



# Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

## MINUTES

Cyfarfod Cynllun Lleoliad y Cyngor i'w gynnal ar Dydd Iau, 28ain Tachwedd 2024 am 6.45yh i'w gynnal yn rhannol yn y siambr, a phresenoldeb yn bosibl hefyd ar Zoom yn. The Place Plan Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday November 28th 2024 at 6.45pm by hybrid attendance.

- 363/24 **Attendance Register**  
Present: The Mayor Cllr. D. Green;  
Cllr T. Brennan; Cllr D. Fetherstonhaugh; Cllr P. Fletcher; Cllr A. Hunter;  
Cllr J. Jones; Cllr S. Jones-Roberts; Cllr T. Jones; Cllr P. Luckock; Cllr  
C. McCoubrey; Cllr A. Williamson; Cllr A. Wood  
Lay Members present: L. Tavernor; G. Millington  
Online: Cllr N. Williams;  
Officers: Mrs M.J. Evans Town Clerk  
Mrs. A. Pilling Project Manager and Funding Officer

Member of the public

- 364/24 **Apologies**  
**It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, CONSIDER and APPROVE the apologies received from members as follows:**  
Cllr M. Davies; Leave of absence  
Cllr P. Heap-Williams; Bereavement  
Cllr K. Yarwood Working  
N. Eden; Meeting clash  
Cllr K. Eeles; Personal  
Cllr Ros Griffiths Unwell

- 365/24 **Absence with no apologies**  
None

- 366/24 **Declaration of Interest**  
Members were reminded that they must declare the **existence** and **nature** of any personal and/or prejudicial interests (using the form provided for this purpose).

Cllr C. McCoubrey	370/24 (e)	Prejudicial
Cllr A. Hunter	370/24 (e)	Prejudicial
Cllr. P. Luckock	370/24 (e)	Prejudicial
Cllr. A. Wood	370/24 (e)	Prejudicial

- 367/24 **Vistors to the Council**

(a) Tomos Jones, Momo Signs, Always Hand Painted, was welcomed to the meeting by the Chair. Mr. Jones provided an overview of the project and explained that the design had been completed, but also explained that the planned site was in jeopardy, and asked Members for their ideas for an alternate site. He also explained that the project needed to be completed by



February 2025, and that the design might need to be re-visited, depending on the new site. Members asked Mr. Jones to share the current design, which he agreed to do, whilst also emphasising that the completed design would look very different to the 2D digital version that he would be able to share electronically. Members made several suggestions, and it was agreed that the Placeplan officer would collate these suggestions and share these with Natalie Hughes from CCBC, who was leading on the project. The Chair thanked Mr. Jones.

- (b) Scott Andrews, Senior Information Technology and Digital Transformation analyst, CCBC, was welcomed to the meeting by the Chair. Mr. Andrews spoke about the Dwr Cymru sensor donation offer, in terms of this being a gift to the community, given the SMART Metering project which was currently taking place in Abergele. Mr. Andrews explained that Dwr Cymru would require the data to be made accessible to the public, and confirmed that CCBC would host the data dashboard, which could then be linked to Abergele Town Council's website for the public. He provided an overview of options, including a weather sensor, and soil moisture sensors, which could provide useful data for members of the public, as well as data that could be used to support national curriculums locally, and also college / university projects more widely. He explained that maintenance would be minimal and would consist of checking the weather sensor for any accumulation of debris, and that the soil sensors had a life-span of seven to ten years. Mr. Andrews ran through four options he had prepared, and recommended the fourth option, which included a weather sensor that was covered against lightning strike, and not sunlight-dependent, alongside 10 soil moisture sensor and 2 water level sensors. The Chair thanked Mr. Andrews for attending

368/24

**Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, CONSIDER and APPROVE as a correct record the Minutes, and Confidential Minutes of the Placeplan meeting held on the 26 September 2024

PROPOSED: Cllr Hunter  
SECONDED: Cllr Brennan

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, CONSIDER and APPROVE as a correct record the Minutes of the Placeplan meeting held on the 24 October 2024

PROPOSED: Cllr Hunter  
SECONDED: Cllr Brennan

369/24

**In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and with Standing Order no.68, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advised in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.  
(Item No: 370/24 (d) and (e))**

**Matters arising on those and previous minutes**

- a) The Chair and Members welcomed Gwyneth Millington, representing the Business Forum, and the Committee was reminded that moving forward, Tanya Jones would also be attending as a representative from the Business Forum.
- b) An update on QRBoxx was RECEIVED. The Officer explained that response had been positive, and that on-boarding was continuing, but also explained that Officers had been made aware that Town Councils do not have powers to promote businesses, and had subsequently consulted with One Voice Wales, who had confirmed the following:

*“Local councils have no power to carry commercial advertising. Section 142(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 enables local councils to carry or provide information (such as advertising/promotion) concerning the services available within the council’s area provided by the council or other local authorities and other authorities specified in sub-section (1B) or by government bodies or charities and other voluntary organisations and other information relating to your council”.*

One Voice Wales had further advised that:

*“The view of our lawyers is that local councils could advertise/promote community organisations that come within the Section 142 definition on their websites and newsletters etc. but they cannot advertise/promote local businesses or commercial organisations”.*

The Officer explained that the above meant that the Town Council was unable to promote new business listings on QRBoxx via social media, which had impacted on the momentum enjoyed during the initial phase of the on-boarding process, though the QRBoxx Team had stepped up their own promotional and engagement efforts in a bid to compensate.

Members discussed the legislation and expressed their overall disagreement and disappointment, though it was ultimately agreed that the Town Council needed to comply with legislation, pending any review, and explore the workarounds.

The Officer explained that QRBoxx was always intended as a self-sustaining platform, as continued to be the case in Rhyl, where there was not anybody in situ to actively promote new listings on local social media outlets, and that although it was disappointing news, it was manageable. She explained that the cross-promotional nature of QRBoxx meant that even if the Town Council focused on promotion of Community Groups and other features of the platform, this would by default bring people to the business listings. The CCBC Business and Economy Lead, had been made aware, and had stated that her team would be able to support with the Business promotion side of the project.

The Officer provided an overview of TrackBoxx, the publicly accessible data capture tool that is included as standard on QRBoxx, and showed headline data to Members, including pre-launch visits to the platform and page views to date, as well as a tour of some of the other features that had been added and were now being used by QRBoxx members, including the Events, Everything Christmas, Promos, and Beach of Dreams sections of the platform.

- c) The Dwr Cymru sensors donation were RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. It was AGREED that the logistics are deferred to Officers, with a caveat that more information regarding maintenance is received, and to explore an option for the Weather Sensor to be situated in a local school.



**It was RESOLVED to APPROVE Option Four, as recommended by Mr. Andrews at a cost of £4940.**

PROPOSED: Cllr Hunter  
SECONDED: Cllr Wood

- d) A Project Brief about the Pentre Mawr Viewing Platform was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED.  
It was PROPOSED that the Officer explore options for grant funding to repair the Viewing Platform, with a six month deadline, at which time, if she had been unsuccessful, the project would need to be reviewed  
Cllrs Hunter and Wood were thanked for their practical efforts thus far.  
PROPOSED: Cllr Hunter  
SECONDED: Cllr D Fetherstonhaugh

*Cllrs McCoubrey, Hunter, and Luckock retired at this juncture*

- e) The Clerk explained that a Notice of Motion from Abergele Wheelers to reconsider its S106 application, had been accepted as an Agenda item, as the group had since had confirmation in writing of grant funding from Sport Wales of £300,000 and the required four signatures to bring this item back to the Committee for reconsideration had been collected.  
Members AGREED to RECEIVE and CONSIDER the Notice of Motion, and Cllr Wood provided a progress update as follows:  
Abergele Wheelers was now a registered CIC with four directors, legal counsel and insurance in place. Abergele Wheelers had received written confirmation of £300k in grant funding from Sport Wales, planning permission had been granted, and the group was in the process of negotiating the lease agreement with CCBC. The CIC would be responsible for maintenance, and was currently negotiating a maintenance agreement, which would allow for the first year to be free of charge, with the plan being to fund future maintenance via grants.

*Cllr Wood retired at this juncture*

Members discussed the S106 application in depth, in light of the confirmed grant funding information, as well as progress along other aspects of the project including the group's registration as a CIC, and confirmation that the CIC, as the leaseholder, would be the insured party, and responsible for maintenance of the site. Whilst some concerns were raised about inclusion for local children, future maintenance, composition of the directorship, and bringing the project through to fruition, it was expressed that it would be detrimental to lose this level of grant funding, and that the project would be a positive for Abergele.

**It was PROPOSED to RESOLVE that the Committee agree the S106 funding application in the full amount of £6075.00 from the Open Spaces funding pot.**

PROPOSED: Cllr T. Jones  
SECONDED: Cllr S. Jones-Roberts



In favour: 8  
Not in favour: 1

*Cllrs McCoubrey, Hunter, Luckock, and Wood returned at this juncture*

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Meeting Closed at 8:20

Signed

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(Chairman)