



CORRESPONDENCE FILE

(Pages 1 – 6)

Place Plan Meeting

27 Gorffennaf / July 2023

Meeting report:

Beach of Dreams – by Creative Lives and Kinetika

About the project

Beach of Dreams 2025 will be an unprecedented partnership of arts, cultural, environmental, and community organisations across England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Republic of Ireland which will bring artists, scientists, and writers together with communities to creatively seek solutions for their local landscape in response to challenges presented by the climate emergency.

Hopes and fears, stories and dreams will be gathered mile by mile, shared on digital platforms with a global audience, showcased in stunning visual displays of thousands of locally-designed silk pennants made and carried by the public to inspire and catalyse positive change

What is Beach of Dreams?

Beach of Dreams 2025 is an invitation to join an epic collective journey from 1st May – 1 June 2025 to discover more about our coastlines, ourselves, and our planet, in collaboration with local communities, artists, writers, and scientists. Together, through walking, talking, and making, we will consider the question “How can we creatively reimagine our future? And what will we do to look after our communities, our coastal environment, and ourselves?”

The purpose:

- To explore together through combining walking, nature connection and creativity, how we can and will take care of the coastal environment, communities and ourselves.
- To support health, wellbeing and happiness.
- To activate climate awareness for future generations through shared creativity, ideas, inspiration, pledges and resources.
- To build stronger connections between participants and with nature.

I have direct experience of this project as a participant in some of the events of the pilot project in Essex. I hosted a flag making workshop at my then place of work Rainham Hall NT. The events were well attended, attracted a wide range of participants and the quality of work was very high. The silk flags really helped to tell the stories of the area and allowed for a diverse and colourful project.

The meeting I attended online was to bring the project on to a national scale, around the coast of Britain. Notes I made during the meeting –

- A proactive method of engaging with climate crisis (as a Town Council we declared a climate emergency in 2019.) This project would provide the opportunity to create personal climate pledges by May 2025.
- Local stories are the focus through the ‘adopt a mile’ of coastline. The project and events could tell the history and stories of the seafront in Abergele and Pensarn (this could be the SSSI status, the farm in the sea story, the train crash, memories of holidays etc)

- Need to register our interest by October 2023 to become a hub. This will involve adopting approx. 30 miles of coastline.
- I am already engaged in conversations with other Conwy County organisations who may overlap into this stretch of coastline. We are discussing a coordinated approach as there are a number of potential hubs in our area.
- Being a hub will involve working with community groups to set up events, walks, celebrations of our coastline. This aligns with the Place Plan vision to promote Abergele as a Coastal location.
- The walking element of this project should be a natural link to our Waymarker project. It could help us to form relationships with local walking groups and Ramblers etc.
- The mapping app that will be used to record the project, will also enable us to connect with other beaches that have similar flood risks, erosion issues and unique SSSI status. This will be valuable as a resource in planning for the future.
- There is little direct funding confirmed as part of this project, we will need to look at how we could integrate this project into our events calendar. Opportunities to work with multiple partners could lead to funding.
- Bare minimum required is 1 weekend of activities but preference is for a month of ongoing activities and events to coincide with the walk in May 2025.
- Transport for Wales have been keen in the past to promote the connection between our coastline routes and the town. They could be a potential partner.

Recommendation:

This is a project that aligns well with our Place Plan objectives of promoting the seafront, working with communities, addressing climate change and tackling health and wellbeing issues. I would recommend becoming a hub to promote out town and seafront.

I would follow up with county partners about hub locations.

ATC Placeplan

From: Tina Earley <clerk@colwyn-tc.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 July 2023 15:28
To: Carol Downes; Cllr Chris Hughes; David Padmore; Dawn Lancaster; Hannah Stant; Huw Roberts; ATC Placeplan; Liz; Mandy Marsh; Natalie Hughes; Neil Dunsire; Sian Young
Subject: Beach of Dreams - Conwy County Discussion Group

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Thank you for registering your interest in the Beach of Dreams project within Conwy County (if you would like to be removed from this e-mail group, please reply to let me know).

Please find below my draft notes from our first meeting this morning ...

Beach of Dreams - Conwy County Discussion

20 July 2023
11:00

PRESENT:	Sian Young, CCBC (SY) Natalie Hughes, Creu Conwy (NH) Dawn Lancaster, Llandudno Museum (DL) Tina Earley, Town Clerk, Bay of Colwyn Town Council (TE) Jesse Locke, Place Plan Officer, Abergele Town Council (JL) Liz Pugh, Walk the Plank (LP) Mandy Marsh, CIEEN (MM) Kirsten Buchanan, TAPE Music & Film (Old Colwyn) (KB)
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MEETING NOTES:

ALL present introduced themselves/their organisations.

TE briefly welcomed everyone to the meeting and shared her notes from the June online introductory event. A roundtable discussion then took place about the Beach of Dreams project, with contributions briefly summarised as follows:

SY - as Arts Officer for Conwy CBC, she would love to link in to this. Has signed up to newsletter to keep informed. Query re: any funding available and how big would we want to go?

LP - Creative Lives has submitted a funding application to the Arts Council for Wales for pilot/ launch event in Wales in May 2024 - this could possibly be in North Wales. Creative Lives are keen to work with Walk the Plank to look at a potential site(s)/activities in the North, which could then attract national TV coverage as part of a wider UK launch. The launch event could possibly include a longer stretch of

Cf 1¹ pg 3

coastline within a hub area, e.g. from Colwyn Bay to Abergele. LP would need a place to come forward and date(s) to be agreed, and could then run with this.

Need to consider: when in May?; who could be involved?; if/how could Newport be involved (as National lead for the May 2025 event) - e.g. by inviting Tin Shed to participate?

The May 2025 event is extremely scalable and does not need a big budget - it can be as simple as facilitating/supporting individuals to create pennants and to each walk a mile of the route. However, with some funding support, each town or community along the coast could look to support a wider events programme/entertainment etc along their own stretch of coastline, with the aim of bringing people together to talk about climate change.

NH - this has a great fit with Conwy's culture strategy and there is the potential to involve four of the five Town Teams, as they all cover a stretch of Conwy's coastline. Would NRW / Wales Coastal path be involved?

MM - The Wales Network Committee of the CIEEM would like to be involved, as they have an ecology and environmental focus, with active volunteers willing to assist. Can contact details for this group be shared? - ALL agreed that they were happy for their e-mail addresses to be shared.

DL - confirmed that Llandudno Museum would like to be involved and would be willing to adopt a mile of the route, possibly Deganwy to West Shore, for biodiversity and story-telling activities.

TE to ask Bay of Colwyn Town Council - are we interested in participating/hosting the launch event and/or being a Hub for the 2025 event (if Conwy CBC does not wish to take on this role).

KB - TAPE have recently started a coastline myths/animation project (funded by ACW for research and development) which would link in very well with this project. This will include using sand / beach objects and outreach work, so there could be lots of scope for involvement.

There could be an opportunity to share an animation digitally via the Beach of Dreams website

JL - Abergele is developing an events area in Pentre Mawr Park, to improve the links between the coast and the town. A sea-themed festival is planned for summer 2024. it would be good to somehow include this in either the launch event and/or the 2025 main event. It is possible that a Colwyn Bay / Abergele linked event could take place for the launch, if there is interest from both towns.

ACTIONS AGREED:

SY/NH to liaise with Helen Goddard regarding the extent of Conwy CBC involvement/support, e.g. as a potential countywide hub, or in supporting a coastal town(s)

TE to contact Judith (CCBC Events Team) after next week to ask about good/bad dates in May 2024 (re launch event)

ALL - to speak to their own organisations/ key contacts to gauge support and bring update back to next meeting

NEXT MEETING:

TE to convene a follow-up meeting during second/third week of September (prior to the call-out for Hubs) to discuss/agree any launch event for 2024 and Hub nomination for the 2025 event.

Cf1 pg4

Meeting Report:

Conwy/Junction/Deganwy Town Team meeting Thursday 29th June

Attendees: Pete George CJD Town Team lead.

Jesse Lock Abergele Place Plan Facilitator

The meeting was requested by Pete as Abergele was recommended as a good case study for them.

CJD Town team have a Planning Aid Wales Kickstarter plan – 58 pages of consultation and recommendations. This is one of 5 Kickstarter plans in Conwy. (Llanrwst, Penmaenmawr, Llanfairfechan and Llanddulas.)

There is a vision for the area and themes and actions for the community to take forward.

Their committee is made up of 2/3 residents 1/3 town councillors.

Whilst consultation with the public did take place, an estimated 1.5% of residents have responded. CJD Committee are concerned that is not sufficient and are actively engaged in further consultation.

The projects/key areas for Conwy element are;

- Quayside development
- Number of large vacant buildings
- Pedestrianising the High St
- Future of Bodlondeb
- Large scale Community Garden

Pete was interested to hear of how we interact with Conwy County Borough Council, and in particular communication with our Regeneration board. CJD do not have a regen board as such and are unsure of how to communicate their needs to CCBC. There is a similar issue in tracking which projects CCBC are running and how they engage the Town teams. For Abergele on projects such as Green Gele the Place Plan Facilitator provides a direct route to engage with the community. This seems to be the desire from CCBC for all areas but that hierarchy could do with formalising so that there is less project duplication. Clearly identified roles would also help us to utilise each others skills and resources.

We agreed that a formal meeting between the groups would be useful to establish a clear working pattern with CCBC and to enable us to learn from each others projects. We will contact Shane Wetton in the first instance to establish an officers meeting.

Meeting Report

Girl Guides/Youth shed 23/06/23

Meeting between Helen Edgley, officer for Girl Guides and Youth Shed and Jesse Lock, Place Plan Officer.

1. Youth shed have a group called Detached that operate in the parks and on the streets of Abergele. The aim is to engage with young adults/children that would not ordinarily come to a club. They could potentially activate the events space on a weekly basis. Potential activities based around forest school events such as cooking around a campfire.
2. Youth shed also have a movie night which could be outdoors in the Events space in 2024. This would be run by Youth shed but will need an outdoors cinema company and could potentially be hosted for the public.
3. The Guides and Youth shed would be happy to participate in a Christmas fair. Potentially running stalls and craft activities. Could they put on a Christmas movie for public?
4. Treasure Trails and the Waymarker project. Helen uses a product called Treasure Trails which creates a map and scavenger hunt around your area. It promotes history and culture of the town and we could work with Guides/Scouts/Youth council to create. This would be a great community focused intro to waymarking.
5. Similarly happy to engage in a Sea themed festival for 2024 if we can engage peculiar gallery for craft activities and the Town Team to help run and host.
6. Established dates for consultation with Girl Guides – 5th July, and youth Council, 1st Aug.

Jesse to follow up and link activities to these youth groups.