

abergele



CYNGOR TREF ABERGELE TOWN COUNCIL
Annual Report 2018 /19

Making **a** Difference



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About this Report

Wales faces a number of challenges now and in the future, such as climate change, poverty, health inequalities and jobs and growth. To tackle these, we need to work together. To give current and future generations a good quality of life we need to think about the long term impact of the decisions we make.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 gives a legally-binding common purpose – the seven well-being goals – for national government, local government, local health boards and other specified public bodies. It details the ways in which specified public bodies must perform and work together to improve the well-being of Wales.

This report describes how Abergele Town Council has contributed to the seven well-being goals for the community of Abergele. The report includes details of some of our objectives for the future.

The Town Council are also required to ensure that they comply with the Local Well-Being Plan 2018-2023. The priorities the Public Service Board has opted to take forward are:

- i. **People** - Good Mental Well-being for All Ages
- ii. **Community** - Community Empowerment
- iii. **Place** - Environmental Resilience

The Public Service Board have also committed to 4 additional principles which support the priorities -

- To address inequalities and treat everyone equally.
- To support and promote the Welsh Language.
- To support access to appropriate accommodation.
- To avoid duplication.

The report will also highlight the above areas are identified. The report covers the municipal year of Councillor Mike Bird's year of office as Mayor of the Town Council.

Councillor Bird's year of office commenced May 2018 to May 2019.

Mrs Mandy Evans BA (Hons)

Town Clerk and Finance Officer to Abergele Town Council

May 2019

About Abergele Town Council

Abergele Town Council was created in 1974 following the re-organisation of local government and the disbanding of Abergele Urban District Council. It is one of 33 town and community councils in Conwy.

Conwy County Borough Council became the unitary authority after a re-organisation of local government in Wales in 1996.

Abergele has a population of 10,800 (Source: ONS experimental small area population estimates 2015) and for local government purposes the Town is divided into four electoral wards, Gele, Pentre Mawr, St George and Pensarn, with town councillors representing each ward. The councillors were elected in May 2017 to serve a five-year term of office. Abergele Pensarn has seen one of the highest population growths in the County with an increase of 14.6% or 350 people between 2005 and 2015.

A Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor are elected each year by the Council at the annual meeting, which is held in May. The Town Mayor receives an allowance to cover the costs involved in undertaking civic duties. All other councillors are entitled to receive an allowance for costs incurred for being a Councillor such as making telephone calls, fuel, printing etc. For 2019/20 the rate approved by the Council was £150 per Councillor. Not all members accept the allowance. The Town Council also agreed to reimburse travel expenses at the HMRC recommended rate for travel out of the Abergele area.

Details of the elected members and how to contact them are available at www.abergele-towncouncil.co.uk. Notices of meetings, agendas, correspondence and minutes can also be viewed here, along with many governance documents and other information about the Council.

Abergele Town Council's aims

- To promote and represent the community's views and aspirations at local, county, regional and national levels
- To serve those who live in and work in Abergele and those who visit the Town
- To enhance the historic and cultural heritage of Abergele and safeguard its natural and built environment
- To work in partnership with all other bodies, whether statutory, public, private, voluntary or community, in order to improve the quality of life and well-being of the community and to promote the town in an active and positive manner

To achieve these aims, Abergele Town Council has agreed the following objectives

- To consult with the community to establish its aspirations for the future
- To promote the vitality and viability of Abergele
- To encourage and participate in partnership and agency working with the public, private and voluntary sectors to achieve quality services in all areas for the betterment of Abergele and its residents and visitors
- To promote sustainable policies that strive to improve the environment to meet the needs of residents and visitors for both the present and future
- To help create a socially inclusive and caring community that embraces all residents and which seeks to develop their well-being, knowledge and understanding and mutual co-operation
- To strive for a pleasant, clean and safe environment
- To deliver quality services that provide value for money and to review those services on a regular basis
- To support local voluntary groups that seek to assist residents and visitors to Abergele

The Council derives almost all of its funds from its precept. This is an additional amount which is added to Conwy County Borough Council Tax bills based upon Abergele Town Council's estimated expenditure. For the financial year 2018/19 the Council estimated that it would need to spend £291,651. Of this amount, £270,000 was made up from the precept and the remainder was funded from other sources of income, such as grants, hall hire income and the Council's own reserves.



(Town Council members May 2018)

2019/20 Estimated Income/Expenditure

A copy of the full year end financial accounts will be available to view on the Town Council's website before the end of September 2019.

	B	D
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Draft</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>
	£	£
INCOME:		
1 Precept	258193.00	270,000.00
2 Bank Interest	900.00	200.00
3 V.A.T. Reclaimed	0.00	0.00
4 Hire Income	3,000.00	3,000.00
6 Newsletter	600.00	750.00
7 Donations / Grants	0.00	500.00
8 Other Income	0.00	0.00
9 From Reserves	18,969.00	17,201.00
10 H & D Transfer	10,000.00	0.00
	TOTAL: 291,662.00	291,651.00
EXPENDITURE:		
1 Staff / Admin. Costs	115,258.00	117,399.00
2 Civic Expenses	4,300.00	4,900.00
3 Premises - Town Hall & Offices	21,765.00	19,700.00
4 Insurance	1,650.00	2,800.00
5 Printing / Stationery	3,500.00	3,900.00
6 Petty Cash (Postage)	1,500.00	250.00
7 Annual Audit	1,395.00	1,402.00
8 Annual Subscriptions	1,125.00	2,899.00
9 Joint Burial Board	4,500.00	0.00
10 War Memorials	6,500.00	1,000.00
11 General Maintenance	13,950.00	21,750.00
12 Conferences / Training	3,000.00	2,350.00
13 Elections	4,000.00	4,000.00
14 Capital / Community Schemes	84,469.00	83,500.00
15 Bus Shelters	0.00	0.00
16 Section 137	10,000.00	11,100.00
17 Other Grants	6,100.00	6,051.00
18 Additional (unspecified)	2,250.00	2,150.00
19 Publicity (newsletter / website / guide)	6,400.00	6,500.00
20 V.A.T.	0.00	0.00
21 Transfer to Earmarked Reserves	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL: 291,662.00	291,651.00

Abergele Town Council 2018/19

Further information about the Council's finances, including its annual accounts, can be seen at www.abergele-towncouncil.co.uk. This report includes examples of many of the Council's services which are delivered to all age groups in a variety of forms. The report describes Abergele Town Council services which contribute to the well-being of Abergele and its community.



The seven well-being goals for Wales

The well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 outlines seven well-being goals which need to be considered when drawing up local objectives. A description of each well-being goal and the issues identified within that theme is provided below. All of the issues identified in this needs analysis are cross-cutting and impact on more than one of these spheres of well-being.

Prosperous (1)	An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.
Resilient (2)	A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).
Healthier (3)	A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.
More equal (4)	A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).
Cohesive communities (5)	Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.
Vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language (6)	A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.
Globally responsible (7)	A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.

Matrix showing cross-cutting across themes

Some of the contributions of Abergele Town Council towards the well-being goals are cross-cutting and impact on more than one of these spheres of well-being. The grids below give an interpretation of how each issue might fit within the list of well-being goals.

		(1) Prosperous	(2) Resilient	(3) Healthier	(4) More equal	(5) Cohesive	(6) Culture	(7) Global
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	The Abergele Place Plan	Yellow	Brown	Green	Blue	Purple	Red	Dark Blue
2	Other projects funded by the Town Council	Yellow	Brown	Green	Blue	Purple	Red	Dark Blue
3	Pentre Mawr Park	Yellow	Brown	Green	Blue	Purple	Red	Dark Blue
4	Engagement with the Youth of Abergele				Blue	Purple	Red	
5	Design a Christmas light and Christmas	Yellow			Blue	Purple	Red	
6	Town Council Visitor Tours		Brown			Purple		
7	Family Centre and Cluster Groups		Brown	Green	Blue	Purple		
8	Playschemes		Brown	Green	Blue			
9	Mental Health & Wellbeing – Dementia Friendly Community Status		Brown	Green	Blue	Purple		
10	Abergele Men Shed		Brown	Green		Purple		
11	Other funded events					Purple	Red	
12	Crime Prevention and Reduction					Purple		
13	Abergele Flood Wardens	Yellow		Green				Dark Blue
14	Financial Assistance			Green	Blue	Purple	Red	
15	Town Council Newsletter & Town Guide	Yellow	Brown	Green	Blue	Purple	Red	Dark Blue
16	Abergele a Fairtrade town	Yellow	Brown	Green		Purple		Dark Blue
17	Bilingual Website	Yellow	Brown			Purple		Dark Blue
18	Abergele Railway Disaster 1868				Blue	Purple	Red	Dark Blue
19	Historic Abergele					Purple	Red	
20	Celebrating Christmas				Blue	Purple	Red	
21	War Memorial				Blue	Purple	Red	Dark Blue
22	Town Improvements	Yellow	Brown		Blue			
23	Walk Your Town	Yellow	Brown	Green				Dark Blue
24	The Future	Yellow	Brown	Green	Blue	Purple	Red	Dark Blue
25	Competent Council					Purple	Red	

The Abergele Place Plan



The Abergele Place Plan

The Town Council's Place Plan Committee aims to manage the use and development of land and link to planning policies set out by Conwy County Borough Council. Through collaboration with the local planning authority, to work with the local communities to develop community-led guidance and actions to help achieve local aspirations and improve community well-being.

The Place Plan Committee focussed on three key themes:

- Business, Tourism and Jobs
- Access and Infrastructure
- Community, Well-being and Culture

The Plan will be a useful tool for the Town Council and partners as it represents the collective voice of our electors and will be reviewed periodically to ensure it remains relevant. The Plan will also be used to influence the emerging Local Development Plan of Conwy County Borough Council. Listening and reviewing what local people and organisations have told us, a list of priorities for action.

Over the last year, pedestrian signage was trialled across the town, promoted local events, activities and developed a local identity for the town which is soon to be launched.



The new brand for the town has been designed to give Abergele an identity which acknowledges its heritage and the origin of its name. It has scope to evolve over time to continue to move the town, its businesses and community organisations forward. It is a bold yet approachable identity that captures the friendliness of the community feel and has a subtle nod to the River Gele in its shapes and underpins the well-being of the town. The colour palette was chosen as the town encompasses the coast, parks, town centre and hills.

Projects that have been in development during 2018-19 include a town centre shop front survey, a proposal for tourism signage, improved green infrastructure as well as a new town website that is currently been designed. The website will provide a useful hub of information and a means of communicating ideas amongst the Abergele community and visitors to the area.

Other projects funded by the Town Council



Abergele Town Council continues to maintain the Planters in strategic locations throughout the Town and beneath the Abergele signs located at the gateways to the town, this scheme continues to be of great importance to the Council in creating a pleasant space and a friendly welcome to all who work in and visit the town.



In addition, routine mowing and maintenance of the Mount, contributes greatly to a sense of 'place'

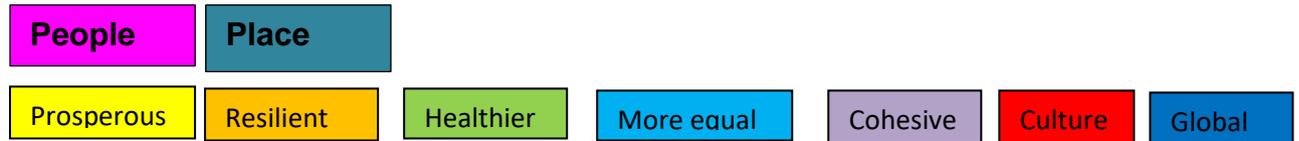
Each year it becomes more challenging to find local contractors to undertake the maintenance of the planters.

The hanging basket installation in Market Street is now a permanent feature and 2018/19 had ambitions to extend the scheme into Bridge Street. The extension to the scheme will hopefully be completed in 2019/20.

In 2018/19 the Town Council joined the CCBC Footpaths Maintenance Scheme and nominated four footpaths to receive timely maintenance for the benefit of the outdoor walker. This scheme is to continue into 2019/20.

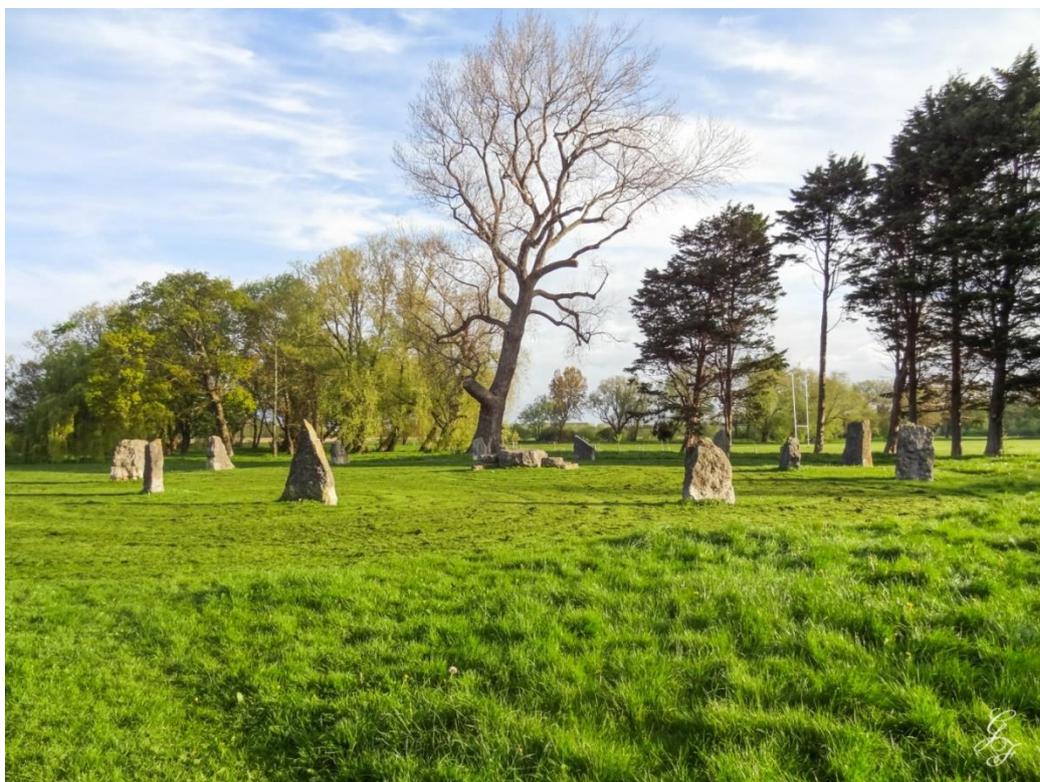
The Town Council have also funded a further phase of new heritage style street lighting on Llanddulas Road (A547) near Tan y Gopa Road and Gwyrch Castle in 2018/19.

Pentre Mawr Park



The Town Council continue to seek to process securing the future of Pentre Mawr Park, and protect from development in conjunction with Fields in Trust and Conwy County Council for the betterment of the future of the residents of the Town.

The Council continue to fund the lighting at the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) in Pentre Mawr Park, as well as all of the other schemes is detailed in the document.

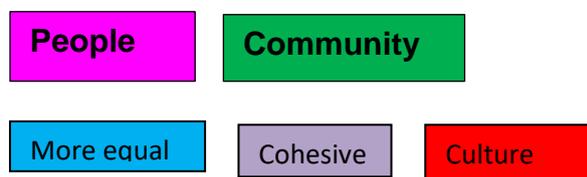


Due to demand by members of the public the Town Council have funded a temporary portaloo in Pentre Mawr Park for the last 6 months of the year. This is a temporary measure whilst the Council explores the viability of a more permanent option. The portaloo is open to the public seven days a week during the daytime.

Engagement with the Youth of Abergele

The Town Council hope to build confidence and aspirations for the youth of Abergele, through the various ways that the Council engages with the Community

Student Representatives on the Town Council



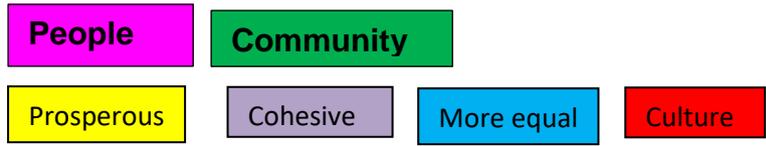
The Town Council in conjunction with the guidance issued by Welsh Government agreed that following the 2017 May elections that they would recruit Student Representatives on to the Town Council. These representatives are to provide the Council with a student voice and must live within the wards of Abergele. The representatives are elected from the school and must be between the ages of 15 and 18 and live within the wards of Abergele.

For 2018 the representatives where sought from the local Secondary school Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan, which is the main feeder secondary for the area. Unfortunately due to many of the Senior Leadership team living out of the wards it was not possible to recruit for 2018/19. The Council and the School will endeavour to continue to work together on this project. Once these roles are established it is planned that the offer for the Welsh medium secondary school to elect members to ensure that the Town Council are engaging with all of the young people in the local wards.

The representatives will not have the power to vote on Agenda items but have a voice to debate without the need for the Council to suspend its Standing orders



Design a Christmas light and Christmas card competition

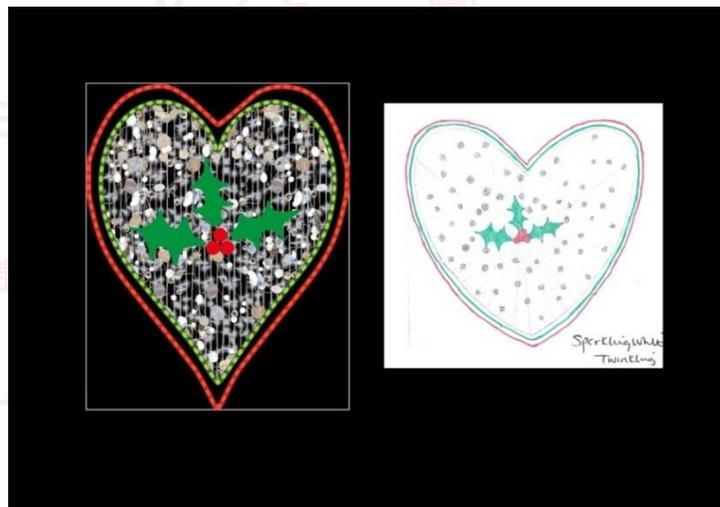


The Town Council hold two school competitions each year for pupils aged between 7 and 11, school years 3 to 6. There is a design a Christmas card for the Mayor and Design a Christmas light competition. Both competitions are very popular with the schools and receive many entries each year.

The winner of the Design a light competition has their light created and is situated near the Tesco Roundabout each year. The overall winner of the Design a lite Competition was Evelyn Kirkham from Ysgol Sant Elfod.

The winners of the competitions receive a voucher and certificate from the Mayor.

2018 winning Motif



The Mayor with the prize winners



Town Hall Visitor Tours

People **Community**

Cohesive **Resilient**

Guided tours of the Town Hall are on offer to schools and local community groups.

In 2018 members of the Pensarn Coffee and Chat group and a group of Italian Students visiting the area were among of the groups who visited and met the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and to learn about the Council’s history and the information behind the collection of gifts and souvenirs from other countries.

There are local historical memorabilia and documents on display with very strong connections to people who have served Abergele in the past.

When the schools visit the Council, the pupils enjoy speaking through microphones and taking turns banging the gavel. They are also given a ‘potted’ overview of how the Council works.

Family Centre and Cluster groups

People **Community**
Cohesive **Resilient** **Healthier** **More equal**

The Town Council continues to be part of the East Conwy Cluster group, together with Llanfairsannan, Llanefydd, Llanfairtalhaiarn Community Councils and Towyn & Kinmel Bay Town Council which was set up by Conwy County Brough Council. The aim of the group was to be able to develop links with other Communities and groups with the Secondary School area. The East Forum group meet at a County level in the Town Council every three months. The new Dinorben Family Centre recently held its official opening.



The aim of the Centre is to provide support to families with a range of matters including leisure, play, health, and support in a cohesive manner.

Playschemes

People **Community**

Resilient **Healthier** **More equal**

Each year Abergele Town Council has made funding available for the Abergele Playing out Scheme that was run by Conwy County Borough Council and subsequently by Conwy Voluntary Services Council.

In 2018 the Town Council, from a mix of grant funding, Town Council budget and together with CVSC, arranged for free fully staffed sessions which last for 2 hours. The provision of free play sessions, which alternate between Pentre Mawr Park and Parc Gele through the summer holidays, with Parc Gele on a Monday and Pentre Mawr Parc on a Wednesday. This alleviates the pressure on parents to engage their children in activity. Awareness of Parc Gele was raised, and other organisations also attended.



Chwarae Allán Playing Out

Mae Chwarae Allán yn gyfle i chwarae, cael hwyl, gwlychu, baeddu a chwarae yn y mwd wrth wneud ffrendiau.

Playing Out is a chance to play, have fun, get wet, messy and muddy and make friends.

Am Ddim It's Free!

Lle/Where?	Pryd/W/hen?
PARC GELE High St, Abergele, LL22 7AR	MONDAYS 10.30am-12.30 30th July 6th August 20th August
PARC PENTRE MAWR Dundonald Avenue, Abergele, LL22 7JH	WEDNESDAYS 10.30am-12.30 8th August 15th August

Rydyn ni eisiau bod mor gynhwysol â phosib felly os oes gan eich plentyn chi ofynion arbennig, cofiwch roi gwybod i ni fel ein bod ni'n gallu ei gefnogi i ddod i'r sesiynau: playdevelopment@cvsc.org.uk

We aim to be as inclusive as possible, if your child has particular requirements please let us know so we can support them to attend. playdevelopment@cvsc.org.uk

CVSC cvsc.org.uk/conwyplayingout
www.facebook.com/conwyplayingout

There is an Inclusion Worker whose role is to ensure that children with disabilities are able to attend by engaging with the families to encourage the child to take part. At risk children are also able to attend. The play is rich play and encourages more physically active play, which is child led and encourages children to make their own risk assessments.

For the 2018 scheme, the advert was placed in the Rhyl Journal, presentations at school assemblies, Facebook and flyers. There were family sessions in Abergele, who held picnics and socialised as parents.

Parc Gele		Pentre Mawr	
Individual children attended	94	Individual children attended	101
Adult visits to site	20	Adult visits to site	40
Total child attendance	120	Total child attendances	116
Average child attendance per session	30	Average child attendance per session	38.6

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The Town council aim to work with the various Community groups and Schools and societies to ensure that the Community of Abergele are treated equally, regardless of their age, colour, religion or disability. The Town Council aims to continue providing support in future years and the following pages are examples of what the Town Council has achieved in 2018/19.

Dementia Friendly Community Status



Abergele Dementia Friendly Steering Group was established in 2017 with Councillor Alan Hunter representing the Town Council on the steering group. Since then Councillor Shirley Jones-Roberts has also become involved with the work of the group.

The aim of the steering group is to work with businesses in the town to meet the criteria set out by the Alzheimer's Society to achieve 'Working Towards becoming Dementia Friendly' status.

In September 2017 Abergele Town Council agreed to work towards assisting the Town in gaining Dementia Status and have made the following pledges:

- All staff to undertake the Dementia training, wear the badge and to appoint a Champion
- To promote the Dementia friends through the Newsletter, Notice board and website
- To have a stand in the Town Hall for Dementia care

An Alzheimer's Society survey revealed that 69% of people with dementia said that the main reason they stop going out is a lack of confidence. Abergele achieving Dementia Friendly status will help people living with dementia to remain part of the community, be more active in the local area and live better more fulfilled lives.



The second Dementia Friends Awards evening was held at the Town Hall in July 2018. Many awards have been received by businesses within the Community for their efforts in keeping their pledges to make Abergele Dementia Friendly.

Abergele Men's Shed

People

Community

Healthier

Cohesive

Resilient



During the winter of 2016/17 a group of like-minded men began to meet regularly at Itaca, Bridge Street for a coffee and chat on a Monday morning and as a result Abergele Men's Shed was formed.

We raised enough money to build the Men's Shed by grants and donations from the Town Council, the Lord Clwyd fund, Gwynt y Mor Wind Farm fund and the Tesco Community Carrier Bag scheme. Our Shed was built at the rear of Itaca.

Men's Shed meets every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings between 10 and 12 midday. The ethos of the Shed is to provide a place where men can meet and discuss everything and anything under the sun.

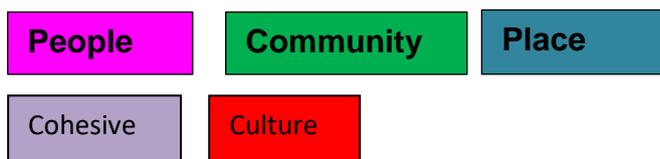
If you have recently retired or live alone following the loss of a partner and miss the companionship of the workplace, you will find that the Shed fills that gap. The health and wellbeing of our members is our primary concern, and membership is not restricted by age.

If you have a skill that you can bring to the group, so much the better. Many and varied items are made, such as garden seats, benches, log stores and planters using reclaimed materials such as pallet wood for instance.

Membership not only benefits its members but the local community too. If you think that you would benefit by being a member why not come along and meet us, perhaps your garden gate or planters need repairing or replacing, we can help you to achieve that end.



Other Funded Events



Abergele is looking to become a town of events and at the heart of many of the events is the support of Abergele Town Council. Whether that is directly organising an event, providing financial support or merely providing an enabling role to assist event organisers to deliver a safe and successful event for the town.

The following calendar of events was provided for the community of Abergele and wider during 2018/19:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Abergele Carnival | Financial Support and volunteers from Abergele Town Council. |
| Abergele Train Disaster | A commemoration of the lives lost in one the country's worst rail disasters. |
| Town Fireworks | Organised by the Abergele Round Table with Financial Support from Abergele Town Council. |
| Remembrance Sunday | Organised by the Royal British Legion, St. Michael's Church and Abergele Town Council. Funding for wreaths, flags etc. to schools and clubs by the Town Council. A service is also held in St. George, Abergele |
| Celebration of Peace Afternoon Tea | An afternoon of nostalgia with a presentation by Sergeant Riley (aka Mr Tony Davies), wartime poetry and wartime songs. |



Crime Prevention and Reduction



CCTV funding and Police Liaison

The Town Council have been liaising with the Police and Conwy County Council CCTV to ensure that the Abergele Community have been kept safe and informed.

- Town Council funded a mobile CCTV the Pensarn area
- The Police Liaison Sub Committee meets regularly to liaise with local Officers to be assured of mutual support and joint working;
- A further commitment by the Town Council to fund the new HD CCTV cameras for the Abergele area as a replacement over the last three years;

The Council committed to fund the new HD cameras at a total of £9000 over a three-year period ended in 2018

The Town Council will continue to fund the maintenance cameras to ensure that the area is not disadvantaged in comparison to other areas in the County.



Abergele Flood Wardens

People

Community

Place

Healthier

Resilient

Global

In conjunction with Natural Resources Wales members of the Town Council have volunteered to become flood wardens for the area.

The following Councillors are currently signed up to receiving information if there is a flood in the area and their names are below and contact details are on the Town Council website, if you would like to discuss any concerns with your local member directly.

Dean Armstrong - Pensarn Ward

Alan Hunter - Pensarn Ward

Delyth MacRae – Gele Ward

Charlie McCoubrey – Pentre Mawr Ward

Malcolm Medicott - Pentre Mawr Ward

Sam Rowlands - Pentre Mawr Ward

Richard Waters – Gele Ward

Andrew Wood – Gele Ward



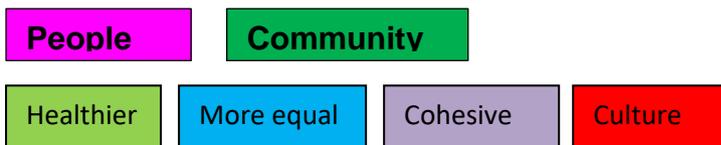
**Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales**

<https://naturalresources.wales/flooding/>

Flood line: Telephone: 0345 988 1188

At the time of writing the Council is unsure as to whether this members above will continue into 2019/20. Please check the Town Council's website for an update.

Financial Assistance



The Council supports organisations by funding grants which contribute to specific needs in Abergele. Through the Financial Assistance Grant Scheme, the Town Council awarded grants to voluntary or charitable groups based or working in Abergele in 2018/19.

Such Groups included:



Information about grants and a grant application form is available to download on the website: www.abergele-towncouncil.co.uk/grants

Who is eligible to apply?

- ✓ Local voluntary or not-for-profit organisations, based in the Abergele Community and providing activities, services or other projects in the Abergele Town Council area.
- ✓ Regional or national 'not-for-profit' organisations who can demonstrate that they provide activities, services or other projects which will be of benefit to the Abergele area or its inhabitants.

The closing date for the 2020/21 Grant Applications is 31st October 2019

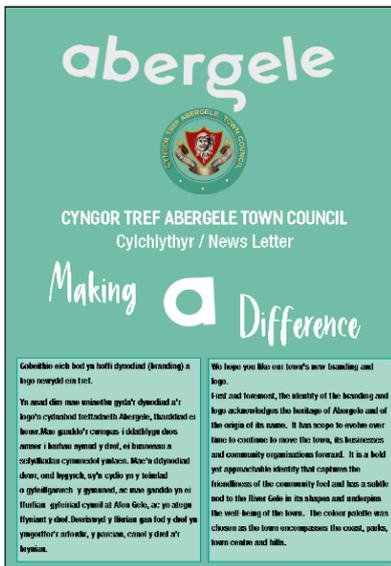
Groups and Clubs are welcome to apply.

Town Council Newsletter & Town Guide

People **Community**

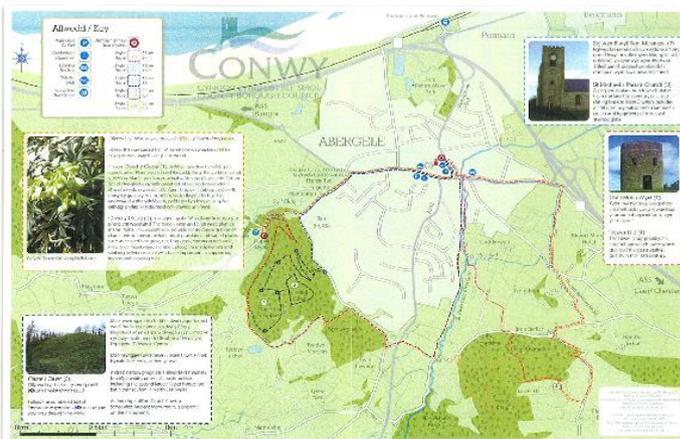
Prosperous **Resilient** **Healthier** **More equal** **Cohesive** **Culture** **Global**

Abergele Town Council publish a Newsletter three times a year and a Town Guide biennially. Distribution of these publications is promising to be more challenging for future years and new ways of delivering to the public is to be investigated. This will include a move away from paper towards social media and digital.



The Newsletter is an inclusive publication which promotes local clubs and society events in the area, as well as an update of what the Town Council has achieved over the last few months.

The Town Guide is a booklet providing local information for visitors and tourists, including history and annual events.



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Abergele a Fairtrade Town



Abergele became a Fairtrade Town in April 2010

This means that:

- The Town Council is committed to supporting Fairtrade.
- A minimum number of retail and catering outlets sell or serve Fairtrade certified products.
- Fairtrade products are used by a number of workplaces and community organisations.



Products carrying the “Fairtrade” mark meet internationally recognised Fairtrade criteria including:

- A fair, minimum price for producers.
- No forced labour, child or adult.
- Fair wages and safe working conditions for farmers and workers.
- The right to join unions.
- An additional payment for investment in community projects, e.g. clean water, improved sanitation, health clinics, schools.
- Environmentally friendly practices.

You can help by:

- Buying “Fairtrade” goods where possible and acceptable to you.
- Using “Fairtrade” goods in your workplace or organisation.
- Volunteering or joining the Abergele Fairtrade Committee.

For further local information see Facebook: Abergele Fairtrade or ‘phone 01745 824708. For national/international information visit www.fairtrade.org.uk



Bilingual Website

The Town Council aims to help and support the Welsh language by the adoption of the Welsh Language Scheme which was approved by the Town Council in 2014. The Green scheme was adopted based on the demographic of the Welsh speaking community. The Town Council's existing website is bi-lingual and fully operational.

People

Community

More equal

Cohesive

Culture

Globally

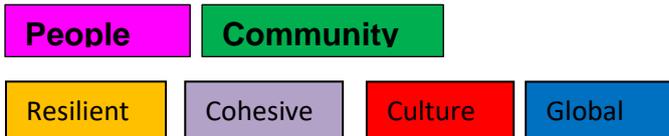
The Town Council's area on the new town website will be fully bilingual and live based on the scheme criteria. All static information will be available bilingually, other information such as notices and minutes will be available in Welsh upon request but in English only in the first instance.

The Town Council's news in the Newsletter is also produced bilingually. Due to limited resources and timescales for production, the articles received from the Community are in the language that they are received.

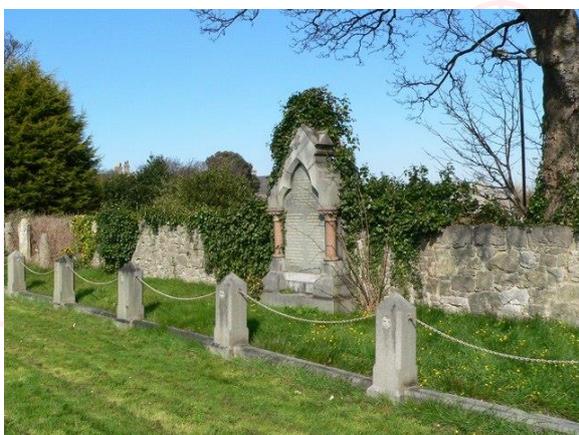
The front of house staff members has a fluent Welsh speaker and a member of staff who is in her third year of the Wlpan Welsh language lessons to help improve the accessibility of the Town Council.

The screenshot displays the Abergele Town Council website. At the top, there are three main navigation sections: 'Town Council', 'Abergele', and 'News'. Below these, there are three columns of news items. The first column is titled 'Welcome from the Mayor (Cllr Mike Bird)' and contains a welcome message. The second column is titled 'Abergele Town Council are proud to announce that they have sponsored the Town Car Parks' and contains a notice about sponsored car parks. The third column is titled 'Localgiving Launches Magic Little Grants for 2019' and contains information about grants for local charities. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with links to 'Home', 'News & Events', 'Town Council', 'Local Information', 'Visitor Information', 'Links', 'Contact Us', and 'Staff Vacancies'. The main content area features a 'Welcome to Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council' message, followed by a paragraph of text and a 'Fairtrade' logo.

Abergele Railway Disaster 1868



In August a service at St Michael’s Church was held to commemorate 150 years since the Abergele train Disaster in 1868. There was a procession from the Church to the site of the grave where a blessing took place. A small exhibition in the Church including a short documentary film was shown. The service attracted huge media attention and was also well attended by residents of Abergele and beyond.



Historic Abergele

People

Community

Cohesive

Culture

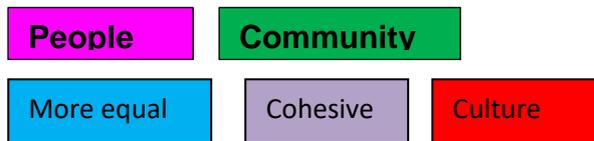
Street Names

As an historic Market Town, the Town Council are keen to ensure that the new housing developments are sympathetic to the rich history of the area and promote the naming of the streets to be bilingual and relevant to the area.

The most recent new name is on the newly built Cae Eithin site, which was named from the title map. Ffynnon y Ddôl is on this estate and is a tributary of the mains water to Pensarn into the River Gele. The new street name forwarded by the Town Council and approved by the developer is 'Cae Ddôl'.



Celebrating Christmas



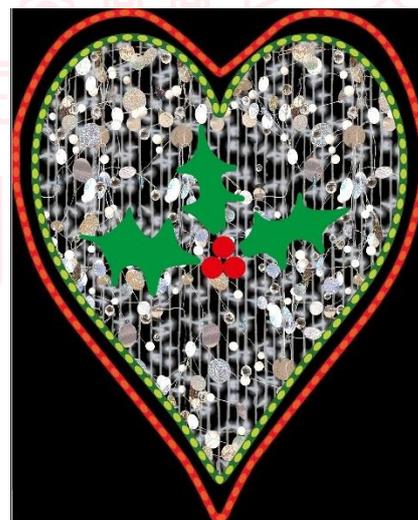
The Town Council hosted two events for the Christmas period, the Annual Festive lighting Scheme, and the Christmas Concert.

The Christmas Light scheme

The Town Council aims to ensure that the Town has a fresh Christmas scheme every three years and in 2018 the scheme was a continuation of the white 3D stars and the Christmas trees were dressed in a contemporary cone design. The Town Council are able to fund a scheme under the power to encourage visitors to the Town, the Local Government Act 1972, s.144.



Coned decorative effect



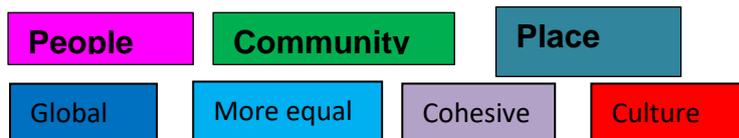
Light Competition winner

The Christmas Nativity held at St Michael's Church featuring participation by Town Councillors, was a huge success. The story of the Nativity was told with the aid of props, songs from the local schools, musical accompaniment by Beulah Brass and even audience participation.



All proceeds from the event went to the Mayor's Charities

War Memorial



The Town Council is the custodian of the Abergele War Memorial situated in St Michael's Church grounds. Each year the Town Council sets aside a small budget for maintenance of the Cenotaph. For the 2018/19 Centenary, the Town Council embarked on a project to add names of the fallen who were missing from the Memorial. As a result, four names were added in time for Remembrance Sunday.

Remembrance Sunday 2018

Centenary of the end of the Great War 1914 – 1918

Attendance on Remembrance Sunday was one of the highest in recent years with the local community coming together to remember the Fallen of Abergele.

The local branch of the Royal British Legion organised the Parade which this year consisted of veterans, the Mayor and local Town Councillors, local schools, the Scouts Association, the Brownies and members of the Emergency Services.

The Everton Pipe & Drum Band led the Parade which was marshalled by a local traffic management company.

St Michael's Church was full to capacity, and after a service led by the Rev Kate Johnson the congregation gathered around the Memorial for the Last Post and the laying of wreaths.

In St George a service was also held at the Church and wreaths laid at the village War Memorial.

The Charity of Robert Roberts

The Town Council is also the custodian of the popularly known 'Old People's Club' and the adjoining cottages. The club was formerly known as the British Red Cross Rooms located on Church Walks next to St Michael's Church

Town Improvements

People

Community

Place

Prosperous

Resilient

The Town Council have worked in partnership with Conwy County Borough Council to replace the street lighting on Llanddulas Road. This is in addition to the original Heritage lights that were installed in 2010 and enhance the gateway to the Town.

The Town Council continue to fund the planting in the large planters around the Town and the undersign planters on each of the gateway signs into the Town.

Further improvements made in 2018 included the installation of free Wi-Fi in Market Street with the help of a Rural Development Fund grant, and the Town Council is now the sponsor of the Abergele car parks namely Water Street, Market Street and the Promenade at Pensarn.

The car parks are now free of charge to all who use them until March 2021

Full details at each Car park:



Water Street Car Park - open 24 hours

Post code - LL22 7SH

Capacity 56 (no Coaches)

Long stay

Disabled spaces

Short walk to Town Centre and public toilets



Market Street Library Car Park - open 24 hours

Post Code - LL22 7AA

Capacity 30 (no Coaches)

Short stay

Disabled spaces

Town Centre



Pensarn Promenade

Post code - LL22 7PP

Capacity 100 (no Coaches)

Long stay

Disabled spaces

Beach location

Toilets

Walk your Town

People

Community

Place

Prosperous

Resilient

The Walk your Town signage project has been developed by the Abergele Place Plan to make local residents and visitors aware of what is on offer in Abergele & Pensarn.

Abergele & Pensarn is facing significant issues like other town centres nationally, this project is one of a number of initiatives to get people to shop, eat out and use local services.



The “Walk Your City” idea originated in Raleigh, North Carolina in the US which set out to boost the community’s walkability linking informational street signs for people, complemented by a web-based campaign. Signs have been attached to lamp columns and posts across Abergele & Pensarn. These provide directions and a walking time to a number of destinations.

The objectives are:

- To direct local residents into the town centre, Pensarn Beach and other attractions
- To promote shops, cafes, pubs, local services and more
- To encourage walking and general well-being within the community
- To complement the proposed active travel plan for the town
- To deliver a project through community led action
- To future proof a permanent way-finding system



The Future

People

Community

Place

The Town Council plans for 2019/20 are as follows:

- People – The Town Council will endeavour to continue to have a strong relationship with the schools, including Student representatives, competitions, and school visits,
- Aid and promote the welsh language and Eisteddfod
- Family centres, play schemes, Dementia friends
- Continue to award Grant funding to Clubs and Societies in the area

Within the Community

- Support the Carnival, Fireworks, Remembrance, Christmas Concert, and other organised events.
- Abergele Placeplan
- Member surgeries
- Assisting with the set-up of other groups to enhance Community engagement
- Play schemes

Place

- Town Council to lead on the Abergele Place Plan
- Pentre Mawr Park to become a Field in Trust
- To provide public conveniences in Pentre Mawr Park
- To provide maintained bus shelters for the Community

Welsh Language

- To continue to encourage and support the language
- Provide Grant funding to support welsh language groups
- Donate to support the National Eisteddfod in Llanrwst, Conwy

Competent Council



Finally, these are changing times for Community & Town Councils. Abergele faces many new challenges and opportunities. It is important that we are ready to face these challenges: to be Fit for the Future.

The Town Council aims to ensure that it avoids duplicating work that is currently already being carried out by other community groups by working with groups and/or providing funding for the organisations to be able to deliver the event on behalf of the Community as a whole.

A number of 'competency' tests are emerging to help Community Councils determine how well equipped they are to meet the challenges ahead. These tests will bring more consistency to the sector, with higher standards of governance and financial management.

These tests might include:

- a democracy test: - a percentage of Councillors must be elected at either an ordinary election or a by-election;
- a capability test: - the Community Council must employ a clerk with relevant professional qualifications, such as the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA).
- a capacity test: - the Council has a minimum annual budget of £200,000; and
- a governance test - the Council has sound financial management and internal control systems. It should also meet other criteria such as having a website on which it publishes agendas, minutes and accounts and is contactable by email.
- The Town Council is also subject to both internal and external audit

The Town Council undertook an audit during the year, to see how it fared against these tests. Here are our findings:

- 11 councillors have been declared elected. 5 have been co-opted.
- The Clerk is working towards attaining her CiLCA qualification.
- The town's annual budget is over £200,000
- The Town Council has sound management and financial systems. Its accounts are scrutinised by others. Agendas, minutes, accounts and contact details can be viewed at www.abergele-towncouncil.co.uk. The Community can e-mail the Clerk to the Council at clerk@abergeletown-council.co.uk. A Charter is in place to govern our relationship with Conwy County Borough Council.

Councillor Details

<u>Name & Address</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>Contact Details</u>
Cllr Dr Mark Baker Tŷ Crwn ABERGELE LL22 7BU	Gele	Tel: cllr.mark.baker@conwy.gov.uk cllr.m.baker@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk
Cllr P Heap-Williams 3 Pen y Bank, Chapel Street Chapel Street ABERGELE LL22 7AW	Gele	Tel: 07990642186 / 01745 827676 Email: cllr.p.heap-williams@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk
Cllr Shirley Jones-Roberts 1 Lon Wen ABERGELE LL22 7JD	Gele	Tel: 01745 826427 Email: cllr.s.jones-roberts@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk
Cllr Delyth A MacRae Abergele Town Council Town Hall ABERGELE LL22 7BT	Gele	Tel: 078999 41656 E-mail: cllr.macrae@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk
Cllr Richard G Waters 3 Bryn Ithel ABERGELE LL22 8QB	Gele	Tel: 01745 832006 Mobile: 07518712999 E-mail: cllr.waters@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk
Cllr Andrew Wood 18 Llwyn Onn ABERGELE LL22 7EG	Gele	Tel: 01745 822922 / 07774 834166 E-mail: cllr.wood@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk
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Cllr Mark Bond 34 Turnberry Drive ABERGELE LL22 7UD	Pentre Mawr	Tel: 01745 827833 Email: cllr.bond@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk
Cllr George Frost 4 Coed Bedw ABERGELE LL22 7EH	Pentre Mawr	Tel: 07501 231974 Email: cllr.g.frost@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk
Cllr C McCoubrey Hen Wrych Farm Llanddulas Road ABERGELE LL22 8EU	Pentre Mawr	Tel: 07545 597823 Email: cllr.c.mccoubrey@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk
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Town Hall & Council Offices
Llanddulas Road
Abergele LL22 7BT

Tel: 01745 833242

E-mail: info@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk

Full Council and Committee meetings 2019/20

Date:	Meeting(s)
<u>2019/20</u>	
2 nd May	Ordinary Meeting
9 th May	ANNUAL MEETING
16 th May	Policy & Finance/ General Purposes & Planning
6 th June	Ordinary
20 th June	General Purposes & Planning / Policy & Finance
4 th July	Ordinary
18 th July	Policy & Finance / General Purposes & Planning
August	No Meetings (Executive Committee only)
5 th September	Ordinary
19 th September	General Purposes & Planning/ Policy & Finance
3 rd October	Ordinary
17 th October	Policy & Finance/ General Purposes & Planning
7 th November	Ordinary
21 st November	General Purposes & Planning/ Policy & Finance
5 th December	Ordinary
19 th December	Policy & Finance General/ Purposes & Planning
<u>2020</u>	
*9 th January	Ordinary
16 th January	General Purposes & Planning/ Policy & Finance
6 th February	Ordinary
20 th February	Policy & Finance General/ Purposes & Planning
5 th March	Ordinary
19 th March	General Purposes & Planning / Policy & Finance
2 nd April	Ordinary
16 th April	Policy & Finance/ General Purposes & Planning

*Please note a change of date to the normal meeting pattern



Contact Information

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Town Hall
Llanddulas Road
Abergele
Conwy
LL22 7BT

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www.abergele-towncouncil.co.uk

Telephone: 01745 833242 Email: info@abergele-towncouncil.co.uk

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