



Longden, Ford and
Rea Valley Local Joint
Committee

19 February 2014

Item

4

Public

**LONGDEN FORD AND REA VALLEY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9.10.13
7.00 – 9.35pm**

Responsible Officer David Fairclough
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Committee Members Present:

Geoff Brown	Minsterley Parish Council
Bill Clyne	Ford Parish Council
Roger Evans	Shropshire Council (Acting Chair)
John Fox	Great Hanwood Parish Council
Neil Evans	Longden Parish Council
John Pritchard	Pontesbury Parish Council

Officers present:

Jan Cook, Area Transport Commissioner
David Fairclough, Community Action Officer
PC Jon Summerfield, Safer Neighbourhood Team
Shropshire Fire & Rescue Services

There were three members of the public present.

1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Chair Tudor Bebb gave his apologies. As Vice Chair Roger Evans took charge of the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations

3. Substitutions

There were no substitutions

4. Note of Last Meeting

4.1 The notes of the last meeting were agreed and signed by Chair Roger Evans 14/10/13

5. Police & Fire Update

5.1 PC Summerfield updated the meeting on crime in the LJC area. He

informed the meeting that crime remained low in the area. The main areas of concern with regards to ASB remain in Great Hanwood & Minsterley, however through multi-agency approaches and the Community Alcohol Partnership it is hoped that these initiatives will alleviate the issues.

- 5.2 PC Summerfield gave a brief overview of changes that have affected his area taking effect from 30th September. The newest change is that they are now called the 'Safer Neighbourhood Teams' (SNT's). This LJC now has 1 Police Officer and three CSO's, although the area has now expanded and covers Bowbrook area too. There is also to be one dedicated response unit for this area which if called on an emergency will be covered by another vehicle at all times.
- 5.3 If anyone has any local intelligence they would like passed on to the Police please call 101 or in the event of an emergency please dial 999.
- 5.4 The Fire Service gave an update on their current operations. They have a campaign aimed at customers of B&Q and other shops aiming to deliver fire awareness at the initial point of purchase. The fire service updated that more budget pressures were on their way, however, at this moment in time no mention as to how the money will be saved. There is potential to join backup systems (Fire Control) however there are also other options up for discussion too.

6. Local Bus Transport Update

- 6.1 The Area transport Commissioner, Jan Cook, updated the meeting on local bus issues, including the decommissioning of the Shropshire LINK buses. The decision to decommission the link buses was taken as the running costs of the service were too great and a cost of over £20 per passenger per person was considered by Cabinet an expense to great to continue. All passengers who had used the service within the past 12 months were given Community transport information, e.g. Shrewsbury Dial-a-ride.
- 6.2 A discussion took place around other areas increasing Demand responsive transport and that the use of community transport here in Shropshire as a replacement for LINK had experienced teething errors e.g. passengers not being able to collect their pensions as their needs could not be met.
- 6.3 Members of the public questioned the student passes on Arriva and Minsterley Services. It was discussed that different operators (especially those operating commercial services) have a right to offer a student pass scheme on their own terms. Any commercial service has zero input from Shropshire Council and is ran purely by the Operator for commercial benefit. The Officer will be contacting the members of the public on this issue. The Officer also mentioned that a multi-operated ticketing system is being investigated; however, the public should not expect this to happen soon.
- 6.4 It was noted that a discussion around a Bus Compact took place with some within the room wanting to raise the profile of this and promote it as a possible future way of working for the local authority.

JC to contact members of public

7. A5 road island changes

- 7.1 Jan Cook updated the meeting on the proposed changes to the A5 islands around Shrewsbury by displaying 4 large maps of the 'Pinchpoint Scheme' proposal by the Highways Agency. The Highways Agency scheme is aimed to increase the capacity on these roads. Shropshire Council have been in consultation with the Highways Agency and are continuously feeding back to them.
- 7.2 Phases 1 & 2 are expected to be able to take the pressures of the future urban extension in 2026. Phases 3 & 4 will require further development at some point in the future to handle the traffic.
- 7.3 Edgebold islands have a number of safety concerns and have a history of collisions. The LJC members wanted to highlight their reservations that the amount of traffic turning left to Oswestry is far less compared to that turning right to Shrewsbury. Shropshire Council has asked for the data on this subject. A further point was made that the Highways Agency should be widening the roads anyway to make sure articulated vehicles have enough maneuverer room.
- 7.4 Work will start on phase one in November and will continue to February with the majority of the work taking place at night.
- 7.5 A brief presentation was also given by Jan Cook on the South West Urban extension and how this will also impact on the road infrastructure on the A5 islands.

8. Applications for Funding

- 8.1 A report giving details of funding bids that had been received since the last meeting of the LJC had been circulated.
- 8.2 The Community Action Officer updated the meeting on the projects and answered questions from the members
- 8.3 It was resolved that
- a) Pontesbury Bowling Club were awarded £4,000 to put towards their kitchen and toilet improvements project. This grant is to be spent within 3 months after receiving the grant.
 - b) Youth Travel Scheme: Awarded £2,400 to purchase travel tokens for young people (14-16) in the LJC area who will be given £15 each worth of free tokens.
 - c) Shropshire Language Society: The decision was deferred until the next LJC meeting pending further research & information from the Language Society.

9. Public Question Time

- 9.1 There were no further questions from the public.

10. Future Agenda Items

10.1 No future agenda items were discussed

11. Date of Next Meeting

11.1 The date of the next meeting of the Local Joint Committee was confirmed as Wednesday 19th February 2013 and Longden Village Hall would be investigated as a location.