



# Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

## MINUTES

Cyfarfod Cynllun Lleoliad y Cyngor i'w gynnal ar Dydd Iau, Medi 26ain 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 September 26th 2024 at 6.45pm by hybrid attendance.

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### Attendance Register

In the absence of the Mayor; the Deputy Mayor Cllr. T. Brennan acted as Chairman for this meeting.

Present: Cllr: T. Brennan (Deputy Mayor);  
Cllrs: D. Fetherstonhaugh; P. Fletcher; A. Hunter; J. Jones;  
S. Jones-Roberts; T. Jones; C. McCoubrey; A. Williamson; A. Wood;  
Online: N. Williams; Simon Williams

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

Members of the Public

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### Apologies

Cllrs: M. Davies; D. Green; P. Heap-Williams; P. Luckock; R. Griffith-Williams;  
K. Eeles; L. Tavernor;

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### Absence with no apologies

Cllr. K Yarwood

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### 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	MIN No: 244/24	Prejudicial
Cllr. A. Hunter	MIN No: 244/24	Prejudicial
Cllr A. Wood	MIN No: 244/24	Prejudicial

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### Vistors to the Council

a) Sarah Murphy, from Cartrefi Conwy, was welcomed and provided an update on the Western Gateway Project.

Ms Murphy explained that there had been no reported incidents of ASB following on from changes to the fencing.

Ms. Murphy explained that over the summer, Cartrefi Conwy had worked with sculpture and stone carving artist Ben Dearnley, and poet Tegwen Bruce-Deans, to deliver four "Tim Roc" sessions on the site of the new community



open space, to ensure the community had an opportunity to help shape this space. She said these were well-received, and added that participants had ranged in age from 6 years old to 80+ years old, and included repeat participation by one member of the public.

Ms. Murphy explained that the space would incorporate reclaimed materials with focal points to include: a stone sculpted “Friendship Bench”, sculpture and mural work related to the story of “The Three sisters”, benches containing carved stones featuring bilingual words about “community”.

The Chair thanked Ms. Murphy for her update.

- b) Mr. Colwell (in-person) and Simon Williams (virtual), were welcomed, and provided a presentation about QRBoxx. Mr Colwell explained that QRBoxx was borne of a desire to help communities work together to shape a positive collective online presence, and to drive engagement in towns and local areas. He explained that QRBoxx was developed as a user-driven platform, and designed to provide equal opportunity for improved reach, for both businesses and community groups. Mr Colwell ran through various features, highlighting QRBoxx’s GDPR compliance, accessibility options, and equal opportunity for exposure. He also explained how the site supported SEO, cross-promotion and ran through the sign-up and usage process for community groups and businesses. He explained that visitors to the site could see all content without signing in, but could also create a profile in order to receive notifications and bookmark favourites. Mr Colwell then provided an overview of the branding kit, on-boarding process, pre-launch activities, and answered questions about accessibility, visibility, and potential content.

The Chair thanked the QRBoxx Team for their presentation.

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### **Minutes**

**It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, CONSIDER and APPROVE as a correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting, held on Dydd Iau/Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024.**

PROPOSED by Cllr. C McCoubrey

SECONDED by Cllr. S. Jones-Roberts

243/24

**In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and with Standing Order no.68, it was RESOLVED that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw. (Item No: 244/24 (j))**

244/24

### **Matters arising on those and previous minutes**

- a) Following on from the QRBoxx presentation, the Placeplan Officer said she would share the presentation to Members which would allow Members more time to digest the information, and come back to her with any further queries. It was AGREED that the Town Council Officers be given delegated powers to continue their work and make operational decisions in preparation for the launch.



- b) *As there were members of the public present this agenda item was deferred to Item j at the end of the agenda in order for the public to remain*
- c) An update on the Fingerpost project was RECEIVED.
- d) An update on the Llenwi Project was RECEIVED.
- e) An update on Creu Conwy was RECEIVED. The Placeplan Officer explained that the Creu Conwy Officer who had been facilitating the Town Team meetings to date, would no longer be charged with doing so, from December 2024. The Officer said that she and the Clerk had attended a meeting to discuss the future of the Town Team initiative, noted that other Town Teams were in the same position, and said she would provide further updates in due course.
- f) An update from the Business Forum was RECEIVED.
- g) An update on Beach of Dreams was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. The Officer explained that Beach of Dreams had gone through some changes, but there had been two recent meetings that had demonstrated clearer focus. She added that as the lead partner, Bae of Colwyn had invested significant funds in Beach of Dreams, which would then form a significant part of Bae of Colwyn's annual events programme. The Officer expressed that it was important that Abergele Town Council, having declared a climate change emergency, work to raise awareness, but suggested this work should be proportionate, and add value, at a local grassroots level. She explained that Bae of Colwyn had been assigned a sound artist, who might be willing to visit Abergele also, and asked Members to feedback if they, or any of the groups they worked with, would be interested in participating. The Officer also asked for input and support with local connections, which was provided, with suggestions including schools and several local groups. She also explained that Abergele would be invited to walk their pennant to Colwyn Bay, to join the 500+ pennant installation on Colwyn Bay beach, by Porth Eirias, on May 10<sup>th</sup>, but that the Conwy Network was still discussing the logistics. It was also AGREED that the Officer proceed with her proposed programme of activities, including three pennant engagement sessions, community engagement activities for adults and children in the lead up, and on the date of the walk in May (date to be finalised with the Conwy Network), which would require seven days of dedicated work, plus meetings.
- h) An update on the Dwr Cymru SMART Towns project was RECEIVED and the acceptance of donated grant-funded sensors was CONSIDERED. The Officer explained that in addition to what had been included in the meeting pack, Dwr Cymru had shared more recent information about the survey progress and feedback they had received:
- The survey was now 72% complete, and new projections showed that there would be upwards of 700 hand excavations needed
  - 56 people had made contact with Dwr Cymru in relation to the SMART metering project, the majority of which were handled by telephone operatives, 14 had gone directly to the team lead for the project (either in-person at the first engagement event, or via phone / email), and 3 had been escalated by a telephone operative to the team lead who was now liaising with these customers.

The Officer also explained that Welsh Government had suggested that as part of the SMART metering project, Dwr Cymru should consider donating SMART sensors to Abergele, which would tie in with the installation of the second Gateway in Abergele, which had just gone live. Dwr Cymru had agreed in



principle, and the Clerk and the Officer had subsequently met with CCBC ITDT, who had given an overview of various options.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED, and APPROVED that the Committee accept the donation in principle, pending further discussions with Stakeholders and Officers, to secure further information, which would then allow Members to make informed decisions about specific pieces of kit, as well as distribution of these pieces of kit.

PROPOSED by Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh

SECONDED by Cllr. A. Hunter

- i) The Street Audit was RECEIVED. The Officer sought direction from Members in relation to the elements she had identified, and which elements, and any additional elements, they would like to be included in a potential regeneration scheme.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED, and APPROVED that the Officer cost out all elements, and explore grant and match funding options. It was accepted that this work would require engagement from other Stakeholders, and take time to complete.

PROPOSED by Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh

SECONDED by Cllr. C. McCoubrey

- j) Deferred from Item b, above

The S106 application from Abergele Wheelers was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED and recorded on the Confidential Minutes under Min No: 250/24.

*Cllrs. C. McCoubrey and Cllr. A. Hunter retired at this juncture*

Cllr Wood provided an overview on completed activities to date and responded to Member queries about contingency and funding expiration, and explained that the outcome of the planning application would be a determining factor in whether the group would be able to access the match funds now, or if they would need to wait until the following year.

*Cllr. A. Wood retired at this juncture.*

Members discussed the proposal in depth, including Tom Jonhstone's retirement from the group, uncertainties surrounding public support and financials, the potential benefits to Abergele and the people who live in the area, and the inclusive nature of the project.

It was PROPOSED that the Placeplan Committee award half the requested S106 funds, to demonstrate support for the project to other funders.

PROPOSED by N. Eden

SECONDED by Cllr. P. Fletcher

4 in favour

5 against



It was PROPOSED that the Placeplan Committee not award the requested S106 funds.

PROPOSED by Cllr D. Fetherstonhaugh

SECONDED by Cllr A. Williamson

5 in favour

4 against

**It was RESOLVED to not approve the request.**

*Cllr. C. McCoubrey, Cllr. A. Hunter and Cllr. A. Wood returned at this juncture*

Meeting Closed at 8:33pm

Signed .....  
(Chairman)