

# Rhuthun 2012

Y dref heddiw

# Ruthin 2012

The town today

“The city does not tell its past, but it contains it like the lines of a hand, written in the corners of the streets, the gratings of the windows, the banisters of the steps, the antennae of the lightning rods, the poles of the flag, every second marked in turn with snatches, indentations, scrolls.”

Italo Calvino, ‘Invisible Cities’



# Rhuthun: Trosolwg cryno

Lleolir Rhuthun ar fryn yn Nyffryn Clwyd. Mae Castell Rhuthun, Eglwys Sant Pedr a Sgwâr Sant Pedr wedi'u lleoli ar gefnen y bryn wedi'u hamgylchynu gan rannau hynaf y dref, gyda datblygiad diweddarach ar orlifdir yr Afon Clwyd.

Daw'r enw 'Rhuthun' o'r geiriau Cymraeg rhudd (coch) a din (caer), ac mae'n cyfeirio at liw'r tywodfaen coch sy'n ffurfio sylfaen ddaearegol yr ardal, ac a ddefnyddiwyd i adeiladu'r castell yn 1277-1284.

Gyda phoblogaeth o dros 5,200 o bobl, mae Rhuthun wedi mwynhau bodolaeth cymharol lewyrchus dros nifer o ganrifoedd, gan ei bod yn darparu cyfleusterau, amwynderau a gwasanaethau tref farchnad draddodiadol i gefn gwlad ffrwythlon a chefnog ardal ddeheuol Dyffryn Clwyd. Fel yn achos llawer o drefi marchnad tebyg, mae Rhuthun wedi wynebu anawsterau yn ystod y degawdau diwethaf wrth i'w swyddogaethau traddodiadol leihau oherwydd newidiadau mewn ffordd o fyw a phwysau cystadleuol a diwylliannol o'r tu allan.

Mae bod yn gartref i Neuadd y Sir Cyngor Sir Ddinbych, yn ogystal â nifer o atyniadau diwylliannol allweddol, wedi cynorthwyo'r dref i gynnal sector adwerthu annibynnol a gwasanaethau proffesiynol rhesymol, ond bydd angen ymdrin â phwysau yn y dyfodol gyda mentrau rhagweithiol a blaenweledol i sicrhau cynaliadwyedd y dref.



# Ruthin: A brief overview

**Ruthin, or Rhuthun, is located around a hill in the Vale of Clwyd Ruthin Castle, St Peter's Church and St Peter's Square are located on the ridge of the hill surrounded by the oldest parts of the town, with newer development on the floodplain of the River Clwyd.**

The name 'Ruthin' comes from the Welsh words rhudd (red) and din (fort), and refers to the colour of the red sandstone which forms the geologic basis of the area, and from which the castle was constructed in 1277-1284.

With a population of over 5,200 people, Ruthin has enjoyed a relatively prosperous existence over many centuries, as it provided the facilities, amenities and services of a traditional market town to the verdant and wealthy agricultural hinterland of southern Vale of Clwyd. As with many similar Market towns, Ruthin has struggled in the last few decades as its traditional functions have been diminished by changes in lifestyle and external competitive and cultural pressures.

Hosting the County hall of Denbighshire County Council as well as a number of key cultural attractions has helped the town maintain a reasonable independent retail and professional services sector, however future pressures will need to be addressed with proactive and foresighted initiatives to ensure the town's continued sustainability.

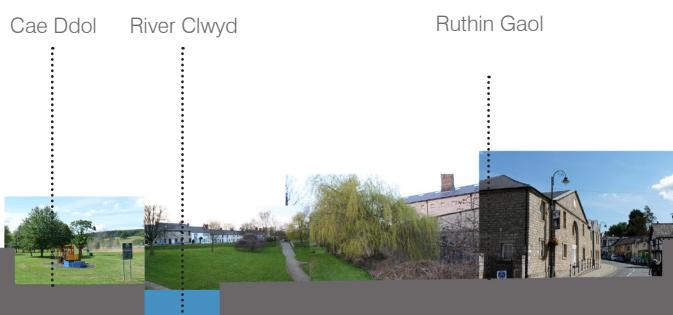
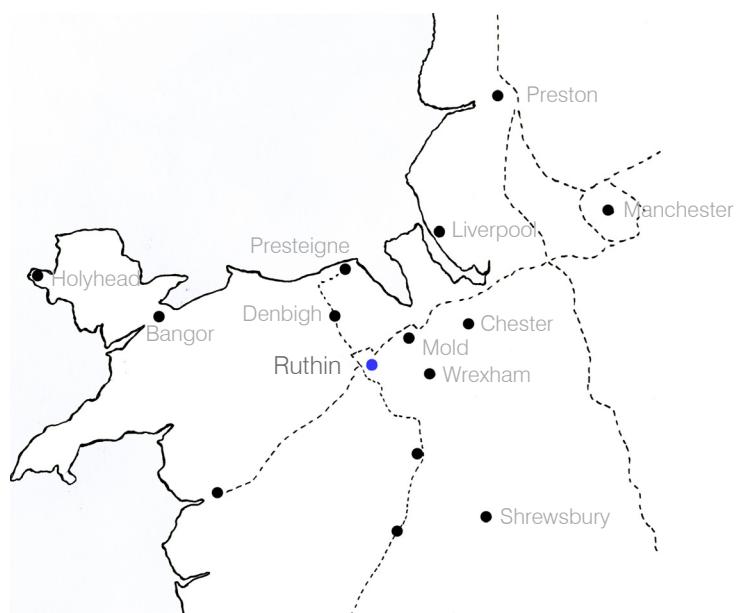
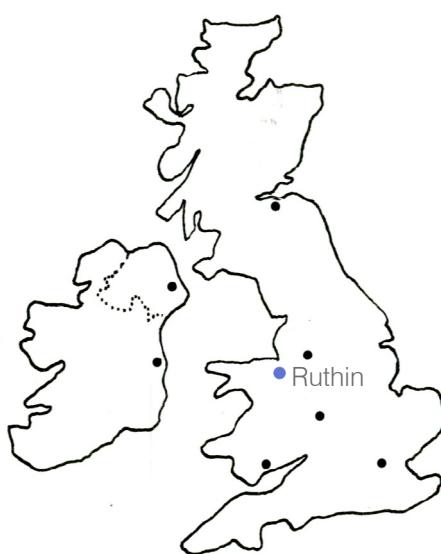


# Lle mae Rhuthun?

Rhuthun yw tref sirol Sir Ddinbych, Gogledd Cymru. Fe'i lleolir yn fewndirol yn Nyffryn Clwyd, ac mae ar groesffordd yr A494 a'r A525. Er gwaethaf bod yn gymharol agos at Fanceinion (60 milltir), Caer (24 milltir), Wrecsam (16 milltir) ac ar y ffordd i Eryri (22 milltir), mae'r dref yn cael ei hossloi gan yr A55 sy'n ffordd brysurach yn gwasanaethu'r arfordir i'r gogledd, sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol gwneud gwyriad i lawer o'r masnach sy'n pasio heibio o du hwnt i'r sir.

# Where is Ruthin?

Ruthin is the county town of Denbighshire, North Wales. It is located inland in the Vale of Clwyd and is at the crossroads of the A494 and A525. Despite its relative proximity to Manchester (60 miles), Chester (24 miles), Wrexham (16 miles) and on the route to Snowdonia (22 miles), the town is bypassed by the busier A55 serving the coast to the north, making it a detour for much passing trade from beyond the county.



Town Centre



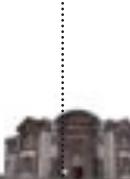
St Peters Square



Market St car park

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Town Hall

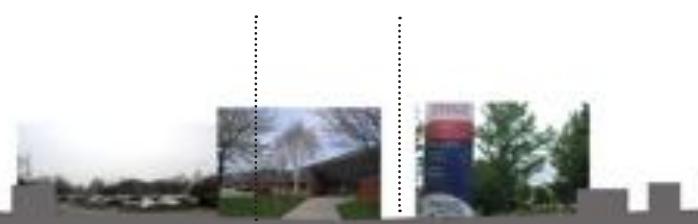


Ruthin Craft Centre

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Breic Roundabout

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# Rhuthun: Hanes cryno

Mae Rhuthun yn dref farchnad hanesyddol hardd mewn tirwedd wedi'i dra-arglwyddiaethu gan Fryniau Clwyd. Mae'r dref hanesyddol wedi ei hymestyn i faestrefi newydd ar y gorlifdir, ond mae'n cadw cysylltiadau agos gyda'r tirwedd.

Er bod tystiolaeth bod pobl wedi byw yn yr ardal o gyfnod y Rhufeiniaid a chyn hynny, mae'r dref yn dyddio o'r cyfnod canoloesol.

Datblygodd y dref gynnar o gwmpas y castell, yn cynnwys Eglwys Sant Pedr a sgwâr y farchnad. Sefydlwyd ysgol ramadeg gynnar yn 1284 o gwmpas caeadele'r eglwys. Mae tarddiad yr hyn y gellir ei weld o'r dref hanesyddol heddlw yn dod o'r drydedd ganrif ar ddeg yn dilyn difa'r dref gan wrthryfel Owain Glyndwr yn 1400. Cafodd y dref ei hailadeiladu'n sylweddol ar ôl hynny. Yn ystod y rhyfel cartref goroesodd y castell warchae 11 wythnos, ond cafwyd gorchymyn i'w ddymchwel trwy orchymyn seneddol yn dilyn rhoi'r gorau i'r ymladd.

Yn ystod yr ail ganrif ar bymtheg roedd y dref yn le aros pwysig ar lwybr porthmyn rhwng Cymru a Lloegr ac roedd yn adnabyddus am nifer y tafarnai

Below left to right: the medieval town morphology; the town in 1870, showing the arrival of the railway and the cutting of Market Street; the town in 1960; showing the growth of suburbs around the outskirts of the town.



# Ruthin: A brief History

**Ruthin is a beautiful historic market town set in a landscape dominated by the Clwydian range. The historic town has been extended to new suburbs on the flood plan, but maintains close links to its landscape.**

Although there is evidence of inhabitation in the area from the Roman period and before, the settlement has its origins in the medieval period.

The early town developed around the castle, including St Peter's church and the market square. An early grammar school was founded in 1284 around the church precinct. The origins of what can be seen of the medieval town today lie in the early 13th century following the destruction of the town in Owain Glyndwr's rebellion of 1400, after which the town was substantially rebuilt. During the civil war, the castle survived an 11 week siege, but was ordered to be dismantled by order of parliament following the cessation of hostilities.

During the 17th Century, the town was an important stopping point on a drover's route between England and Wales and was known for the number of public houses and inns in the town. The arrival of the

Isod, o'r chwith i'r dde: morffoleg y dref ganoloesol; y dref yn 1870, yn dangos dyfodiad y rheilffordd a llunio Stryd y Farchnad; y dref yn 1960; yn dangos twf y maestrefi o gwmpas cyrion y dref.



yn y dref. Gwnaeth dyfodiad rheilffordd Dinbych, Rhuthun a Chorwen yn 1863 i gwr y dref arwain at greu Stryd y Farchnad, ffordd gyda thai teras Fictoraidd yn cysylltu sgwâr y dref i adeilad newydd yr orsaf.

Mae'r adeiladau nodedig yn y dref yn cynnwys Nantclwyd y Dre, sy'n cael ei ystyried fel y tref hynaf sy'n parhau yng Nghymru, a Charchar Rhuthun, adeilad trawiadol wrth lle mae'r afon yn croesi at Stryd Clwyd. Adeiladwyd y carchar yn arddull Pentonville, wedi'i seilio ar y carchar adnabyddus yn Llundain. Cafodd Gwesty'r Castell, a adeiladwyd wrth ymyl adfeillion Castell Rhuthun, ei ailadeiladu yn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg fel cartref y teulu Cornwallis-West cyn ei droi'n westy'n ddiweddarach.

Denbigh, Ruthin and Corwen railway in 1863 to the edge of the town led to the creation of Market Street, a road with Victorian terraced housing linking the town square to the new station building.

Notable buildings in the town include Nant Clwyd-y-Dre, widely regarded as the oldest remaining townhouse in Wales and Ruthin Gaol, a dominating building at the river crossing on Clwyd street. The gaol was built in a Pentonville style, based on the well known London prison. The Castle Hotel, built alongside the ruins of Ruthin Castle, was rebuilt in the 19th century as the home of the Cornwallis-West family before later conversion into a hotel.

# Polisi cynllunio a dadansoddiad ystadegol

“Bod gan Sir Ddinbych, trwy gyfrwng datblygiad cynaliadwy, arfordir trefol bywiog, gyda threfi marchnad ac ardaloedd gwledig sy'n ffynnu. Bydd anghenion tai a chyflogaeth y Sir yn cael eu diwallu, a'r amgylchedd o ansawdd uchel yn cael ei hamddiffyn a'i gwella a safon bywyd uchel yn cael ei gynnal i bob cymuned, gyda chydubyddiaeth lawn bod gennym iaith Gymraeg gref a diwylliant y dylid eu cynnal a'u gwarchod ledled y Sir.”

Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Sir Ddinbych – fersiwn adneuo (2009)

Yn ôl cyfrifiad 2001, roedd poblogaeth Rhuthun yn 5,218, yn cynrychioli tua 18% o gyfanswm poblogaeth Sir Ddinbych. Yn debyg i lawer o drefi marchnad, mae proffil oedran Rhuthun yn dangos nifer is na'r cyfartaledd o bobl ifanc (18-29 yn enwedig) a chanran uwch o drigolion hŷn (65-90). Mae hyn yn arwydd bod llawer o bobl ifanc yn gadael y dref i astudio neu ganfod cyflogaeth yn y dinasoedd, tra bo eraill yn ymddeol i'r dref yn ddiweddarach yn eu hoes. Yn gyffredinol mae mwyafrif y dref yn drigolion Gwyn Prydeinig. Gwnaeth 18 y cant ddynodi eu hunain yn Gymry.

Mae lefel addysg trigolion y dref yn dda o'i gymharu â'r cyfartaledd cenedlaethol, gyda niferoedd uwch na'r cyfartalog o drigolion gyda chymwysterau Lefel 4/5 (Gradd, NVQ Lefel 4 a 5; Diploma Cenedlaethol Uwch; Athro Cymwysedig neu swydd Gofal Iechyd Cymwysedig).

Gwnaeth Cynllun Datblygu Unedol Sir Ddinbych 1996-2011 dynnu sylw at sylfaen ddiwydiannol a chyflogaeth wan fel y prif faterion a oedd yn wynebu Rhuthun. Datblygu yng Nglasdir oedd y prif ffocws. Roedd hyn yn cynnwys tai, ysgol gynradd, cyflogaeth, parcio a gwagle gwyrdd.

Bydd Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Sir Ddinbych – fersiwn adneuo (2009) yn disodli'r Cynllun Datblygu Unedol. Mae'n nodi Rhuthun fel tref farchnad a chanolfan gwasanaethau gwledig sy'n gwasanaethu'r cyffiniau gwledig. Y flaenoriaeth i'r dref yw cryfhau'r rôl gwasanaethu hwn a lleihau'r angen i deithio:

“Bydd trefi marchnad Dinbych, Rhuthun a Chorwen wedi eu cryfhau trwy gyfrwng datblygiad tai ar y farchnad a thai fforddiadwy newydd a safleoedd cyflogaeth i ddiwallu anghenion lleol. Bydd safleoedd tir llwyd presennol wedi eu datblygu a bydd ehangiad y trefi wedi ei reoli'n ofalus. Bydd y canolfannau

# Planning policy & statistical analysis

*“Denbighshire, through sustainable development, will have a vibrant urban coast, with thriving market towns and rural areas. The housing and employment needs of the County will be met, the high quality environment protected and enhanced and a high quality of life maintained for all communities with full recognition that we have a strong Welsh language and culture that should be maintained and protected throughout the County.”*

Denbighshire Deposit LDP (2009)

As of the 2001 census, the population of Ruthin was 5,218, representing about 18% of the total population of Denbighshire. As with many market towns, the age profile of Ruthin shows a lower than average number of young people (18-29 in particular) and a higher percentage of older residents (65-90). This is an indication many young people are leaving the town to study or find employment in the cities, while others retire to the town in later life. Overall, the town is dominated by 'White: British' residents. Eighteen percent identified themselves a Welsh.

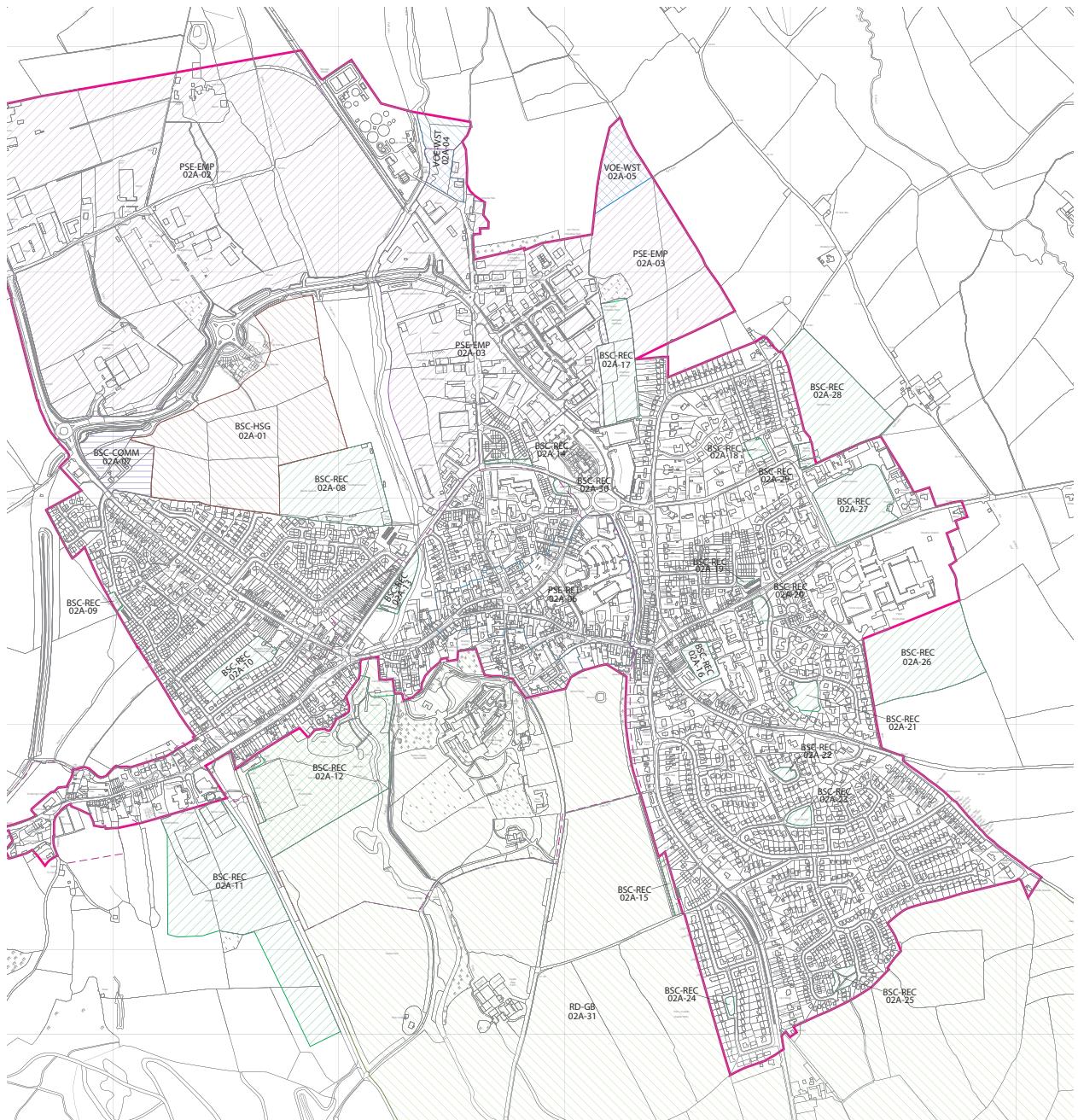
The residents of the town are well educated compared to the national average, with above average numbers of residents with Level 4/5 qualifications (Degree, NVQ levels 4 and 5; HNC; HND; Qualified Teacher or Qualified Healthcare roles).

Denbighshire's Unitary Development Plan (UDP) for 1996-2011 highlighted a weak industrial base and a mismatch between housing development and employment as key issues for Ruthin. Development at Glasdir was the primary focus. This included housing, a primary school, employment, parking and green space.

Denbighshire's Deposit Local Development Plan (2009) will replace the UDP. It identifies Ruthin as a market town and rural service centre serving a rural hinterland. The priority for the town is to strengthen this service role and reduce the need to travel:

*“The market towns of Denbigh, Ruthin and Corwen will have been strengthened through the development of new market and affordable housing and employment sites to meet local needs [...] Existing brownfield sites will have been redeveloped and the expansion of the towns carefully controlled. These centres will continue to serve many of the needs of the surrounding rural areas.”*

Denbighshire Deposit LDP (2009)



## Cynigion Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Sir Ddinbych – fersiwn adneuo 2009 ar gyfer Rhuthun

*hyn yn parhau i wasanaethu llawer o anghenion yr ardal oedd gwledig o amgylch.”*

## Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Sir Ddinbych – fersiwn adneuo (2009)

Mae'r Cyllun Datblygu Lleol yn cynnig datblygiadau newydd tai gwerth y farchnad a fforddiadwy i'r perwyl hwn i ddiwallu anghenion lleol. Nodir Rhuthun fel tref twf is, gyda datblygiad i ateb y galw lleol; awgrymir 50 o unedau tai ychwanegol yng Nglasdir. Mae'r adroddiad yn nodi'r awydd am ddatblygiad carbon isod ac ansawdd dyluniad uchel ar draws y sir.

2009 Deposit LDP proposals for Ruthin

To this end, the LDP proposes new development of market and affordable housing and employment to meet local need. Ruthin is identified as a lower growth town, with development to meet local demand; this is a suggested 50 additional housing units at Glasdir. The report identifies a drive for low carbon development and a high quality of design across the county.

# Dadansoddiad y dref

Dadansoddwyd y dref trwy ymwelliadau astudio, gwaith ymchwil pen desg a sgyrsiau gyda thrigolion ac awdurdodau lleol.

Datblygwyd dull o fapio'r anheddiad sy'n bodoli sy'n cyfuno edrych ar leoedd ac ystadegau. Trwy gyfres o fapiau cysylltiedig ac abstract mae strwythur y dref a data cefnogol wedi'u cofnodi. Mae hyn wedi arwain at ddatblygu geirfa lle ac wedi darparu dull systematig o ddadansoddi'r dref a'i datblygiad, ei chryfderau a'i gwendidau.

## Town analysis

The town was analysed through study visits, desktop research and conversations with residents and the local authorities.

A method of mapping the existing settlement has been developed that combines explorations of place and statistics. Through a series of linked and abstracted maps the structure of the town and supporting data has been collaged. This has led to the development of a vocabulary of place and has provided a systematic method of analysing the town and its development, its strengths and its weaknesses.

Isod: Topograffeg: Lleolir Rhuthun ar gefnen amddiffynadwy wrth ymyl yr Afon Clwyd, gyda chastell ac eglwys y naill ben i'r gefnen, gyda golygfeydd gwych y cefn gwlad.

Below: Topography: Ruthin is located on a defensible ridge alongside the River Clwyd, with castle and church at either end of the ridge, with fantastic views to the countryside.

Isod: Gwagle gwyrdd. Mae gan y dref ardaloedd mawr o wagleoedd gwyrdd sy'n hygrych i'r cyhoedd yn agos at ganol y dref, megis Cae Ddôl, bryn coediog y castell a glan yr afon.

Below: Green space: The town has large areas of publicly accessible green space close to the town centre, such as Cae Ddol, the wooded castle hill, and the river edge.





Uchod: Y craidd canoloesol: tiroedd bwrdais sy'n nodweddu'r dref ganoloesol. Mae tai ar fin y stryd, sy'n rhoi cymeriad clos y dref, tra bod tiroedd dynfach wedi'u defnyddio ar gyfer diwydiant neu gynhyrchu bwyd.

Above: The Medieval core: Burgeage plots characterise the medieval town. Houses line the street, giving the town its tight-knit character, while deep plots were used for industry or food production.

Isod: Morffoleg: Ffabrig clos y dref ganoloesol gydag adeiladau ar fin y stryd, sy'n gwrt hgyferbynu'n amlwg gyda datblygiad mwy diweddar ar gyrrion y dref.

Below: Morphology: The close-knit fabric of the medieval town with buildings lining the street contrasts clearly with more recent development on the outskirts of the town.



Uchod: Caiff traffig ei gyfeirio o amgylch canol y dref gan y gylchffordd, ond mae Sgwâr Sant Pedr wedi'i dra-arglywddiaethu gan geir. Mae meysydd parcio hanfodol, ond sy'n llyncu gwagle, yn gwanhau patrwm y strydoedd canoloesol.

Above: Traffic is routed around the town centre by the ring road, but St Peter's Square is dominated by the car. Essential but space-consuming car parks weaken the medieval street pattern.

Isod: Cyfuno haenau: Mae'r darluniad hwn yn cyfuno darluniadau'r dadansoddi i ddangos y berthynas rhwng gwahanol haenau'r dref.

Below: Combined layers: This drawing combines the analysis drawings to show the relationships between the different layers of the town.



# Beth yw nodweddion ffisegol Rhuthun?

**Un o brif atyniadau Rhuthun yw'r naws lle cryf a'r dreftadaeth a gynigir. Fodd bynnag, nid yw llawer o ymwelwyr yn ymwybodol o harddwch y dref ac yn aml mae pobl yn pasio heibio'r dref.**

Mae canol y dref yn cyflwyno casgliad rhagorol o adeiladau canoloesol gydag amrywiaeth o arddulliau a deunyddiau. Yn wahanol i lawer o drefi marchnad eraill lle mae un deunydd yn amlwg iawn, yn Rhuthun defnyddiwyd amrywiaeth o ddeunyddiau i adeiladu ac addurno adeiladau: pren, render, gwaith brics a cherrig. Mae tiroedd bwrdais yn nodweddu'r dref ganoloesol. Mae tai ar fin y strydoedd, sy'n rhoi cymeriad clos y dref, tra bo tiroedd dyfnach wedi'u defnyddio ar gyfer diwydiant neu gynhyrchu bwyd.

Mae ffabrig agos at ei gilydd y dref ganoloesol yn gwrtgyferbynu'n amlwg gyda datblygiadau mwy diweddar ar gyrion y dref. Yma tai sengl a thai� swbwrbaidd sy'n tra-arglwyddiaethu'r

# What are Ruthin's physical characteristics?

**One of the key attractions of Ruthin is its strong sense of place and the heritage it offers. However, many visitors are unaware of the town's beauty and the town is often passed by.**

The town centre presents a fine collection of medieval buildings in a variety of styles and materials. Unlike many market towns where one material dominates, in Ruthin a variety of materials have been used to construct and decorate buildings: timber, render, brickwork, and stone. Burgage plots characterise the medieval town. Houses line the street, giving the town its tight-knit character, while deep plots were used for industry or food production.

The close-knit fabric of the medieval town contrasts clearly with more recent development on the outskirts of the town. Here, suburban semi-detached and detached houses dominate the new housing



Sioraidd  
Brics, teras, ffenestri mawr  
Georgian  
Brick, terraced, large windows



Teras canoloesol  
Rendr / wedi'i baentio, teras  
Medieval terrace  
Render/Painted, terraced



Byngalo modern  
Brics, ty�  
Modern bungalow  
Brick, Semi- Detached



Teras Factoriaidd  
Brics, Teras  
Victorian terrace  
Brick, Terraced



Modern  
Brics, tai sengl /�  
Modern  
Brick, Detached/ semi-detached



Hanner a hanner  
Hanner pren, cerrig/brics  
Half and half  
half timbered, stone/brick



Bythynnod  
Gro chwipio, Teras  
Cottages  
Pebbledash, Terraced



Pren canoloesol  
Hanner pren, Teras / Sengl Medieval  
timber  
Half Timbered, Terraced / Detached



stoc tai newydd, tra bod siediau dienw yn gartref i ddefnyddiau diwydiannol a chyflogaeth. Mae'r newid mewn graddfa o'r dref ganoloesol i adeiladu mwy fel archfarchnadoedd ac unedau diwydiannol yn tynnu sylw at anhawster integreiddio'r adeiladau hyn yn rhan o'r dref.

stock, while anonymous sheds house industrial and employment uses. The change in scale from the medieval town to larger buildings such as supermarkets and industrial units highlights the difficulty in integrating these buildings into the town.

# Tirwedd a gwagle gwyrdd

Mae Rhuthun yn cynnwys amrywiaeth o wagleoedd awyr agored cyhoeddus. Cae Ddôl yw'r parc mwyaf, dan gysgod y castell a chyda Afon Clwyd yn llifo trwyddo. Mae'r parc yn cynnig parcdir agored ar gyfer ymarfer corff a mynd â chwâr am dro, ynghyd ag ardaloedd chwarae, parc sgleffyrddio a chaeau pel-droed a saethyddiaeth ar hyd yn ffin orllewinol. Mae gwaith uwchraddio'r llyn yn ddiweddar wedi creu canolbwyt gweledol i'r parc.

Mae gwagleoedd gwyrdd eraill yn edafu trwy'r dref. Mae llwybr troed ar hyd glan yr afon yn cysylltu gydag ystad Glasir, tra bo llwybr yr hen reilffordd wedi'i chadw fel parc llinol wrth ymyl Rhesdai'r Rheilffordd. Mae gwaith amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd ar hyd yr afon wedi creu mwy o ardaloedd o wagle gwyrdd.

O graidd y dref mae'r golygfeydd ar hyd strydoedd yn fframio'r cefn gwlod yn y cyffiniau a Bryniau Clwyd y tu hwnt. Mae'r ymdeimlad hwn o fod yn y tirwedd yn nodwedd bwysig o lawer o drefi bryniog.



Parc Cae Ddôl  
Cae Ddol park



Bythynnod Rhesdai'r Rheilffordd  
Railway cottages



Amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd  
Flood defences



Maes chwarae, Cae Ddôl  
Playground, Cae Ddol



Canolfan Grefft Rhuthun  
Ruthin Craft Centre



Gerddi addurniadol  
Ornamental Gardens

# Landscape and green space

Ruthin contains a variety of public outdoor spaces. Cae Ddol is the largest park, overlooked by the castle and crossed by the River Clwyd. The park offers open parkland for exercise and dog walking, alongside play areas, a skate park and at its western edge football pitches and archery. The recent refurbishment of the lake has created a focal point for the park.

Other green spaces thread through the town. A footpath along the river links to the Glasdir estate, while the path of the dismantled railway is preserved as a linear park alongside Railway Terrace. Flood defence works along the river have created further areas of green space.

From the core of the town, vistas along streets frame the hinterland and the Clwydian range beyond. This sense of being in the landscape is an important characteristic of many hill towns.



Gwagle gwyrdd hygrych

Accessible green space



Tir amaethyddol

Agricultural land

# Mapio part y cyhoedd

*"Public space is all around us, a vital part of everyday urban life: the streets we pass through on the way to school or work, the places where children play, or where we encounter nature and wildlife; the local parks in which we enjoy sports, walk the dog and sit at lunchtime; or simply somewhere quiet to get away for a moment from the bustle of a busy daily life. In other words, public space is our open-air living room, our outdoor leisure centre."*

CABE, The Value of Public Space p3

Mae ansawdd yr amgylchedd cyhoeddus yn chwarae rhan hanfodol bwysig wrth ddenu pobl i'r dref ac annog trigolion ac ymwelwyr fel ei gilydd i aros ar y strydoedd a'r sgwâr. Mae lleoedd i bobl aros, eistedd, cyfarfod a sgwrsio yn cynyddu'r ymdeimlad o gymuned ac ansawdd bywyd.

Cynhaliwyd ymarfer mapio i asesu lleoliad, cyflwr a nifer yr eitemau dodrefn stryd, yn cynnwys meinciau, biniau a phlanwyr. Gwnaeth yr arolwg dynnu sylw at yr isod:

- Mae gan Rhuthun nifer fawr ac amrywiaeth fawr o eitemau dodrefn stryd.
- Mae llawer o eitemau mewn cyflwr gwael ac angen eu trwsio.
- Gellid gwella lleoliad rhai eitemau, er enghraifft, nid oes unrhyw seddi ar Stryd Clwyd, tra bo eraill yn wynebu oddi wrth olygfeydd godidog.
- Nid oes fawr ddim hunaniaeth ddinesig i'r dodrefn stryd, beth sy'n eu gwneud yn rhan o Rhuthun?

# Mapping the public realm

*"Public space is all around us, a vital part of everyday urban life: the streets we pass through on the way to school or work, the places where children play, or where we encounter nature and wildlife; the local parks in which we enjoy sports, walk the dog and sit at lunchtime; or simply somewhere quiet to get away for a moment from the bustle of a busy daily life. In other words, public space is our open-air living room, our outdoor leisure centre."*

CABE, The Value of Public Space p3

The quality of the public environment plays a crucial role in attracting people to a town and inviting residents and visitors alike to linger in its streets and squares. Places for people to stop, sit, meet and talk increase sense of community and quality of life.

A mapping exercise was carried out to assess the location, condition and number of items of street furniture, including benches, bins and planters. The survey highlighted the following:

- Ruthin has a large number and variety of items of street furniture.
- Many items are in a poor condition and need repair.
- The location of some items could be improved; for example there are no benches on Clwyd Street, while others look away from fantastic views.
- There is little civic identity to the street furniture; what makes it part of Ruthin?





# Traffig a pharcio

# Traffic and parking

Mae parcio yn hanfodol bwysig yn yr holl drefi marchnad heddiw, yn darparu mynediad i gynnig adwerthu, cyflogaeth a hamdden y dref, ac fe'i defnyddir gan drigolion lleol, ymwelwyr a thwristiaid fel ei gilydd.

Mae nifer y meysydd parcio, cyhoeddus a phreifat, yn goruchafu'r dref. Mae hyn yn arbennig o amlwg o gwmpas y cyrion. Nid yw'r nifer fawr o feysydd parcio o gylchfan Briec ar hyd Stryd yr Orsaf at dafarn yr Angor, yn cynnwys nifer o siopau adwerthu, swyddfeydd y cyngor a'r ganolfan grefft, yn groesawgar i ymwelwyr. Gallai dylunio'r cyrion hyn yn ofalus guddio'r parcio ac atgyfnerthu ffabrig y dref.

Mae gan y dref fwy na 300 o wagleoedd parcio talu ac arddangos cyhoeddus, wedi'u lleoli mewn pum prif faes parcio cyhoeddus o gwmpas y dref. Mae gan drefi o faint tebyg, megis Llandrindod (165 o fannau parcio ynghyd â pharcio ar y stryd) a Rhuddlan (70 lle parcio) swm sylweddol llai o fannau parcio cyhoeddus.

Mae lleoliad y meysydd parcio yn annog parcio ar y cyrion a cherdded i mewn i'r dref. Mae mannau parcio cyfyngedig am amser byr yn angenrheidiol ar y sgwâr ar gyfer deiliydion bathodynau glas a'r henoed i gyrraedd gwasanaethau hanfodol yn Sgwâr Sant Pedr.

Mae nifer cyfyngedig o fannau parcio ar y stryd ar hyd y prif strydoedd siopa yn darparu mannau parcio cyfleus i'r rhai sy'n ymweld â siopau.

Parking is of utmost importance in all market towns today providing access to the retail, employment and leisure offer of the town, and used by locals, visitors and tourists alike.

The number of car parks, both public and private, dominate the town. This is particularly evident around its edges. Large expanses of car park from the Breic roundabout along Station Road to the Anchor pub, including several retail stores, the council offices and the craft centre, are unwelcoming for the visitor. Careful design of these edges could conceal parking and reinforce the fabric of the town.

The town has over 300 spaces of public pay and display car parking, located in five main public car parks around the town. In comparison, towns of a similar size such as Llandrindod Wells (165 spaces plus on street parking) and Rhuddlan (70 spaces) have considerably less public car parking.

The locations of the car parks encourage parking on the edge and walking into town. Limited short parking on the square is necessary for blue badge holders and the elderly to access essential services in St Peters Square.

Limited on street parking along the main shopping streets provides convenient spaces for those visiting shops.



<span style="background-color: black; width: 15px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Maes parcio cyhoeddus arhosiad byr	Short stay public car park
<span style="background-color: #4f81bd; width: 15px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Maes parcio cyhoeddus arhosiad canolig	Medium stay public car park
<span style="background-color: #a6c9e9; width: 15px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Maes parcio preifat	Private car park



Gateways to the town, public and private car parks, street parking



# Beth sy'n digwydd yn Rhuthun?

Yn ogystal â'r lleoliad gwych a'r adeiladau hanesyddol, mae gan Rhuthun ystod eang o atyniadau i'r trigolion ac i ymwelwyr. Dangosir amrediad y defnydd tir yn y darluniad gyferbyn. Mae gan y dref:

3 prif atyniad twristiaid  
90+ unedau siopau  
15 neu ragor o leoedd i brynu rhywbeth i'w fwyt

Mae'r Sefydliad Economeg Newydd wedi datblygu dull o ddadansoddi trefi ar sail eu hamrywiaeth economaidd ac ansawdd eu stryd fawr, gan enwi trefi fel 'Trefi Clon' neu 'Drefi Cartref'. Mae trefi clon yn llawn siopau cadwyn – archfarchnadoedd ffurf micro, bwyta'i a siopau coffi cadwyn – sy'n arwain at homogeneiddio a diflastod ar draws y wlad a threfi wedi eu tra-arglwyddiaethu gan "faceless chains or fake 'local' supermarkets who suck local money out of the community."

NEF, Clone Town Britain

Yn wahanol i lawer o drefi eraill yr un maint, mae Rhuthun wedi llwyddo i gynnal ystod o adwerthwyr annibynnol. Ceir craidd o swyddogaethau gwasanaeth o gwmpas sgwâr y dref – swyddfa bost, dau fanc ac eglwys – ac mae nifer fawr o drigolion a phobl leol yn ymweld â chanol y dref. Fodd bynnag, mae'r dref yn teimlo effaith y dirwasgiad ac effaith adwerthwyr graddfa fawr:

Mae dros 20% o'r unedau'n wag.

Mae canol y dref yn dioddef. Mae adwerthu a chyflogaeth ar hyd y gylchffordd yn tynnu pobl oddi wrth ganol y dref, tra bo'r Ganolfan Grefft yn eistedd ar gwr y gylchffordd. Mae Sgwâr Sant Pedr, a oedd yn galon y dref unwaith, wedi'i thra-arglwyddiaethu gan geir – nid yw pobl aros ac yn oedi yno.

# What happens in Ruthin?

As well as its fantastic setting and historic buildings, Ruthin has a wide range of attractions including for the resident and visitor. The range of land uses are shown in the drawing opposite. The town has:

3 major tourist attractions  
90 plus shop units  
15 or more places to buy something to eat

The New Economics Foundation has developed a method of analysing towns based on their economic diversity and the quality of their high streets, naming towns as 'Clone Towns' or 'Home Towns'. Clone towns are dominated by chain stores- micro format supermarkets, chains of restaurants and coffee houses- leading to a homogenisation and a blandness across the country and towns dominated by "faceless chains or fake 'local' supermarkets who suck local money out of the community."

NEF, Clone Town Britain

Unlike many other towns its size, Ruthin has been able to maintain a range of independent retailers. With a core of service functions around the town square- post office, two banks, and church- the town centre is visited by large numbers of residents and local people. However, the town is feeling the joint effects of the recession and the impact of large scale retailers:

Over 20% of units are empty.

The town centre is suffering. Retail and employment along the ring road draw people away from the town centre, while Craft Centre sits on its edge. St Peter's Square, once the heart of the town, is dominated by the car- people do not linger.



<span style="color: red;">■</span>	Tafarndai, bwytau, bwyd	Pubs, restaurants, food
<span style="color: darkblue;">■</span>	Preswyl	Residential
<span style="color: purple;">■</span>	Gwasanaethau / swydd feydd	Service/offices
<span style="color: orange;">■</span>	Adwerthu	Retail
<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Crefyddol	Religious
<span style="color: darkgreen;">■</span>	Atyniadau twristiaid	Tourist attractions
<span style="color: olive;">■</span>	Cymunedol	Community
<span style="color: black;">■</span>	Unedau gwag	Empty units



# Yr hyn ddywedasoch chi wrthym ni

Nod pwysig y prosiect 'Tref Farchnad y Dyfodol' yw ymgysylltu gyda phobl Rhuthun a gadael i'ch syniadau chi hysbysu'r cynllun ar gyfer dyfodol y dref. Bu ymgysylltu ar bob cam yn y prosiect, gan gyfuno gweithgareddau ymgysylltu cyhoeddus arferol gyda thechnegau ymgynghori 'meddal' sy'n defnyddio dulliau amgen, cynnil, i gasglu adborth am y dref.

Cyflwynir sampl o'r ymatebion a dderbyniwyd trwy gyfrwng y digwyddiadau ymgynghori yma. Ceir rhestr lawn yn Atodiad 1.

"Mae Sgwâr Sant Pedr yn galw am fod yn 'ardal marchnad'. Petai'n bosibl gosod llawr sglefrio yno ar gyfer y Nadolig – am syniad gwych i ddenu pobl i siopa yn y dref."

"Os yw'r traffig yn cael ei gyfeirio o gwmpas Rhuthun yna waeth i chi gael stryd un ffordd i Tesco a lladd gweddill y dref!"

"Cael gwared ar y maes parcio a'i droi'n fynedfa atyniadol i ddenu pobl i harddwch Cae Ddôl – gallai fod yn drysor."

"I gerddwr mae diffyg cysylltiad rhwng y Ganolfan Grefft a chanol y dref."

"Mae cael gwared ar draffig o Sgwâr Sant Pedr yn syniad rhagorol a fyddai o fudd i drigolion ac ymwelwyr Rhuthun."

"Er bod gan Rhuthun lawer o adeiladau canoloesol mae llawer o rai eraill o'r ail ganrif ar bymtheg, y ddeunawfed ganrif, y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg a'r ugeinfed ganrif – ni wnaeth Rhuthun sefyll yn lloynedd erioed ac ni ddylai wneud hynny yn yr unfed ganrif ar hugain."

"Rydw i'n poeni am barcio i'r anabl gyda gwneud sgwâr y dref yn ardal i gerddwyr. Buaswn i'n ei chael yn anodd gorfol cerdded i fyny elltydd o'r meisydd parcio i gyrraedd y sgwâr."

"Dylai'r dref ddod yn gyrchfan twristiaid atyniadol, a fyddai' rhoi gwir ddyfodol i'r dref yn economaidd

"Gall Rhuthun gadw ei unigolwydd gyda chynllunio gofalus, ystyrlon, yn hytrach na gadael i'r dewis rhataf a hawsaf gymryd blaenoriaeth."

"Dylai'r gwelliannau fod ar gyfer pobl Rhuthun. Os yw'r gwelliannau'n arwain at gynnydd mewn twristiaeth, yna digon teg, ond peidiwch â chanolbwytio ar ymwelwyr yn unig."



## What you told us

An important aim of the 'Market Town of the Future' project is to engage with the people of Ruthin and to let your ideas inform the plan for the town's future. Engagement took place at each stage of the project and combined orthodox public engagement activities with 'soft' consultation techniques that use alternative, subtle methods to gather feedback about the town.

Presented here is a sample of responses we received through the consultation events. A full list of events can be found in Appendix 1.

"St Peter's Square is crying out to be a "market area". If an ice rink could be set up for Christmas- what a wonderful idea to attract people to shop in the town."

"If traffic is directed around Ruthin then you may as well have a one way street to Tesco and kill off the rest of the town!"

"Do away with the car park and turn it into an inviting entrance enticing people into beautiful Cae Ddôl- it could be a treasure"

"The Craft Centre, to a pedestrian, is disconnected from the town centre."

"Removing traffic from St Peter's Square is an excellent idea and can only benefit the residents and visitors of Ruthin"

"Although Ruthin has many medieval buildings it also has others from the 17th, 18th, 19th & 20th centuries- Ruthin has never stood still and should not do so in the 21st century."

"I am worried about disabled parking with the pedestrianisation of the town square. I would find it difficult having to walk up hills from the car parks to go to the square."

"The town should become a particularly attractive tourist destination, which would give the town a true future economically."

"Ruthin can retain its individuality with careful, considered planning as opposed to just letting the cheapest and easiest alternative take priority."

"Improvements should be for the people of Ruthin. If improvements lead to an increase in tourism, then fair enough, but do not focus on visitors solely".

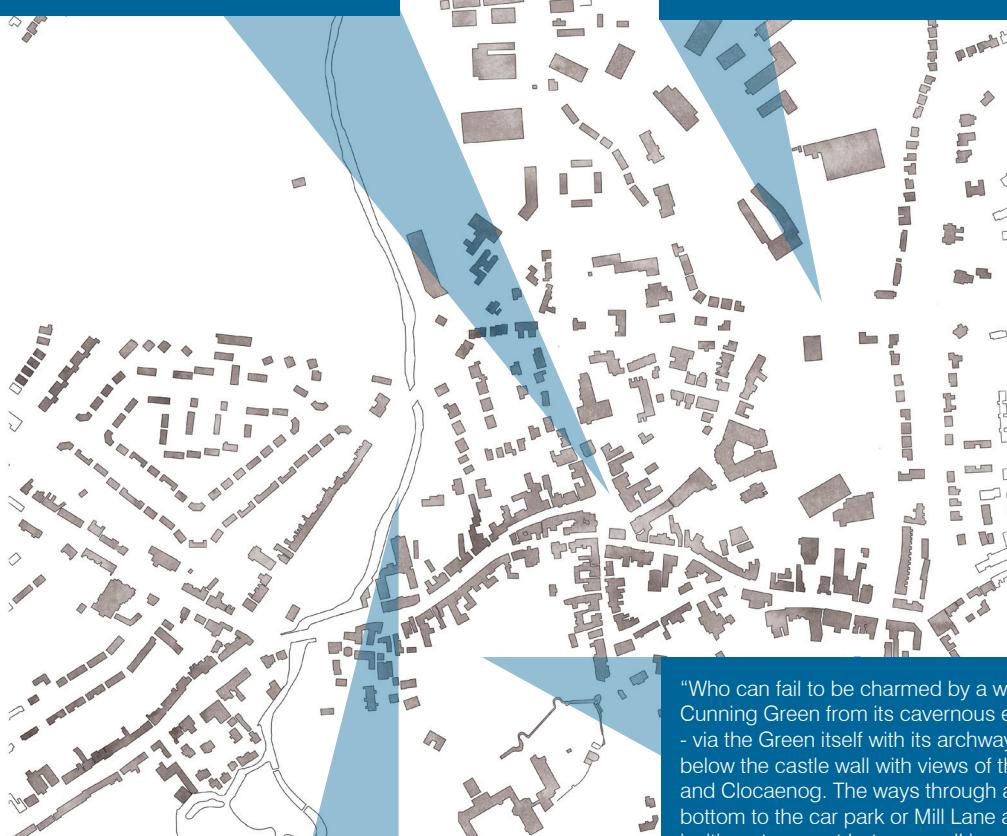


## St Peter's Square

"The two trees in the St Peters Square car park are a big favourite"

"What should be the jewel of the town's crown is a traffic circus and car park. In any continental town this would be a piazza where pedestrians can stroll or sit under umbrellas drinking coffee while admiring their historic surroundings."

"There is one bit of ugliness spoiling the square. In a town as small as Ruthin, surely we don't need a car park here when there are so many others within walking distance. The worst part is the pay and display stand itself, with its weird mess of stickers and peeling paint."



## River Clwyd

"The stretch of open fields by the side of the Clwyd (...) is a real delight. It's good that within just a few hundred yards of the town centre you can be in the fresh open countryside."

"How do we provide opportunities to appreciate the River and the fact it runs through the town in the context of a post-flood defence Ruthin?"

## Breic Roundabout

"Breic Roundabout (...) a place that's very, very ordinary and boringly modern. When approaching town from Mold, with Tesco on the right, the vet on the left, county offices up ahead, you could just as well be entering Slough."

"Another left over space following changes to the road pattern is where Breic Roundabout has been imposed on the old Station Road. It provides some parking and vehicle access, but it's a poor experience as a pedestrian. You sink down below ground level with the traffic whizzing around the roundabout at eye level. How about some landscaping to the embankment?"

"Who can fail to be charmed by a walk down Cunning Green from its cavernous entrance - via the Green itself with its archway then below the castle wall with views of the town and Clocaenog. The ways through at the bottom to the car park or Mill Lane are less inviting at present but may well improve when development is complete - but why not negotiate with the hotel to allow the path to run straight on from the Scout hut at the bottom direct to Cae Ddl?"

## Road system

"Ruthin is blighted by too many left over spaces that have arisen from changes to the road system."

"The car has been made king in Ruthin at the expense of those on foot - especially those with infirmity - or visitors to the town."

"Dog Lane is the main traffic artery between the Mold/Wrexham roads and the Corwen road. There are no weight, size or flow restrictions for two-way traffic(...) between high stone walls which pedestrians must share - it is very much a case of flatten or be flattened!"

# Heriau a chyfleoedd

Mae'r broses o ddadansoddi a mapio'r dref sy'n bodoli wedi ysgogi llawer o feddyliau a syniadau. Ein diagnosis ni, yn deillio o ddadansoddi a gweithgareddau ymgysylltu â'r gymuned, yw:

## 1 – Ffabrig a graen hanesyddol

Mae gan Rhuthun ffabrig gwych, wedi ei gadw'n dda i'r dref a luniwyd, addaswyd a'i ailadeiladu o'r cyfnod canoloesol hyd at y presennol. Mae angen sicrhau cadwraeth hyn, a'i gyfoethogi lle bo'n briodol.

## 2 – Lle mae calon y dref?

Mae Sgwâr Sant Pedr, calon hanesyddol y dref, yn creu canolbwyt cryf i Rhuthun. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer o'r siopau a busnesau yno wedi cau ac mae'r sgwâr wedi'i thra-arglyddiaeth gan draffig. Beth sy'n denu pobl i ganol y dref?

## 3 – Parth y cyhoedd

Mae llawer o weithgareddau'r dref yn digwydd rhwng ei adeiladau mewn gwagleoedd a mannau cyhoeddus. Y sgwâr yw canolbwyt y gweithgarwch hwn, yna'r strydoedd, lonydd, parciau a chilfachau. Mae ansawdd a gorffeniad yr ardaloedd hyn yn hanfodol i annog pobl i aros, a denu twristiaid a thrigolion fel ei gilydd. Sut fedr y dref weithio gyda'i strydlun presennol i wella a chyfoethogi'r gwagleoedd hyn?

## 4 – Cysylltiadau gwyrdd

Mae gan y dref rai gwagleoedd gwyrdd rhagorol – Cae Ddôl, llwybrau wrth lan afonydd, llwybr Ffordd yr Orsaf, Cwningar y Castell... a fyddai modd cysylltu'r rhain i greu 'llwybr gwyrdd'?

## 5 – Cyrion

Nodweddion cyrion y dref yw datblygiad mwy gwasgaredig na'r canol, ac ardaloedd meysydd parcio. Mae'r rhain yn gwanhau cyrion y dref.

## 6 – Defnydd y tu allan i'r dref

Mae datblygiadau o gwmpas cyrion y dref hanesyddol, yn enwedig Ffordd yr Orsaf a Chylchfan Briec, yn denu siopwyr ac ymwelwyr oddi wrth ganol y dref, ac mae'r hyn maen nhw'n ei wario yn gadael yr economi leol. Sut mae modd denu'r bobl hyn i mewn i'r dref?

# Challenges and opportunities

The analysis and mapping of the existing town has provoked many thoughts and ideas. Our diagnosis, derived from analysis and community engagement activity, is as follows:

## 1 - Historic fabric and grain

Ruthin has a fantastic and well preserved town fabric that has been constructed, amended and re-constructed from the medieval period to the present. This needs to be preserved and enhanced where appropriate.

## 2 - Where is the heart of the town?

St Peter's Square, the historic heart of the town, creates a strong focal point for Ruthin. However, many of its shops and businesses are closed and the square is dominated by traffic. What attracts people to the town centre?

## 3 - Public realm

Much of the activity of the town takes place between its buildings in public spaces and places. The square is the focus of this activity, followed by streets, lanes, parks and nooks. The quality and finish of these areas are vital in making people linger, attracting tourists and residents alike. How can the town work with its existing streetscape to enhance these spaces?

## 4 - Green links

The town has some superb green spaces- Cae Ddol, riverside walks, Station Road walk, the Cunning Green.... could these be linked to create a 'green route'?

## 5 - Edges

The edges of the town are characterised by more sparse development than the centre and expanses of car park. These weaken the edge of the town.

## 6 - Out of town uses

Development around the edges of the historic town, particularly Station Road and the Breic Roundabout, draw shoppers and visitors away from the town centre, and spending leaves the local economy. How can these people be drawn into the town?



