



Wigan♥
Council

Request

I would like to see the email correspondence between my elected representatives for Ashton-in- Makerfield South and council officers regarding Ashton library reopening or information relating to its current closure

Response

Please see attached. Names of officers below Assistant Director level have been redacted as they are exempt from disclosure under s40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Staff names are personal data and whilst there is an expectation that the names of Directors and Assistant Directors will be shared in the public domain – the effect of disclosure under Freedom of Information – this is not the case for more junior members of staff.

Subject: FW: Meeting - [REDACTED] / Ashton Works

Sensitivity: Private

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 03 December 2023 21:14

To: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Meeting - [REDACTED] / Ashton Works

Sensitivity: Private

Hi,

Yes I'm fine to attend on Friday.

Thanks

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher
Ashton Ward
Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure
Wigan Council

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 11:45 AM

To: Bullen, Jennifer CLLR ; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] Bullen, Andrew Cllr ; Fletcher, Danny CLLR

Subject: RE: Meeting - [REDACTED] / Ashton Works

Sensitivity: Private

Thank you, [REDACTED],

Hopefully, everyone else can make it and we will go ahead.

Kindest regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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www.facebook.com/WiganCouncilOnline

From: Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 11:42 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Meeting - [REDACTED] / Ashton Works
Sensitivity: Private

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Unfortunately I am unavailable on Fri 8th Dec.

I suggest you go ahead with Danny and Andrew if they can do it. Otherwise we may be awhile finding a time!

Kind Regards
Jenny

Cllr Jenny Bullen
XXXX

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>
Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 10:59:51 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Dannv.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Meeting - [REDACTED] / Ashton Works

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Unfortunately I am unavailable [REDACTED]
Fri. 8th Dec

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 9:50:26 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Dannv.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>
Subject: Meeting [REDACTED] / Ashton Works
When: 08 December 2023 10:00-11:00.
Where: Ashton Library Meeting Room

Please arrive via the side door, just through the large black gates.
Thanks

>><<



Subject:

RE: Update Ashton Library

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 24 June 2024 14:32

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Jones, Stephen CLLR <Stephen.Jones@wigan.gov.uk>; Wilkinson, Sylvia CLLR <Sylvia.Wilkinson@wigan.gov.uk>; Myler, Scarlett CLLR <S.Myler@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Ready, Christopher, CLLR <C.Ready@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Hello Jo,

Thanks for this info. Do we know (roughly, i.e which season) when the library works will be complete ?

Thanks

Danny

From: Mitchell, Joanne

Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 2:26 PM

To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR ; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR ; Bullen, Andrew Cllr ; Jones, Stephen CLLR ; Wilkinson, Sylvia CLLR ; Myler, Scarlett CLLR

Cc: Ready, Christopher, CLLR ; [REDACTED]

Subject: Update Ashton Library

Importance: High

Dear Cllr's,

I hope you're well?

I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on the upcoming changes that are taking place at Ashton Library.

As you are aware, when works start the library will be temporarily moving to The Pavilion in Jubilee Park. We are now in the process of planning and preparing for the move in anticipation of our re-launch day at the new site on Monday 29 July.

The library will remain open whilst the move is in progress so Ashton will have a continuous offer during the transition, with disruption for customers being kept to a minimum.

Our last working day at the current site will be Saturday 27 July. After this date we won't be able to access the building until we are ready to reopen.

If I can be of any further help, please let me know. Otherwise, we look forward to seeing you at The Pavilion's launch day on Monday 29 July at 9am, further invite details to follow.

Thank you

Jo

Jo Mitchell

Assistant Director – Customer Experience and Support

Customer Directorate

Wigan Council
Wigan New Town Hall, Library Street, Wigan WN1 1YN



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www.facebook.com/WiganCouncilOnline

>><<



Subject:

FW: Update Ashton Library

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 January 2025 16:10

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>

Subject: Update Ashton Library

Hi Joanne,

Hope you're well.

Just wondering if we have any update on Ashton Library building.....in terms of surveys, expected works, or even an expected re-opening date ?

I'm getting asked quite a lot by residents, I feel some update is needed.

Thanks

Danny

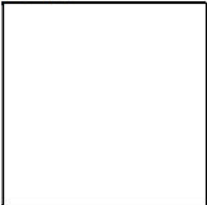
Cllr Danny Fletcher

Ashton Ward

Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure

Wigan Council

>><<



Subject: Update Ashton Library

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>
Sent: 04 May 2025 12:13
To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Afternoon Joanne

Hope you're well.

Do we have any update on the library, and the stakeholder meetings are progressing ?

Thanks

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Cllr Danny Fletcher
Ashton Ward
Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure
Wigan Council

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>
Sent: 23 January 2025 16:39
To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library
Importance: High

Hi Cllr Fletcher,

Yes, thank you and you?

Facilities Management are holding regular stakeholder meetings the next one is due to take place on the 6 February.

As you are aware the library was closed due to dry rot particularly in the roof, extensive surveys have been undertaken since its closure.

Although the dry rot survey has been undertaken by [REDACTED], further condition surveys and investigations are required to understand what is required within the Grade II listed building.

We recognise the importance of Ashton Library as a flagship building in Ashton's heritage and a huge project going forward, in our meeting it was agreed to look for programme office support to take this forward and I will of course keep you all updated.

I agree communication is required to keep yourselves and the community updated, following the meeting on the 6 February we will get an update and arrange to get a statement out on the proposed work.

Thanks

Jo

Jo Mitchell

Assistant Director – Customer Experience and Support

Customer Directorate

Wigan Council

Wigan New Town Hall, Library Street, Wigan WN1 1YN



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Cllr Danny Fletcher

Ashton Ward

Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure

Wigan Council

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Subject:

Update Ashton Library

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 25 June 2025 15:56

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Subject: Update Ashton Library

Hi Joanne,

Hope you're well.

I'm writing to follow up on your email from 5 May regarding the ongoing works at Ashton Library. I appreciate the detailed update you provided at the time, particularly around the dry rot survey and the involvement of the Conservation Officer and English Heritage.

As we're now approaching the end of June, I wanted to check whether there have been any further developments, particularly in relation to the drying-out process, the outcome of the additional surveys, and any progress with stakeholder meetings.

Residents remain understandably keen to hear about the next steps, so any information you can share would be greatly appreciated. Please also let me know if there's a timeline for when public communications or updates in the temporary library might be expected.

Thanks again for your continued work on this.

Best regards,

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher
Ashton Ward
Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure
Wigan Council

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 05 May 2025 19:20

To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Hi Cllr Fletcher,

A dry rot survey has been completed by a specialised contractor, areas within the library have been opened up and remedial works have taken place, there is now a period of drying out.

We are in communication with the Conservation Officer and English Heritage who will lead on what works can and can't be done and what materials we are able to use within the Grade II Listed building. The process does become lengthy to ensure everything is completed following the correct protocols and ensuring any remedial/building works are completed authentically and sympathetically to the building.

Various other surveys and reports are ongoing to ensure we have a full overview of the building's condition.

We appreciate there has been limited communication to date, once we have a full picture communication to the public will follow and progress updates will be displayed in the temporary library.

Thanks

Jo

Jo Mitchell

Assistant Director – Customer Experience and Support

Customer Directorate

Wigan Council

Wigan New Town Hall, Library Street, Wigan WN1 1YN



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From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 04 May 2025 12:13

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew CLlr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Afternoon Joanne

Hope you're well.

Do we have any update on the library, and the stakeholder meetings are progressing ?

Thanks

Danny

CLlr Danny Fletcher

Ashton Ward

Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure

Wigan Council

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 January 2025 16:39

To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew CLlr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>;

■■■■, ■■■■

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Importance: High

Hi Cllr Fletcher,

Yes, thank you and you?

Facilities Management are holding regular stakeholder meetings the next one is due to take place on the 6 February.

As you are aware the library was closed due to dry rot particularly in the roof, extensive surveys have been undertaken since its closure.

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■■■■

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From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 January 2025 16:10

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: ■■■■, Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>

Subject: Update Ashton Library

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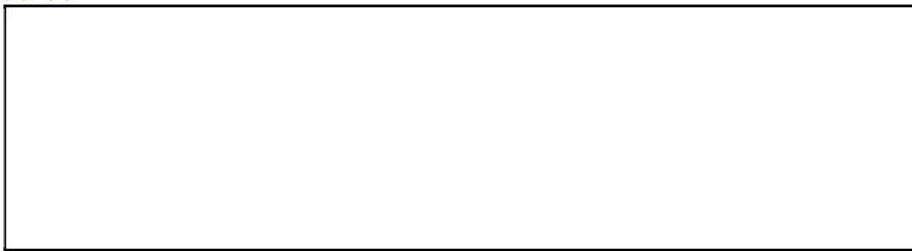
I'm getting asked quite a lot by residents, I feel some update is needed.

Thanks

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher
Ashton Ward
Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure
Wigan Council

>><<



Subject: Update Ashton Library

Importance: High

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 July 2025 13:18

To: Ready, Christopher, CLLR <C.Ready@wigan.gov.uk>; Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew CLlr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], [REDACTED]; Lowe, Jonathan J.Lowe1@wigan.gov.uk

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Importance: High

Dear Cllrs,

Many thanks for your emails regarding the future of Ashton Library.

Libraries are so important to our communities, and we fully recognise the great value they bring to our residents, including those in Ashton-in-Makerfield.

As we have already discussed, we are currently reviewing the options for the future of the building, which is complex due to its Grade II Listed status.

However, I would like to offer assurances that finding a positive solution remains a priority to us and I will keep you informed of any updates as and when they become available.

Kind regards,

Jo

Jo Mitchell

Assistant Director – Customer Experience and Support

Resident Services

Wigan Council

Wigan New Town Hall, Library Street, Wigan WN1 1YN

[REDACTED]
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From: Ready, Christopher, CLLR <C.Ready@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 19 July 2025 09:04

To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>; Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew CLlr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Dear Danny, Jenny, Andrew

I want to start by saying that we all share your concerns. Once we have a clear understanding of the costs involved, I believe it's important that we meet with the leader to assess where we stand and discuss how we can best support the three of you moving forward.

I also want to take a moment to recognise Jo Mitchell's efforts. She has worked tirelessly with the library team to drive progress, and I think you've witnessed her unwavering commitment to Ashton Library. She has my full support.

Best regards,

Chris

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 19 July 2025 01:32

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Ready, Christopher, CLLR <C.Ready@wigan.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Afternoon all,

Re: Ashton Library

I want be absolutely clear on my position, Ashton Library must reopen, and it must be treated as a priority, whatever the cost.

This isn't just a building, it's the beating heart of our community. It's where children discover books for the first time, where older residents find connection, and where people go not just to learn, but to belong. Its closure has left a real void in Ashton, and the longer it stays shut, the more damage is done.

I understand the challenges with a listed building, but we cannot let process delay progress. The community deserves action, urgency, and a firm commitment to reopening.

Please let me know what's needed to move this forward. I will do everything I can to support it.

Best,

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher
Ashton Ward
Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure
Wigan Council

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 07 July 2025 10:07

To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Ready, Christopher, CLLR <C.Ready@wigan.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Good morning, Cllr, Fletcher,

Apologies for the delay in coming back to you, I should have an update for you soon. I'm just waiting on some further information.

Thank you for your patience

Jo

Jo Mitchell

Assistant Director – Customer Experience and Support

Resident Services

Wigan Council

Wigan New Town Hall, Library Street, Wigan WN1 1YN



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From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 05 July 2025 12:35

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; ,



Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Afternoon Joanne

Can we have an update on the below email please.

Thanks

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher

Ashton Ward

Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure

Wigan Council

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR

Sent: 25 June 2025 15:56

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; , 

Subject: Update Ashton Library

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As we're now approaching the end of June, I wanted to check whether there have been any further developments, particularly in relation to the drying-out process, the outcome of the additional surveys, and any progress with stakeholder meetings.

Residents remain understandably keen to hear about the next steps, so any information you can share would be greatly appreciated. Please also let me know if there's a timeline for when public communications or updates in the temporary library might be expected.

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Best regards,

Danny

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Ashton Ward
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Wigan Council

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 05 May 2025 19:20

To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

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Importance: High

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CLlr Danny Fletcher

Ashton Ward

Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure

Wigan Council

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Subject:

Update Ashton Library

From: Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 July 2025 14:01

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>; Ready, Christopher, CLLR <C.Ready@wigan.gov.uk>; Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED], Lowe, Jonathan J.Lowe1@wigan.gov.uk

Subject: Re: Update Ashton Library

Thank you Jo. Much appreciated.

Jenny

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 1:18:29 PM

To: Ready, Christopher, CLLR <C.Ready@wigan.gov.uk>; Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Lowe, Jonathan J.Lowe1@wigan.gov.uk

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Dear Danny, Jenny, Andrew

I want to start by saying that we all share your concerns. Once we have a clear understanding of the costs involved, I believe it's important that we meet with the leader to assess where we stand and discuss how we can best support the three of you moving forward.

I also want to take a moment to recognise Jo Mitchell's efforts. She has worked tirelessly with the library team to drive progress, and I think you've witnessed her unwavering commitment to Ashton Library. She has my full support.

Best regards,
Chris

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>
Sent: 19 July 2025 01:32
To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>
Cc: Bullen, Andrew CLlr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] ,
[REDACTED] ,Ready, Christopher, CLLR <C.Ready@wigan.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Afternoon all,

Re: Ashton Library

I want be absolutely clear on my position, Ashton Library must reopen, and it must be treated as a priority, whatever the cost.

This isn't just a building, it's the beating heart of our community. It's where children discover books for the first time, where older residents find connection, and where people go not just to learn, but to belong. Its closure has left a real void in Ashton, and the longer it stays shut, the more damage is done.

I understand the challenges with a listed building, but we cannot let process delay progress. The community deserves action, urgency, and a firm commitment to reopening.

Please let me know what's needed to move this forward. I will do everything I can to support it.

Best,

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher
Ashton Ward
Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure
Wigan Council

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 July 2025 10:07
To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>
Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Ready, Christopher, CLLR <C.Ready@wigan.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Good morning, Cllr, Fletcher,

Apologies for the delay in coming back to you, I should have an update for you soon. I'm just waiting on some further information.

Thank you for your patience

Jo

Jo Mitchell
Assistant Director – Customer Experience and Support

Resident Services
Wigan Council
Wigan New Town Hall, Library Street, Wigan WN1 1YN
[REDACTED]
www.wigan.gov.uk
www.twitter.com/wigancouncil
www.facebook.com/WiganCouncilOnline

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 July 2025 12:35
To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>
Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Afternoon Joanne

Can we have an update on the below email please.

Thanks

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher
Ashton Ward
Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure
Wigan Council

From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR

Sent: 25 June 2025 15:56

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Subject: Update Ashton Library

Hi Joanne,

Hope you're well.

I'm writing to follow up on your email from 5 May regarding the ongoing works at Ashton Library. I appreciate the detailed update you provided at the time, particularly around the dry rot survey and the involvement of the Conservation Officer and English Heritage.

As we're now approaching the end of June, I wanted to check whether there have been any further developments, particularly in relation to the drying-out process, the outcome of the additional surveys, and any progress with stakeholder meetings.

Residents remain understandably keen to hear about the next steps, so any information you can share would be greatly appreciated. Please also let me know if there's a timeline for when public communications or updates in the temporary library might be expected.

Thanks again for your continued work on this.

Best regards,

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher
Ashton Ward
Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure
Wigan Council

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 05 May 2025 19:20

To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]; Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Hi Cllr Fletcher,

A dry rot survey has been completed by a specialised contractor, areas within the library have been opened up and remedial works have taken place, there is now a period of drying out.

We are in communication with the Conservation Officer and English Heritage who will lead on what works can and can't be done and what materials we are able to use within the Grade II Listed building. The process does become lengthy to ensure everything is completed following the correct protocols and ensuring any

remedial/building works are completed authentically and sympathetically to the building.

Various other surveys and reports are ongoing to ensure we have a full overview of the building's condition.

We appreciate there has been limited communication to date, once we have a full picture communication to the public will follow and progress updates will be displayed in the temporary library.

Thanks

Jo

Jo Mitchell

Assistant Director – Customer Experience and Support

Customer Directorate

Wigan Council

Wigan New Town Hall, Library Street, Wigan WN1 1YN



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From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 04 May 2025 12:13

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Afternoon Joanne

Hope you're well.

Do we have any update on the library, and the stakeholder meetings are progressing ?

Thanks

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher

Ashton Ward

Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure

Wigan Council

From: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 January 2025 16:39

To: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Update Ashton Library

Importance: High

Hi Cllr Fletcher,

Yes, thank you and you?

Facilities Management are holding regular stakeholder meetings the next one is due to take place on the 6 February.

As you are aware the library was closed due to dry rot particularly in the roof, extensive surveys have been undertaken since its closure.

Although the dry rot survey has been undertaken by [REDACTED], further condition surveys and investigations are required to understand what is required within the Grade II listed building.

We recognise the importance of Ashton Library as a flagship building in Ashton's heritage and a huge project going forward, in our meeting it was agreed to look for programme office support to take this forward and I will of course keep you all updated.

I agree communication is required to keep yourselves and the community updated, following the meeting on the 6 February we will get an update and arrange to get a statement out on the proposed work.

Thanks

Jo

Jo Mitchell

Assistant Director – Customer Experience and Support

Customer Directorate

Wigan Council

Wigan New Town Hall, Library Street, Wigan WN1 1YN

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From: Fletcher, Danny CLLR <Danny.Fletcher@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 January 2025 16:10

To: Mitchell, Joanne <joanne.mitchell@wigan.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED], Bullen, Jennifer CLLR <J.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>; Bullen, Andrew Cllr <Andrew.Bullen@wigan.gov.uk>

Subject: Update Ashton Library

Hi Joanne,

Hope you're well.

Just wondering if we have any update on Ashton Library building.....in terms of surveys, expected works, or even an expected re-opening date ?

I'm getting asked quite a lot by residents, I feel some update is needed.

Thanks

Danny

Cllr Danny Fletcher
Ashton Ward

Lead Member for Public Health and Leisure
Wigan Council

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