Cyngor Dinas Llanelwy
St Asaph City Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of St Asaph City Council held on Wednesday 14th May 2025 at 7.00 pm at the Council & Community Meeting Room and, also with remote attendance via Zoom.

Present:

In person: Cllrs D Cassidy, M A Gedd, J Grove, L Groves, C A Hardie, M Hogg, K Jones, P G Morton, G W Roberts, J O Roberts, P Scott (Mayor) and R S Williams (Deputy Mayor).

Via Zoom: Cllr L Nelson

2025/085 Apologies for Absence

- Apologies were received from Cllr Ellison.

2025/086 Declarations of Interest

- None.

2025/087 Public Participation

- One member of the public was present.

2025/088 North Wales Police

PCSO, Dave Jones, gave his report:

- Incidents of anti-social behaviour at Llwyn Elwy and Heol Clwyd.
- E-bikes being ridden on the High Street.
- Damage to the railings at Lower Street Play Area.
- Dangerous dogs incident at Lower Street.
- Making off at a filling station.

The PCSO Left the Chamber.

2025/089 Mayor's Report

This had been given at the beginning of the annual meeting.

2025/090 County Councillors' Reports

Cllr Hogg

Cllr Hogg gave his report. He attended the following:

- Elwy MAG;
- Nature reserve at Llangollen;
- Cabinet, where toilets were discussed;
- Dealing with issues at communal bin areas at Rhodfa Tegid;
- Performance Scrutiny re: grant funding;
- Corporate Risk Register;
- Education;
- Internet Connectivity;
- Denbighshire Leisure Ltd – Denbighshire have issued statements to the press;
- Llys-y-Felin to discuss anti-social behaviour.

The Clerk is to forward e-mails re: speed indicator signs for Upper Denbigh Road, and CCTV for the High Street to Cllr Hogg so he can follow these up.

Cllr Hogg explained that actual traffic speeds on Upper Denbigh Road are being measured to ensure the junction is appropriate.

Cllr Scott

Cllr Scott gave his report. He attended the following:

- A 60th Wedding Anniversary;

- Flag-flying at Rhyl;
- Charity concert at St Thomas' where over £500 was raised for armed forces charities;
- Had the hedge cut at Cae Winifred;
- Obtained a green bin for a resident;
- During his term as Chairman, raised over £1000 for St Kentigern and £1000 for armed services charities.

2025/091 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting 7th May 2025 were discussed regarding accuracy (circulated prior to the meeting).

Resolved to approve the minutes of 7th May 2025 as an accurate record.

2025/092 Matters Arising

- None.

2025/093 Financial management

a) The payment schedule was reviewed:

- £4809-44 Cambrian Woodland Services for the priority 1 tree work. Work to one of the black poplars was added as a large limb had split from the tree. Priority 2 trees will be completed in due course. Updated report will be put to the Assets Committee. Denbighshire Biodiversity have worked with the tree surgeon to recover the offcuts so new trees can be propagated.
- Thorncliffe invoices dated April to be paid by cheque. Those dated May to be collected by direct debit.
- The schedule includes a cheque for £10,000 to National Savings account, which is a transfer, rather than payment out.

Resolved to approve the Payments Schedule, total value £28,206-70.

b) The Finance report was discussed:

- Precept £56646-67 received;
- £791 refund from Ash Waste re: invoice issued in error.
- Credit card now received and payments to Zoom transferred. It may be difficult to change the phone bill to City Council card or account;
- The cheque to the library has been stopped. They have securely destroyed the cheque as they had applied for the grant too late;
- Audit Wales invoice for 2019/20 referred back to them as this work was invoiced and paid in 2021. The invoice for 2021/2022 audit has not yet been received;
- Smart meter still not connecting at the meeting room. Appointment booked for second attempt at re-commissioning.

Resolved to approve and accept the finance report.

2025/094 Planning Applications

Resolved the Clerk is to write to Planning to advise of the Council's response to the following applications as indicated:

No.	Application & Location	Proposal	Response
a.	Land south-west of St Asaph (Cefnmeiriadog)	St Asaph Solar Farm	Details of public drop-in session discussed. Cllrs Scott and Hogg to highlight use of the land under the solar panels.
b.	46/2025/0194/PF Plas yr Esgob Glascoed Road	Erection of an agricultural building	No objections.

2025/095 Delegated Decisions

Resolved to approve and ratify the following delegated decisions made by the Clerk, following consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor:

Number	Decision
DD2025/004	To instruct Denbigh Locksmiths to attend to resolve issue with deadlocks at the meeting room. Two new deadlocks fitted.
DD2025/005	To instruct Lightbown Environmental to attend to service and empty the septic tank at Roe Plas.

2025/096 Council Documents

Resolved the retention of old and historical documents to be referred to the next Policy, Resources and Finance Committee meeting.

2025/097 Public Toilets

Cllrs Scott and Hogg and the Clerk had attended a meeting with representatives of Dyserth and Rhuddlan Councils and Denbighshire County Council to discuss options to keep the public toilets open in the three communities. Reports from the meeting and details of discussions with Corwen, who took over their facilities last year, had been distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Cllr Scott summarised the discussions, and three options were considered:

a) Use a cleaning company to open, close and service the toilets;
b) Enter into a Service Level Agreement with Denbighshire to provide this service. A cost of £13,500 per council had been advised;
c) Denbighshire close the toilets.

If an asset transfer is involved, a full building survey would be needed to identify any issues and enable the Council to plan any work. Cllr Scott and the Clerk had reviewed the current year budget to identify where the funding for the first year could be paid from. Dyserth had subsequently advised they would not be participating in the arrangements and so the cost could increase.

There was a full discussion of the issues, including:

- Concerns about community councils increasingly funding non-statutory services previously provided by Denbighshire.
- Denbighshire making cuts and rural communities being disadvantaged. The population threshold to retain services was 5000.
- Responsibility to the people of St Asaph and accessibility issues if there are no toilets;
- Cost of superloos as an alternative;
- Exploring the possibility of taking over the car park to help offset the costs;
- Volunteers from the church had offered their services.

Resolved, in principle, to take over running the toilets for a period of 12 months. The costs and other details are yet to be established.

Cllrs Hogg and Scott will continue the negotiations with Denbighshire.

2025/098 Allotments Association

The Allotments Association has applied for a grant to install new fencing. Details of the fencing were considered by the Council.

Resolved to grant permission for the fencing to be installed.

The Council was not aware of any issues with footpaths.

2025/099 Correspondence

No.	Details	Response
a.	Letter from Teledyne Qioptiq re: Request for Feedback on Environmental Concerns Related to our Operations	**The Clerk is to reply confirming that no complaints have been received.**

No.	Details	Response
b.	Loan Account statement from Denbighshire County Council	**Received.**
c.	E-mail from Tourism Officer re: Belgian Visitors	**Received.**
d.	E-mails from residents re: Woodcarvings	**Refer to the Environment & Assets Committee.** **Clerk to advise residents.**
e.	Letter from COS re: Heritage in your Hands	**Resolved to give support to the grant funding application.** **The Mayor to sign the form.**
f.	E-mail from Denbigh Town Council re: HM Stanley	**Received.**
g.	E-mail from Zoom re: Price Increase	**Received.**

c. Cllr Hardie gave a report on the visit by the Belgian Group. He and Cllr Roberts had met with the visitors and shown them around the Cathedral, Mount Road cemetery and the property where their ancestors had lived.
The Mayor thanked Cllrs Hardie and Roberts for the hospitality they had shown the visitors and for making their visit to St Asaph so memorable.

The meeting concluded at 8.30 pm

Date of Next Meeting

Meeting in person and with remote attendance held 11th June 2025.

Signed .....
Cllr Peter Scott Chairman of the Full Council 11th June 2025