

HOLYHEAD TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE EXTRA – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 21 DECEMBER 2020 6.00 BY REMOTE

Councillors present:- Alan Williams (Mayor), Richard Parry, Keith R Roberts, W J Chorlton, Trefor Lloyd Hughes MBE, Vaughan Williams, Mrs Ann Kennedy, Jennifer Saboor, Keith Thomas, Ken Tatlock and the AM for Ynys Môn Rhun ap Iorwerth

In attendance: Robert Henderson Town Clerk

1. Is any Councillor or Officer making a recording of this meeting?

The Town Clerk was recording the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Ailia Lewis MBE, Adrienne Edwards, Glyn Haynes and Raymond Jones

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY ANY COUNCILLOR OR OFFICER:

Councillor Alan Williams declared an Interest in item 4 and subsequently, the Deputy Mayor Councillor Richard Parry chaired the meeting for item 4 of the Agenda.

4. DISCUSSION REGARDING BREXIT / ROAD KING TRUCK STOP AT PARC CYBI:

Rhun ap Iorwerth was welcomed to the meeting by the Town Clerk and was asked to give any update he could on the situation regarding the port and Holyhead in regard to BREXIT.

The AM thanked the Councillors for inviting him to attend the meeting. He said that there had been a few concerns regarding the situation mainly due to preparatory works in creating the physical and digital infra-structure and the lack of preparation at border posts. The AM stated that he had spent a lot of time working to get a new facility up and running to alleviate HGVs being parked around the town of Holyhead and the UK had been using a centre in Warrington for check points.

Rhun said that he was disappointed with the loss of 28 jobs in the Road King Truck Stop and that it was a shame that it had to close, and he was hopeful for a new facility to be used and not to use an existing premises.

The Councillors asked questions regarding the above subject to which the AM and the Mayor, Councillor Alan Williams in his capacity as Port Operations Manager answered to the best of their knowledge. The Mayor, Councillor Alan Williams could only speak on the matter briefly and could only provide what is public knowledge, due to a non-disclosure with regards to his role. There was a brief discussion regarding the recent traffic issues on the A55 due to several factors, namely, BREXIT stock piling of lorries and a COVID-19 incident at Liverpool port which resulted in increased traffic. This issue brought to light the lack of a Traffic Management system in place and brought to light the lack of responsibility for the issue with regards to traffic management.

Councillor Trefor Lloyd Hughes MBE stated that he was due to attend a meeting with representatives of the Welsh Government and the Anglesey County Council in relation to this and he would report back to the Town Council in due course.

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The AM gave a brief overview on COVID and the current situation. He stated that there is no new information that is not public knowledge that he could share with us, but he has been seeking evidential evidence regarding the number of cases and the infection rates in the North of Wales to be shown in territorial figures. The AM mentioned that he had been speaking to the Welsh Government regarding a tier system and he did confirm that at the new review date that the Welsh Government would be considering this option.

5. DISCUSSION REGARDING HOLYHEAD AS A FREEPORT

The AM in regard to Holyhead as a Free Port. There were missed feelings on the benefits of this for the town and Anglesey alike and the Holyhead Town Council decided to continue to monitor the situation and see what happens in the future.

It was resolved, proposed and seconded that the Town Clerk contact the relevant representatives from the Anglesey County Council, the Welsh Government and HM Customs & Excise with regards to item 4 of the Agenda to be asked that the Town Council to be kept up to date with any developments.

Minute no 5594/2020

The meeting concluded at 7.30 p.m.
