



CORRESPONDENCE FILE 1
(Page 1-15)

Ordinary Meeting

19fed Hydref / 19th October 2023

Kind regards

Mandy

Mandy Evans
Clerc y Dref/Town Clerk
Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

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From: Bleddyn R. Evans <Bleddyn.Evans@conwy.gov.uk>
Sent: 18 September 2023 09:09
To: Lydia Johnson <lydia.johnson@conwy.gov.uk>; ATC Clerk <clerk@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales>
Subject: RE: Abergele Community Centre

Mandy,

Thank you for your email.

The intention is that a report will be presented to Cabinet in mid-October setting out options for the above Council asset, following Youth Services resolving to decommission it as a Council managed facility.

The report will include the option that the Council places the asset on the open market and seeks proposals; those proposals may be conditional on matters such as planning, survey, finance etc. There is nothing preventing a community group or even Abergele Town Council coming forward with a proposal, which could then be measured against what other proposal(s) come forward. If a deliverable proposal comes forward which is at less than market value, it will then be a further Member decision if that proposal is the one which the Council decides to proceed with.

Depending on the nature of the proposals that come forward, the property will be empty and managed by the Council's Facilities Management team as a Vacant Building at Risk. The Grade II listed nature of the asset will shape an element of that management regime. Due to its listed status, as things stand, demolition is not an option.

Thanks

From: Lydia Johnson <lydia.johnson@conwy.gov.uk>
Sent: 18 September 2023 08:38
To: Bleddyn R. Evans <Bleddyn.Evans@conwy.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Abergele Community Centre
Importance: High

Good morning Bleddyn

Please see email below from Abergele Town Council. They would like an update on the Abergele Community Centre.

Thanks
Lydia

From: ATC Clerk <clerk@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales>

Sent: 11 October 2023 13:53

To: Bleddyn R. Evans <Bleddyn.Evans@conwy.gov.uk>; Lydia Johnson <lydia.johnson@conwy.gov.uk>

Cc: Cllr Charlie McCoubrey <cllr.charlie.mccoubrey@conwy.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Abergele Community Centre

Good afternoon Bleddyn

Many thanks for your prompt response. I think the Council would like an Officer to attend a meeting. Would there be any chance of anyone else who could attend in your absence?

Kind regards

Mandy

Mandy Evans

Clerc y Dref/Town Clerk

Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

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From: Bleddyn R. Evans <Bleddyn.Evans@conwy.gov.uk>

Sent: 11 October 2023 13:50

To: ATC Clerk <clerk@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales>; Lydia Johnson <lydia.johnson@conwy.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Abergele Community Centre

Mandy,

Unable to attend on a Thursday evening.

Happy to meet you/Chair to explain the process so you can then convey to the Town Council. If you want to suggest some times/dates w/c 23rd.

Thanks

From: ATC Clerk <clerk@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales>

Sent: 11 October 2023 13:07

To: Bleddyn R. Evans <Bleddyn.Evans@conwy.gov.uk>; Lydia Johnson <lydia.johnson@conwy.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Abergele Community Centre

Importance: High

Good afternoon Bleddyn

At the last meeting of the Council members requested if an Officer could attend the next meeting of the Council to discuss the process for the Abergele Community Centre before any final decision is take by Cabinet, together with any accompanying documents as to repairs, viability, running costs and due time for this to be considered.

Would you be able to confirm if you are able to attend the meeting next meeting to be held on Thursday 19th October at 6:45pm

ATC Clerk

From: ATC Clerk
Sent: 12 October 2023 10:16
To: Bleddyn R. Evans; Lydia Johnson
Cc: Cllr Charlie McCoubrey
Subject: RE: Abergele Community Centre

Categories: Egress Switch: Unprotected

Good morning Bleddyn

Many thanks for the reply. I will update members at the meeting and request further clarity on the information required. In the meantime would it be possible for you to forward to the Town Council any reports with regard to the work that is required on the building, any legal obligations that any potential purchaser would need to consider prior to considering any further action, any obligations that CCBC would have to consider i.e. is there any duty on the County to sell the building at market value, or could it be gifted to a community organisation?

I look forward to an update from you in due course.

Kind regards

Mandy

Mandy Evans
Clerc y Dref/Town Clerk
Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

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From: Bleddyn R. Evans <Bleddyn.Evans@conwy.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 October 2023 16:26
To: ATC Clerk <clerk@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales>; Lydia Johnson <lydia.johnson@conwy.gov.uk>
Cc: Cllr Charlie McCoubrey <cllr.charlie.mccoubrey@conwy.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Abergele Community Centre

Mandy,

Re anybody else attending in my place, I am having to lead on this one with a junior colleague providing support. Not fair on that colleague to ask them to attend.

If ATC wish to collate questions and have that rep meet with me w/c 23rd, no problem.

Thanks

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
3rd October 2023

Youth and Community Centre

Dear Councillors,

I attended an Abergele Town Council Meeting for the first time on 28th September 2023, when the matter of the community centre was discussed.

The financial position of this building is clearly unfortunate and closure may prove to be necessary but what this situation has demonstrated to me is the poor state of local democracy and engagement with the public. Residents pay for public services but when a major problem arises affecting local people they are failed by local government and local politicians.

What stood out was the lack of communication with, and respect for, the Town Council by the Conwy Council. The report from the Conwy Councillor Paul Luckock? although strident was vague, he had no worthwhile detail just a headline figure of £1.6m. Could he not have prepared for the meeting and have the historical financial figures and actual cost savings available?

If I were an Abergele Town Councillor I would have to question whether my services are valued by the Conwy Councillors and whether there is any point in moving forward in such a sterile environment. Zoom participants could not be heard and there was an emphasis on protocol and timing out of all proportion to the setting or subject.

More than 12 years ago I attended Local Community meetings in Salford where there was a positive attempt to improve local democracy through public engagement and I was expecting a similar openness. Is it not time to try to increase public involvement? I came away feeling there was no point in staying, I couldn't tell who was speaking and couldn't hear the on line contributions.

Although the names of the Councillors (with their backs to the gallery) were unclear I think I am right in saying that the Chair is also the Leader of Conwy Council and also Abergele Town mayor this year. Will this be the decision for which his legacy as a senior local politician will be remembered in the town?

I fail to understand why letters were permitted to be sent out to users of the facility in advance of advising local Town Councillors. It just demonstrates that Abergele Councillors do not register in the administration processes adopted by Conwy Council. It shows poor leadership and management, and poor management causes unnecessary increased costs.

Regarding the Community Centre I would make the following points.

1. I am sure most residents will feel they have been hoodwinked over the plans for this building and have not yet been informed or appreciate the likely outcome. Until now the building has been a key asset in the 'Place Plan'. I don't understand why at the first hurdle this 'master plan' is abandoned and everything thrown into chaos. These things have to be worked through in a logical manner and made to work and if that proves impossible then the public would have enough intelligence, providing matters had been dealt with professionally, to accept the difficult decisions.
2. Previous councillors have said that the library would move into this building to provide 'mixed' community use. To where will the library now move or is that another future saving when it is demolished?

CRIP 4

3. £1.6m is a figure I presume being the complete full upgrade renovation cost and I am pleased that the Abergele Council has asked for the actual cost of running the building since this is the only saving that really matters in the near future not an unachievable inflated figure that was never in the budget. The cost of securing the building in 2023 will I am sure exceed any current annual excess running cost after taking into account revenue income.
4. The major cost will clearly be the external repair of spalling masonry lintels, quoins and mullions and replacement windows. The roof will also require some attention.
5. I would hope that if the property is sold to the private sector it is done so with the requirement for a bond in order that these 'essential external repairs' are undertaken.
6. It is suspected that once the building is metal plated over all windows and doors as security it will sit for many years. It could have been the architectural centrepiece of the Place Plan and instead it is could become an eyesore and detriment.
7. With limited parking there are not many private uses for such a building and if it is sold off for a fraction of its useful value it could be used for offices, storage or possibly as dwellings presuming a buyer has the supposed £1.6m to save the building before conversion costs for apartments.
8. Once in private ownership there is no guarantee that the repairs will be carried out and it could deteriorate to such an extent that demolition is the only option. A building that becomes fire damaged could be delisted from its Grade 2 status and demolished.
9. If the property is sold off for say the creation two/four dwellings and the stated repairs really would cost £1.6m then each would have to be marketed at a minimum £400,000 to £800,000 just to pay for repairs, not including any internal structural and building alterations. Not a realistic opportunity for a future property developer?
10. If the building does move into private ownership and public control is lost it could, if neglected, detract from the appearance of the proposed new development. Councils are sometimes caught out by this and have to buy back such an empty building at a much higher cost than its original selling price in order to regain control so that it can be refurbished using grant funding.

Realistically therefore it would make more sense in economic terms to make the hard decisions now and if money cannot be found for repairs the building could be delisted and demolished. At least this way the plot has a major value that can be used in conjunction with the Masterplan for the area. The alternative is to knowingly allow the building to deteriorate so that future Councillors can make the difficult decision and blame the past.

In relation to the above comments I would ask the Councillors for some discussion and feedback on the points below.

1. Does this event demonstrate a failing in local democracy and is local engagement fit for purpose?
2. In the event it is sold off, consider how the future appearance of the building can be protected through the terms of sale and through contractual requirements and a financial bond and/or claw back clauses.
3. The definition of Place Plan is *'to allow community bodies to set out their own proposals for the development or use of land in the area to contribute to development planning in their area.* Given that this key part has failed the test are there any other parts that are being changed behind the scenes.
4. Without this building can the Place Plan be delivered as intended?.

Yours faithfully,

M Griffiths

CFIPBS

ATC Clerk

From: JONES, David <david.jones.mp@parliament.uk>
Sent: 04 October 2023 10:44
To: ATC Clerk
Subject: Community Centre

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This message came from outside your organization.

Dear Mandy,

Apologies for not being able to revert sooner, but I have been at the Manchester conference. However, my staff have looked into the matter further and I agree that the position outlined by you is correct. The COF cannot be used to fund the purchase of an asset from a local authority. Nevertheless, I hope that the following will be of assistance.

As a result of changes to the rules of the current funding round, the COF [guidance](#) has been updated and now states: "*We will fund projects to purchase assets owned by parish, town and community councils.*"

Consequently, as the guidance quoted by you states, the COF can only be used to fund the purchase of assets owned by *certain public authorities*. **Essentially, the COF can only be used to fund the purchase of assets owned by parish, town and community councils, but cannot be used to fund the purchase of assets owned by other local authorities.**

Therefore, as I understand that the Abergele Community Centre is currently owned by Conwy County Borough Council, the COF cannot be used by ATC or any other entity to fund the purchase of the Centre.

Nevertheless, as you state, if ATC were able to acquire the Centre by other means, they could then use the COF to apply for funding to refurbish it.

MyCommunity, which was commissioned by MHCLG in 2015, and continues to work in partnership with DLUHC to assist community and voluntary organisations, states on its COF [FAQs](#) page under the heading "*Can you use COF to purchase and refurbish assets from a Local Authority?*":

*"The discount on a **Community Asset Transfer** can be counted as match funding if the timing of the sale fits in with the COF offer of a grant. But COF cannot pay for capital receipts to a Local Authority (only to parish, town and community councils) E.g. a disposal from a Local Authority with a market value of £100k could be transferred for nil, allowing the group to apply for a £100k grant from COF for essential capital works, if the works are required to create a sustainable business model. You will need a close working relationship with the local authority to ensure the timing of the CAT is such that the match is eligible. Getting an accurate valuation from the council that stands up to DLUHC assessment is also key."*

If, as I understand, Conwy Council are looking to secure the future of Abergele Community Centre, perhaps securing a Community Asset Transfer to ATC and then applying for a grant through the COF may be a useful option to consider. If the Council wishes to seek such a transfer, I will be more than happy to give all the support it requires.

ATC will probably need to obtain some legal advice before pursuing this further. One Voice Wales can provide legal advice and support, with details on how to access these services available through the following link:

<http://www.onevoicewales.org.uk/OVWeb/UserFiles/Files/Front%20Page/A%20guide%20to%20our%20services%20Final.pdf>

Additionally, MyCommunity offers advice to those seeking to submit a COF application. While this would not include legal advice, their experts should be able to offer advice about how to structure and complete a COF application. The council can contact MyCommunity to discuss the COF through the following link:

<https://mycommunity.org.uk/community-ownership-fund>

Please do let me know if you need any further input from me. I should mention that the Abergele Conservation Trust have also contacted me. I would like to report to them in due course, but would appreciate your observations before I do so.

Kind regards,

David

Rt Hon David Jones MP

Clwyd West

Please ensure that you supply your full postal address and all your telephone contact numbers. We shall need this information before we shall be able to deal substantively with your concerns. The member of staff dealing with your case will supply you with his or her contact details.

If you need to speak to David Jones personally, please telephone in advance so that we may agree a time slot for a telephone conversation or a Zoom meeting.

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ATC Clerk

From: Gary Williams (Building Surveyor)
Sent: 27 September 2023 16:39
To: ATC Clerk
Cc: Geraint Edwards (ERF)
Subject: RE: Abergele Toilets: 27/09/2023

Afternoon Mandy

I hope you will bear with us whilst the task of calculating the revised financing request for how these facilities are operated is undertaken. The original agreement over transfer was to see Conwy cover these additional requests (CCTV / lighting) costs. As we have been asked to look at alternative funding, I'd like to pause these works until that is complete and/or, factored into the calculations please.

The site is currently secure (locked and boarded over) and closed which reduces the risk significantly.

Many thanks

Gary

Gary Williams MRICS

Rheolwr Cyfleusterau / Facilities Manager
Yr Amgylchedd, Ffyrdd a Chyfleusterau / Environment, Roads & Facilities
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol CONWY County Borough Council

01492 574284

gary.williams9@conwy.gov.uk

www.conwy.gov.uk

From: ATC Clerk <clerk@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales>
Sent: 27 September 2023 14:41
To: Gary Williams (Building Surveyor) <Gary.Williams9@conwy.gov.uk>
Cc: Geraint Edwards (ERF) <Geraint.Edwards@conwy.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Abergele Toilets: 26/09/2023

Thank you Gary

Are you also able to confirm if you are able to initiate the CCTV, grills and flood lighting please?

Kind regards

Mandy

Mandy Evans
Clerc y Dref/Town Clerk
Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

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From: Gary Williams (Building Surveyor) <Gary.Williams9@conwy.gov.uk>

Sent: 26 September 2023 18:59

To: ATC Clerk <clerk@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales>

Cc: Geraint Edwards (ERF) <Geraint.Edwards@conwy.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Abergele Toilets: 26/09/2023

Afternoon Mandy

Thank you for your message and confirmation. We will continue to review the figures and provide an update as discussed.

Regards

Gary

Gary Williams MRICS

Rheolwr Cyfleusterau / Facilities Manager

Yr Amgylchedd, Ffyrdd a Chyfleusterau / Environment, Roads & Facilities
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol CONWY County Borough Council

01492 574284

gary.williams9@conwy.gov.uk

www.conwy.gov.uk

From: ATC Clerk <clerk@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales>

Sent: 26 September 2023 14:46

To: Gary Williams (Building Surveyor) <Gary.Williams9@conwy.gov.uk>

Cc: Geraint Edwards (ERF) <Geraint.Edwards@conwy.gov.uk>

Subject: Abergele Toilets

Good afternoon Geraint & Gary

Many thanks to you both for attending the meeting of the Town Council last week to discuss the current situation.

As discussed at the meeting members later went on to formally defer the matter until they have figures for the sponsorship of the three toilets for the consideration. However, it was agreed that the CCTV, grills and floodlighting should not be held up by this matter and members agreed to accept the offer of CCBC installing the 3 items with the shortfall been covered by the Town Council. From the information received, my understanding is that this would be £300. Would you be able to invoice the Town Council for their contribution once the work has been completed. I'm happy to issue a purchase order if required for your records.

I look forward to an update from you in due course.

Kind regards

Mandy

Mandy Evans

Clerc y Dref/Town Clerk

Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

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Mayor's Diary October 2023

Date	Fee	Start Time	Expected End Time	Name of Organisation	Details	Venue	Invitation Sent	Mayor	Reply & Consort Deputy	Confirmed(C)/(TBC)
20/10/2023										
21/10/2023										
22/10/2023										
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24/10/2023										
25/10/2023										
26/10/2023										
27/10/2023										
28/10/2023					Mayor Cllr Steven Consterline's Civic Service	St Gwynan's Church, Ysguborwn Road Dwygyfylchi LL34 6RS		Y	Y	Y
29/10/2023		14:30		Town Council						
Mayor's Diary November 2023										
01/11/2023										
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19/11/2023										

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Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS - OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

11/10/23

All meetings will be held in the Town Hall and Council Offices, Llanddulas Road unless otherwise stated below.

Date	Time / Venue	Meeting
Thursday 19 th October	6:45pm Main Chamber, Town Hall & Zoom	Ordinary Meeting & Policy & Finance Committee
Thursday 26 th October	6:45pm Main Chamber, Town Hall and Zoom	Place Plan Committee S106 Training
*Monday 6 th November	6:45pm Via remote attendance	Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee
Thursday 9 th November	6:45pm Main Chamber, Town Hall and Zoom	General Purpose & Planning Committee
*Monday 13 th November	6:45pm Via remote attendance	Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee
Thursday 16 th November	6:45pm Main Chamber, Town Hall and Zoom	Ordinary Meeting & Policy & Finance Committee

* Date/time to be confirmed.

Other meetings:

Wednesday 18th October 2023 - Remembrance Sunday pre meeting 4pm at St. Michael's Church
Saturday 4th November 2023 - Abergele Fireworks - Volunteer Briefing Pensarn Beach at 5:30pm
Sunday 12th November 2023 - Remembrance Sunday - St. Michael's Church

CRIP²⁰²³

ATC Clerk

From: Wendi Patience <wpatience@onevoicewales.wales>
Sent: 10 October 2023 13:12
To: Wendi Patience
Cc: Wendi Patience
Subject: OCTOBER 2023 TRAINING DATES / DYDDIADAU HYFFORDDIANT HYDFREF 2023
Attachments: Bursary letter up to Feb 2023-24 £100 Cym.docx; Bursary letter up to Feb 2023-24.docx; Free Places Form 2023-2024 Cym.docx; Free Places Form 2023-2024.docx; Overview Modules Jan 2018 ENG.pdf; Overview Modules Jan 2018 CYM.pdf

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Bilingual Message - Please See Below for a Welsh Version / Neges Ddwylieithog - Wele Isod am Fersiwn Cymraeg

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below details of Remote training sessions that are taking place in September & October 2023 please bring this to the attention of your council.

The cost of the training is **£38** for members or **£60** per person for non-members. You will be invoiced after the training has taken place.

There is a bursary available to eligible councils.

Session times are listed against the module date – Please note all training sessions are in English unless otherwise stated.

Date	Day	Module	Time
10/10/2023	Tuesday	New Councillor Induction	6.30-8.00pm
10/10/2023	Tuesday	The Council as an Employer - Module 3	6.30-8.00pm
11/10/2023	Wednesday	Code of Conduct - Module 9 IN WELSH	2.00-3.30pm
11/10/2023	Wednesday	Understanding the Law - Module 4	6.30-8.00pm
11/10/2023	Wednesday	Community Engagement Part II - Module 13	6.30-8.00pm
11/10/2023	Wednesday	Information Management - Module 15	6.30-8.00pm
11/10/2023	Wednesday	Local Government Finance - Module 6	6.30-8.00pm

11/10/2023	Wednesday	Local Government Finance - Module 6 in WELSH	6.30-8.00pm
12/10/2023	Thursday	Equality and Diversity - Module 14	6.30-8.00pm
12/10/2023	Thursday	Code of Conduct - Module 9	2.00-3.30pm
12/10/2023	Thursday	The Council - Module 1	6.30-8.00pm
16/10/2023	Monday	Understanding the Law - Module 4	6.30-8.00pm
16/10/2023	Monday	The Council as an Employer - Module 3 in WELSH	6.30-8.00pm
17/10/2023	Tuesday	Creating a Community Place Plan - Module 12	2.00-3.30pm
17/10/2023	Tuesday	The Council Meeting - Module 5	6.30-8.00pm
18/10/2023	Wednesday	The Council as an Employer - Module 3	6.30-8.00pm
18/10/2023	Wednesday	Code of Conduct - Module 9	6.30-8.00pm
18/10/2023	Wednesday	Advanced Local Government Finance - Module 21	6.30-8.00pm
18/10/2023	Wednesday	Introduction to Community Engagement - Module 8	6.30-8.00pm
19/10/2023	Thursday	Understanding the Law - Module 4 - WELSH	2.00-3.30pm
19/10/2023	Thursday	Devolution of Services - Module 19	6.30-8.00pm
19/10/2023	Thursday	New Councillor Induction	6.30-8.00pm
19/10/2023	Thursday	Local Government Finance - Module 6	6.30-8.00pm
23/10/2023	Monday	The Council - Module 1	6.30-8.00pm
24/10/2023	Tuesday	The Councillor - Module 2 in WELSH	6.30-8.00pm
24/10/2023	Tuesday	Information Management - Module 15	6.30-8.00pm
24/10/2023	Tuesday	Chairing Skills - Module 10	2.00-3.30pm
25/10/2023	Wednesday	Understanding the Law - Module 4	6.30-8.00pm
25/10/2023	Wednesday	Introduction to Community Engagement - Module 8	6.30-8.00pm
25/10/2023	Wednesday	Local Government Finance - Module 6	6.30-8.00pm
25/10/2023	Wednesday	Effective Staff Management - Module 18	6.30-8.00pm
26/10/2023	Thursday	Code of Conduct - Module 9	6.30-8.00pm
26/10/2023	Thursday	The Council as an Employer - Module 3	6.30-8.00pm
30/10/2023	Monday	The Councillor - Module 2	6.30-8.00pm
31/10/2023	Tuesday	Code of Conduct - Module 9	6.30-8.00pm
31/10/2023	Tuesday	The Council as an Employer - Module 3	6.30-8.00pm

31/10/2023	Tuesday	Understanding the Law - Module 4	6.30-8.00pm
31/10/2023	Tuesday	Local Government Finance - Module 6	6.30-8.00pm

Please contact me via email to place a booking.

Many thanks.
Wendi

Mobile – 07929 715990

Annwyl Gyfaill,

Wele isod fanylion sesiynau hyfforddiant o bell a gynhelir yn Hydref2023.

Cost yr hyfforddiant yw **£38** i aelodau neu **£60** y person i unrhyw un arall. Danfonir anfoneb atoch ar ôl i'r hyfforddiant ddigwydd.

Mae bwrsari ar gael i gynghorau cymwys – gofynnwch am fanylion.

Rhestrir amserau sesiynau ar gyfer dyddiadau'r modylau..

Sylwch fod pob sesiwn hyfforddi yn Saesneg oni nodir yn wahanol.

Dyddiad	Dydd	Modiwl	Amser
10/10/2023	Dydd Mawrth	Gynefino i Gynghorwyr Newydd	6.30-8.00pm
10/10/2023	Dydd Mawrth	Y Cyngor Fel Cyflogydd - Modiwl 3	6.30-8.00pm
11/10/2023	Dydd Mercher	Cod Ymddygiad - Modiwl 9 yn Gymraeg	2.00-3.30pm
11/10/2023	Dydd Mercher	Dealltwriaeth o'r Gyfraith - Modiwl 4	6.30-8.00pm
11/10/2023	Dydd Mercher	Ymgysylltiad Cymunedol Rhan II - Modiwl 13	6.30-8.00pm
11/10/2023	Dydd Mercher	Rheoli Gwybodaeth - Modiwl 15	6.30-8.00pm
11/10/2023	Dydd Mercher	Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol - Modiwl 6	6.30-8.00pm
11/10/2023	Dydd Mercher	Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol - Modiwl 6 yn Gymraeg	6.30-8.00pm
12/10/2023	Dydd Iau	Cydraddoldeb a Amrywiaeth - Modiwl 14	6.30-8.00pm
12/10/2023	Dydd Iau	Cod Ymddygiad - Modiwl 9	2.00-3.30pm
12/10/2023	Dydd Iau	Y Cyngor - Modiwl 1	6.30-8.00pm
16/10/2023	Dydd Llun	Dealltwriaeth o'r Gyfraith - Modiwl 4	6.30-8.00pm

ATC Clerk

From: Gary Shaw <Abergelebc@outlook.com>
Sent: 30 July 2023 15:46
To: ATC Info
Subject: Abergele Car Park Water Street

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Good afternoon

As secretary of the local bowling club, I have been asked by our members and many of the visiting players about the current situation with the FREE parking at the above car park.

I know that this has been in place for a number of years and was initially implemented by councillor Andrew Woods as part of the initiative to encourage people to visit Abergele more frequently. This was particularly aimed at attracting visitors post pandemic and I'm sure this has proven a success over the years.

However, I feel that the initial decision to allow "Free parking - all day", which is currently still in place, has in actual fact, reduced the number of available spaces throughout the day.

Although, I have no requirement to park at the Water Street car park myself, I know from discussions with my fellow and visiting bowlers that by 9am most weekdays, there are no spare parking spaces available, and that situation continues until 5pm most weekdays. The reasonable conclusion from that therefore, is that the car park is being used by local workers & traders who can park there all day, free of charge.

The knock on effect of the situation for our club members and visiting bowlers is that they have to find suitable parking in the residential areas, which in itself can cause animosity with the local population.

I'm positive that the initial decision was made with the best intentions but the current situation hardly encourages visitors to the area as per the original plan.

I am aware that there is alternative parking at the local Tesco store and the library but both of these are time restricted, which limits the ability of our members to use those as a substitute.

Previously, members would purchase Conwy parking tickets and use them at the Water Street car park but there is no incentive to do that, if there are no spaces available for them when required.

In summary, is it possible to get this issue raised at the next committee meeting with the relevant parties, to see if there are any plans to reverse this decision, and revert to the previous payment car park, which I believe most people would be happy to support, if the charges were set at a reasonable level as befits the area.

I'm happy to discuss further with whoever is best placed within the council if required, and can be contacted via this email address or via 07919 958959

Many thanks