Walled Towns Car Rally – Cllr Roy Tickle asked if there were any further volunteers for the event as stewards. Pauline Edwards (observer) offered to assist.

64 Payment requiring authorisation:

64.1 ADT – CCTV annual maintenance £1471.16
(Chq no 007232)

64.2 LITE – 2021 Christmas Lights on Vale St £2448.00
(Chq no 007233)

The two above payments were authorised.

The below payment was not authorised as the event has been cancelled.

64.3 Uproar – 1st Fireworks payment £3840.00

65 Planning.

65.1 01/2021/0840
Former Buttermarket, Chapel place, Denbigh
Internal and external alterations to listed building to form community centre and offices, including external cladding, replacement rainwater goods, insertion of new doors and windows, formation of access ramp, amendment to internal room layout and associated works (listed building application)

No objections were raised on the above application.

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65.2 01/2021/0839
Llandrillo College, Crown Lane, Denbigh
Conversion and alterations of existing college building (use Class D1) to form a mixed use community Centre and offices, alterations to elevations and associated works.

No objections were raised on the above application.

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65.3 01/2021/0863
Coed Accas, Denbigh
Erection of an agricultural building for the housing of livestock and storage of feed and machinery and associated works.

No objections were raised on the above application.

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66 The Council's standing orders were reinstated following the Special Town Council meeting held in August.

67 Other meetings attended by Town Councillors:
Cllr Rhys Thomas advised that he had attended a few meetings with Ruth Williams from Menter Iaith in connection to the Communities grant available. Ideas had been discussed and given to DCC for consideration. The only proposal that qualified for the grant was for upgrading the town hall. The town clerk has now taken this grant application on board and will feedback to the town councillors when an update is received. The town councillors were happy for the town clerk to complete this application.
Cllr Alyn Ashworth advised that he had attended the N & NW Association of Town Council's meeting and had been appointed as Vice Chairman.

68 Town Council Vacancy – Co-Option. Mrs Pauline Edwards was successful for the vacant Central seat in Denbigh. The town clerk will contact Mrs Edwards and the County Council Electoral department confirming this.

69 H M Stanley.
Cllr Catherine Jones Chair of the working group gave an overview of the possible arrangements for the public consultation. The questionnaire has been distributed with a closing date of the 30th September. A poster advertising the consultation and a press release is in the process of being created and will be circulated with the town councillors prior to distribution. Lengthy discussions took place regarding safety, voting process (including identification & ensuring all are included), and boards displaying items relating to HM Stanley for and against. The town councillors agreed that the consultation should go ahead including the above.

Cllrs Alyn Ashworth and Philip Stevens wanted it noted that they wanted nothing to do with the process of the public consultation.

The meeting was adjourned with the following agenda items to be discussed at a reconvened date. Items: **6, 7.1 – 7.3, 7.5 – 7.7, 10 – 11 & 17.**

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 20.30 pm.

Signed:.....(chairman)

Date:.....