Councillor appalled at 'wanton vandalism'

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MINDLESS vandals who pushed over large glass-topped tubs of floral displays in Aberystwyth town centre in the early hours, leaving the container leaning against the window of a shop, have been condemned by a prominent county councillor.

Ceredigion Cllr Cerid Wyn Davies is furious that the decorative displays were vandalised, leaving compost and flowers scattered across pavements.

And one tub has cracked a large window of Y Cabin, at the junction of Pier Street and Encaen Street. The window could not be repaired until yesterday (Tuesday), and could not be moved in case the glass shattered and caused injury to passers-by.

And another container was pushed over at the corner of Great Darkgate Street and Chalybeate Street.

It is believed that the vandalism struck in the early hours of Sunday morning 8 July, about 3am outside Y Cabin.

Cllr Davies said: “People will be concerned about this wanton vandalism. Ceredigion has spent almost £20,000 on floral displays. And there is a lot of care involved with these displays.

“And now some idiots have deliberately pushed them over. Each tub must contain about half a ton of compost, and is over eight feet high - whoever has vandalised them must have had help because they are too heavy.

“Visitors and locals appreciate the effort of the council, and the displays are treated like this.”

Y Cabin proprietor Roy Lees is similarly appalled at the vandalism.

He said: “It’s just so very sad. The council has made excellent efforts in brightening up the town, and the floral displays all looked so good.

“IT is thoughtless people causing absolutely pointless vandalism.

“We had to leave the tub where it was as we could not get the laminated window repaired until Tuesday.

“It is resting against the window, and it means it’s safer with barriers around it rather than dislodging it and risking glass shards on the pavement.

“IT weighs a ton, so I don’t know how the vandals did it.”

Although the cost of repair will largely be covered by insurance, Mr Lees will have to pay the first £100, plus the VAT, although the tax can be reclaimed later.

Police in Aberystwyth are appealing for witnesses to the vandalism to come forward.

Temporary chief inspector Kevin Davies said: “Officers investigating these incidents have put in a request with CCTV operators to view the footage available for Saturday night/Sunday morning.

“In the meantime we would ask anyone who witnessed this mindless vandalism to contact Aberystwyth police station on 0845 330 0000 or CrimeStoppers on 0800 555111.”

An example of one of the flower stands, seen at Thespian Street.