



Committee and Date

Albrighton Area Local Joint  
Committee

24 March 2010

Item

**4**

Public

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ALBRIGHTON AREA LOCAL JOINT  
COMMITTEE HELD ON AT 7.00PM ON WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2010 AT  
DONINGTON CHURCH CENTRE, RECTORY ROAD, DONINGTON**

**Responsible Officer**      Adrian Dean  
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**Committee Members Present:**

**Shropshire Council**

Malcolm Pate

**Parish Councils**

Paul Lusk – Albrighton Parish Council  
David Murray – Tong Parish Council  
Fred Shelley – Donington With Boscobel Parish Council  
Bob Tummons – Boningale Parish Council

**Shropshire Council Officers present:**

Mike Morris, Lead Officer  
George Edwards, Support Officer  
Andrea McWilliams, Community Regeneration Officer  
Adrian Dean, Senior Committee Officer

**West Mercia Police:**

PC Rod Salt

There were approximately 34 members of the public present at the meeting.

**27. Welcome and Introductions**

27.1 The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

**ACTION**

**28. Apologies for absence**

28.1 Apologies for absence were received from Stuart West (Shropshire Council).

**29. Notes**

29.1 The notes of the meeting held on 8 October 2010 were signed by the Chairman.

**30. Declarations of Interest**

30.1 There were no declarations of interest.

**31. Order of Business**

31.1 The Chairman decided that item 9 on the agenda concerning consultation on Shropshire Council's 2010/11 budget.

**32.0 Shropshire Council Budget 2010/11 – Consultation**

32.1 The Chairman introduced Laura Rowley Shropshire Council's Director of Resources. The Director of Resources said that she would give a presentation on the proposed budget for 2010/11 followed by a question and answer session. A voting session would follow allowing those present an opportunity to express their views about the budget.

32.2 The Director of Resources said that during the current year that a target saving £7.8m had been set and that actual savings would be £10.8m. She added that for 2010/11 savings of £7.1m would be required.

32.3 She added that Council Tax increases would vary from 0% in the former Oswestry and South Shropshire districts to 3.5% in the former Bridgnorth district. Council Tax is to be equalised over 3 years.

32.4 A question was asked about the continuation of the successful Parish Flyer bus service and whether this service would be cut. In reply, Laura Rowley said there was not a saving that would affect the Parish Flyer.

32.5 A further questioner asked about the quality of roads in the area and in particular was concerned about the quality of street furniture in the area. He added that under the Amenity Act 1974, the Council was obliged to have budget provision in a Conservation Area.

32.6 The Director said that she did not know the answer to this particular question but that if the questioner gave his name and address at the end of the meeting she would respond to him.

LR

**ACTION**

32.7 A question was asked about the provision and availability of residential care homes for the elderly and in particular why there are so few of them in the area. Laura Rowley said that there have been only two Residential Care Homes operated by the Council for several years. In addition, Mike Morris, Lead Officer (and Assistant Director, Strategy and Business Support) said that the care homes are situated in Ludlow and Shrewsbury. He added that the Council has contracts in place with care homes across the County which allows the Council to buy beds at care homes. He further added that where the cost exceeds the contribution made by the Council that additional cost would be paid by the family.

32.8 A question was asked about the refurbishment of Woodlands Close, Albrighton. This was an area that was flooded about 2 years ago and is occupied mostly by elderly people. The questioner said that the footpath was in a terrible condition and needed to be repaired and that the only safe place to walk was in the middle of the road.

32.9 The Chairman said that he wanted the scheme for the repairs to be brought forward.

Tom  
McCabe

32.10 A question was asked as to whether it would be possible to deliver a more efficient Council bearing in mind that savings of £10.8m had already been achieved and a further £7m would be saved in the 2010/11 financial year. In reply, the Director said that there would be ongoing savings.

32.11 The Chairman added that other similar Councils will find themselves having to cut services such as Fire and Rescue and Libraries.

32.12 A question was raised about the provision of Council garages. The concern was that they would no longer be available and that there would be an increase in parking problems in the area. The questioner added that improvements to Council Houses were carried out such as replacement bathrooms, but that no provision was made for garages. The Director said that she did not know the answer to that question but find out.

LR

32.13 The Director of Resources then moved on to the voting session and gave those present the opportunity to indicate their preferences.

### **33.0 Shropshire Council – Youth Service**

33.1 The Chairman introduced Martin Stephens from the Head of Service Integrated Youth Support Service and Melanie Revolta Area Manager.

33.2 Martin Stephens gave a presentation regarding the Integrated and Targeted Youth Support. He gave details of how they work with young people and their key priorities. Melanie Revolta extended on this to show how that is delivered in the Albrighton area.

**ACTION**

33.3 In answer to a question Melanie Revolva said that the Youth Service is working closely with Jackie Fletcher to assist in submitting an application for YOS (Youth Opportunities Scheme) funding.

**34.0 Feedback from meeting held on 8 October 2009**

34.1 The comments, questions and suggestions information was circulated at the meeting. In relation to the answer relating to the provision of a skip for the collection of plastics it was suggested that an area of land at the corner of Worthington Drive and Newport Road could be used but it was noted that this would be subject to agreement with the owners Severn Trent Water.

34.2 Mr Rod Smith a member of Cross Road Traffic Group gave a brief presentation relating to his question about the missing 50m section of footpath in Elm Road.

34.3 Mr Smith said that work was programmed to be undertaken around Easter to the road in the area but will not include the missing footpath. The photographs in the presentation highlighted the dangerous nature of the road. His questions were;

1. Will Shropshire Council carry out the works and
2. When Shropshire Council Carry out the works?

34.4 Mr Smith added that with works planned to take place shortly, that it would be more cost effective for all the works to be carried out together rather than having to return at a later date.

34.5 It was also stated that the area is used by school children who walk along that stretch of road when they go to catch their bus to school.

34.6 The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that support be given to the proposal.

Tom  
McCabe**35.0 Public Question Time**

35.1 A question was asked why it was that although the Council is trying to reduce its carbon footprint bright lights are left on all night at schools and family centres.

35.2 One resident said that some of the street lights in Cross Road need to be looked at as they are partially obscured by ivy.

Brian  
Bennett

35.3 A questioner asked about the process that Shropshire Council goes through to ensure that its tender process gives good value for money. The Chairman said that all contractors had to be from the Council's approved list of contractors.

35.4 An issue was raised about Choice Based Lettings and new agreements that had been provided for Council Tenants. Mike Morris suggested that someone be invited to the next meeting to

MM

explain Choice Based Lettings.

- 35.5 A further issue was raised concerning a bus stop in Saxon Park. The questioner said that there were two bus stops in Saxon Park one was provide with a cover but the other one had no protection from bad weather. The Chairman said that this was something that should be referred to the Parish Council as they have the power to provide covered bus stops. MM to refer to Albrighton Parish Council
- 35.6 An issue was raised about meetings that had been held regarding parking problems in Newhouse Lane. It was claimed that consultation had taken place but several people present said that no such consultation had taken place. There was also some confusion over whether the local residents had been properly invited to attend the meeting about consultation and what the conclusion had been to the meeting. MM to investigate whether the deadline for consultation could be extended
- 35.7 A question was raised about a bridleway in Garage Close and whether additional fencing should be provided.
- 35.8 An issue was raised about the skateboard park as it appeared that it was being left unlocked and was being used outside the permitted times. In addition the area is untidy and littered with chip papers, cans and bottles. It was suggested that Norrie Porter be invited to attend the next meeting of the Committee. MM
- 36.0 Partners and Communities Together (PACT)**
- 36.1 PC Rod Salt, West Mercia Police, said that surgeries were being held from 9.30am to 11.30am on Monday 15 February, Monday 29 March and Monday 26 April at Wesley Hall. He said that surgeries would be held monthly and would be advertised locally. He also said that there had been an increase in burglaries mainly due to the increase in the value of gold.
- 37.0 Funding Applications**
- 37.1 It was **RESOLVED**: that the following grants be awarded for the reasons stated:

Application Number	Organisation	Amount of grant awarded (£)	Reason for amount of grant
02/10	Jazz Specials	500.00	The Parish Council has granted £1000. Some fund raising or charging for tickets could bridge the gap in funding.
03/10	St Mary Magdalene Organ Restoration	0	The committee felt that it was not appropriate to grant to an appeal which could mean the money not actually being spent for some years. They asked

Notes of the Albrighton Area Local Joint Committee held at 7 pm on 10 February 2010			
	Appeal		that the applicants be advised to re-apply at a later stage when the fund is nearing its target.
04/10	Albrighton Cricket Club	3000.00	The committee felt that although this was a good project that the level of grant could not be any higher bearing in mind the high level of demand for funding from other competing groups. The grant was awarded from the 2009/10 budget although works may not start until later in the year.
08/10	Red House Project	0	The committee felt that more clarity need to be provided with regard to whether the elements applied for were actually phase 1 or whether they should be regarded as phase 2 and that more information needed to be provided.
9/10	Albrighton Civic Society	2500.00	The committee felt that the project was good and phasing it was a good idea. Also thought that more consideration should be given to covering labour costs by securing volunteers etc. It was also felt that the applicants should be advised to seek match funding from other sources such as parish councils.
10/10	Albrighton Allotments Association	0	The committee agreed that the applicants should be redirected to Albrighton Parish Council as landlords of the land.
13/10	Legion Youth Fishing	0	Groups should not be considered for grant aid more than once per annum. This organisation is linked to the Youth Drop-in Centre which was given funding in October 2009.
14/10	Wesley Hall Car Park	2500.00	The committee decided to grant full amount due to the urgent need and evidence of self funding for the scheme from local fund raising etc. It was felt that the car park contributed significantly towards the daily community use of the building.
16/10	Jam Night		The committee decided to defer for further clarification as there were concerns about set up ie community group with a constitution, bank account etc. and no evidence of contribution from the group.
<b>Applications for small pot grants</b>			
05/10	Albrighton Senior Section Guides	250.00	The committee decided to award a grant from the small grants pot as there
Contact: Adrian Dean (01743) 252893		6	

Notes of the Albrighton Area Local Joint Committee held at 7 pm on 10 February 2010			
			was evidence of own fund raising.
06/10	Albrighton Methodist Church (Art Group)	250.00	The committee decided to award a grant from the small grants pot.
07/10	Albrighton Broadplace – Keep Albrighton Switched On	250.00	The committee decided to award a grant from the small grants pot as the present equipment is still working and a contribution towards the upgrades is being made.
11/10	Red House Flower Show 2010	250.00	The committee decided to award a grant from the small grants pot and that the shortfall be met from profits.
12/10	Albrighton Table Tennis Club	150.00	The committee decided to award a grant from the small grants pot. A reduced grant was awarded as the club should be encouraged to undertake their own fundraising in order to match fund the shortfall.
15/10	Albrighton Junior Youth Club	250.00	The committee decided to award a grant from the small grants pot.
17/10	Albrighton Civic Society	250.00	The committee decided to award a grant from the small grants pot and were awarded the maximum grant as there is evidence of own ongoing fund raising shown.

37.2 The committee also asked that their appreciation of the good work undertaken by Andrea McWilliams (Community Regeneration Officer) in assisting and advising applicants on their applications, be recorded.

### 38.0 Draft Community Strategy

38.1 It was **AGREED** to note that the Council's draft Community Strategy has been published and that residents are invited to comment on the proposals

### 39.0 Items for consideration at future meetings

39.1 It was **AGREED** that the following items be considered at future meetings:

1. Choice Based Lettings.
2. The Skate Board Park, Albrighton.
3. Health Provision in the area including Hospitals.

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**40. Confirmation of Date of Next Meeting and deadline for grant applications**

**ACTION**

25.1 It was noted that the next meeting be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 24 March 2010 at Tong Village Hall, Hubbal Lane, Tong

25.2 It was noted that the deadline for grant applications to be considered at the next meeting is Wednesday 24 February 2010.

**Signed**.....  
**Chairman**

**Date: 24 March 2010**