



Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

Cyfarfod Cynllun Lleoliad y Cyngor i'w gynnal ar Dydd Iau, Gorffennaf 25ain 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 to be held on Thursday July 25th 2024 at 6.45pm by hybrid attendance.

169/24 Cofrestr Presenoldeb - Attendance Register

Present: Cllrs: T. Brennan (Chair); M. Davies; P. Fletcher; D. Fetherstonhaugh; D. Green; P. Heap-Williams; A Hunter; J. Jones; T. Jones; S. Jones-Roberts; C. McCoubrey; N. Williams; A. Williamson; A. Wood; K. Yarwood
L. Tavernor; N. Eden

Officers: Mrs M. J. Evans (Town Clerk)
Ms A. Pilling (Project Management & Funding Officer)

Member of the public

170/24 Apologies

Cllrs: M. Davies; D. Fetherstonhaugh; D. Green; A. Hunter; M. McCoubrey; K. Yarwood; P. Luckock

171/24 Absence with no apologies

172/24 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).
None were declared

173/24 Vistors to the Council

- a) The Chair welcomed Kiri Andres and Jamie Lynch from DWR Cymru to the meeting who provided an overview of the Welsh Water's aim to become "world-class resilient by 2050", and a comprehensive presentation about their upcoming SMART Towns project, which aimed to improve efficiencies was RECEIVED. It was explained that the project would involve installing / upgrading meters in as many properties as possible, for purposes of tracking leakage along the network.

The presenters stated that the meters were not being installed for billing purposes, and also stated that the meters could help identify water loss at a property-level.

Abergele had been chosen as the ideal location for the project due to geographical delineation, and the fact that 75% of properties were already metered. Of the 4500 unmetered properties, it was estimated that 10% might require excavation.

The presenters stated a desire to develop a partnership, and to elicit feedback from Members, in order for the project to proceed smoothly with minimal disruption.



The Deputy Mayor thanked them for attending.

- b) Amanda Ballance from CCBC provided a presentation about the WG's Brilliant Basics, Fingerpost project. It was explained that following an audit of directional signage across four key towns, key points of interest had been identified with the aim of drawing pedestrianised traffic round each town. For Abergel, which had no existing directional pedestrian signage, the proposal included 11 aluminium posts, which could house up to eight fingers. It was explained that this proposal was an indicative look, and that while aluminium was the preferred material as it was considered more robust and vandal-resistant than cast-iron, further decisions about the material and appearance would happen in the design phase of the project. It was also clarified that projected estimated projects costs across all four towns were in the region of £200,000, but that the project budget was only £86,000. It was explained that the project may need to be unrolled in phases, but Members were assured that there was no plan to remove Abergel from the project, and that if there was a need to "ration" fingerposts, Members would be included in these discussions.

The Chair thanked Amanda Ballance for her attendance.

174/24 **Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, CONSIDER and APPROVE as a correct record the Ordinary meeting, held on Dydd Iau/Thursday 27 June 2024

- 175/24 **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 to be transacted, in the public interest, the press and public were temporarily excluded and instructed to withdraw. (Item No: 176/24 (a))**

176/24 **Matters arising on those and previous minutes**

- a) **A S106 Funding request for QR Boxx was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the full amount of £2928.00 from S106 Town Centre Regeneration fund.**
PROPOSED by Cllr T. Jones
SECONDED by Cllr S. Jones-Roberts
- b) The Placeplan priorities, as identified in the Autumn 2023 consultation were REVIEWED and CONSIDERED as follows:
- In terms of the priorities to be managed by WG, CCBC, (and former Regeneration Board), Members agreed it was expected that the Officer would engage and provide updates.
 - In terms of the priorities to be managed by Abergel Town Council, the Officer asked Members to share ideas for Shopfront Improvements (Priority 1) and Enhance the Promenade (Priority 2), and queried whether members would like to see exploration of a wider scheme, or a focus on smaller interventions, potentially via Town Council grants. Members requested the Officer to review S106 funding and to conduct a street audit, with a view to identifying potential improvement opportunities (such as, varnishing benches) and potential need (such as, shops in need of funding to support improvements).
 - The Officer highlighted other priorities lower down the scale that she believed had the potential to be achievable and impactful, and sought agreement to conduct some preliminary work on these over the summer



period, including SMART Towns (in relation to QR Boxx and associated curation and promotional opportunities), Trails, and Cleansing and Maintenance. Members agreed to this preliminary work, though concern was noted in relation to the Town Council taking on works that had previously be provided within CCBC's remit.

- c) The Officer's request to host an in-house re-launch and networking event, aimed at businesses, in September 2024 was APPROVED.
- d) Members RECEIVED an update on the S106 queries raised during the June 27 Placeplan Committee meeting as follows:

Welsh Language

CCBC's S106 Officer had been in touch with Menter Iaith directly.

Libraries

At the February 2024 GP&P meeting, a library bookstore and refurbishment project had been approved, for the full £25,000 from the St. George development. The funding for this project had been authorised in April 2024 and therefore, had not been referenced on the previous S106 spreadsheet provided to Members at the June 27, 2024 Placeplan meeting. Therefore, the actual latest available balances for libraries were as below:

Source	Amount available	Deadline for spend
Land at North Wales Business Park, Abergele	£33,840.63	29/03/2028
Land fronting Llanfair Road, Abergele, Conwy	£18,636.88	03/01/2030

Open Spaces

CCBC Leisure had confirmed that the 4G project remained on hold, and that unspent S106 monies could be released. Therefore, £8,180.64 had been returned to the Land at North Wales Business Park pot, and was available for other open space projects.

Highways

If not spent by August 2025, the £500,000 in S106 funds in the Land at St. George's pot which had been earmarked for the link road, would be released. There would then be a further five years to spend these funds in line with the S106 agreement. In line with S106 pending protocol, priority would be given to local projects, but these funds could be spent county-wide.

Education

CCBC's S106 Officer had reviewed pupil data and 40% of pupils at Ysgol St. George came from the Abergele schools catchment area, therefore, it was considered reasonable that a portion of the S106 monies could be spent on relevant projects at Ysgol St. George, subject to Placeplan Committee approval. The Officer saw the logic in swapping the source of the agreed Ysgol Glan Gele S106 funding, but had cautioned that this would leave £90,000 in S106 funding that would need to be spent within a shorter period of three and a half years. It was noted that further S106 funding was anticipated in due



course; the recommendation was to leave the source of the Ysgol Glan Gele spend unchanged.

The Officer also confirmed that CCBC's S106 Officer had explained that providing more detailed summaries for each S106 pot was not feasible, but that individual S106 agreements could be shared and/or discussed with Members as and when required.

Meeting Closed at 8:25pm

Signed
(Chairman)