

**Committee and Date**

Bayston Hill Local
Joint Committee

Thursday 19 April
2012

7.00 p.m.

Item No

3

Public

**NOTES OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS STEMMING FROM THE MEETING
HELD ON 19 APRIL 2012 AT OAKMEADOW CE PRIMARY SCHOOL,
BAYSTON HILL**

7.00 – 9.00 p.m.

**Responsible
Officer**

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Committee Members Present:

Shropshire Council

Mr Ted Clarke

Mrs Liz Parsons

Mr Jon Tandy

Bayston Hill Parish Council

Dr James Hindson

Mr James Moraghen

Mr Alan Parkhurst

Shropshire Council Officers present:

Lucy Roberts, Community Action Officer

Anne Cousins, Committee Officer

Matt Johnson, Senior Public Transport Officer (check)

Arriva

Gordon Frost

There were approximately 55-60 members of the public present at the meeting.

ACTION

1. Election of Chairman

RESOLVED: That Mr Ted Clarke be elected Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year.

2. Apologies and Substitutions

There were no apologies.

3. Appointment of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED: That Mr Alan Parkhurst be elected Vice Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Key Current Policing Issues – PACT (Partners and Communities Together)

5.1 The local policing team were unable to attend, but a statement was read on their behalf by Lucy Roberts, Community Action Officer. There had been several crimes in Bayston Hill in the past six months, including a smash and grab raid at The Parade; burglary at the Travelodge; theft of metal at the substation in Lower Pulley Lane and scramblers at Parrs Pool, but the overall crime rate was low. It was reported the police were monitoring speeding, especially in Pulley Lane, and illegal parking.

5.2 Any member of the public with information on any crime was requested to contact PC Ray Foster.

6. Update on Bus Service, Bayston Hill/Shrewsbury

6.1 The Chairman introduced Mr Gordon Frost, from Arriva, and Matt Johnson, from the public transport department of Shropshire Council. He read out a letter he had received from a resident in Pulley Lane, which had been written on behalf of many elderly and disabled people in Bayston Hill. As a result of the recent changes to the bus route, the resident felt unable to go out at all. It was no longer possible to get a bus to the shopping parade, doctors' surgery, library or other village facilities. A request was made for the bus route to revert to its former route when it went in a loop around the village.

6.2 Mr Frost, of Arriva, explained the recent history of changes to the bus service between Bayston Hill and Shrewsbury; the options Arriva had considered before deciding on a course of action; the reasons for those decisions. In summary:

ACTION

- The old 25 service between Harlescott and Bayston Hill was unreliable because of the cross-town nature of the route.
- Arriva had considered keeping the cross-town link, but omit the bus station where there were traffic delays, but felt this would not be popular with passengers.
- Another alternative was to break the service into two parts (Harlescott/Shrewsbury and Shrewsbury/Bayston Hill, but this could still result in timing difficulties and lack of reliability.
- The service could be reduced to 20 minutes rather than 15 minutes to improve reliability, but this made the bus a less attractive option for passengers.
- Other route changes had been considered: no longer serving Glebe Road and going along Lythwood Road instead, or omitting Belle Vue Road and going along Old Potts Way, but these had been rejected. 10% of passengers were picked up along Belle Vue Road and the change to Glebe Road had been broadly welcomed.

Mr Frost explained Arriva had decided to keep the 15 minute frequency; break the service into two parts; and change the route around Bayston Hill.

- 6.3 In response to public comments about the need to travel in a loop around Bayston Hill, Mr Frost commented he could not find any evidence of any journeys which had been undertaken within Bayston Hill itself, but admitted the data did not record where senior citizens using bus passes got off the bus.
- 6.4 Mr Frost explained the next step for Arriva was to monitor whether or not the changes had worked, but this was difficult because of traffic issues within the town centre which were currently affecting data.
- 6.5 Members of the public had a number of comments for Arriva:
- Restore the route around Lythwood Road, Overdale Road, Berwyn Drive and back down Lythwood Road again – a route which had been used for years with no problems.
 - Remove buses from Pulley Lane - too dangerous and narrow for buses.
 - Ensure all parts of Bayston Hill had a bus service. With the current route, there was no access from the top end of Bayston Hill to the Memorial Hall/Cross Roads area. It was noted Meole Brace estate and Belle Vue Road had a two-way service, yet Bayston Hill, with the highest numbers of passengers, did not.
 - Make it a 20 minute service to avoid the need for buses to speed.
 - Beeches Road was not a suitable road for a bus route. Residents had to park their cars on the pavement to allow space for buses to pass.
 - Use Lythwood Road for the buses as this was the main road through the village.
 - Revert to the Old Potts Way route to serve the cinema and

<p>supermarket.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service was unreliable and one resident described allowing one and a half hours to get to a medical appointment in town by bus. • There were a number of complaints about waiting a long time for a bus, then 2 or 3 buses coming together. • There were several complaints about buses speeding. 	ACTION
<p>6.6 Matt Johnson, Shropshire Council, explained how the Council was able to work with Arriva to improve bus services, e.g. the subsidised 544 service. He pointed out every house in Bayston Hill was within 400 metres of a bus stop. Finally, he drew attention to alternative methods of transport, e.g. ShropshireLink; Dial-a-Ride, which were designed to plug any gaps in commercial provision. He undertook to ensure details of these services were readily available.</p>	MJ
<p>6.7 In answer to a question, Mr Johnson outlined the recent changes to the 544 service, which had merged with the 546 service. There were no figures available yet on passenger numbers on this revised service, but once available, this data would be published in The Villager.</p>	MJ Ctte Officer
<p>6.8 There was discussion about how to complain about the bus service. Mr Frost said complaints could be directed to the regulator at the bus station, or via local councillors.</p>	
<p>6.9 In conclusion, the Chairman stressed the importance of complaining to the company, as current data held by Arriva showed a low level of complaints. He asked to be copied in to any letters of complaint as he was in constant communication with the company. He thanked Mr Frost and Mr Johnson for their contributions.</p>	
<p>7. Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in Bayston Hill</p>	
<p>7.1 Teresa Lewis, of Bayston Hill Parish Council, and Judy Shone, one of the organisers, described the plans for celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in Bayston Hill.</p>	
<p>7.2 The celebrations would take place over the extended Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend in early June and included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday 3 June – combined church service, followed by a Big Lunch (picnic) on the Glebelands. This would include fancy dress, live music, children's entertainer. • Monday 4 June – sports events including fun runs, football, BMX, bowls, tennis. Evening: lighting a beacon on Lyth Hill. • Tuesday 5 June – Fun Day on Oakmeadow school field, including a Carnival Parade and a craft competition. • The Village Association had commissioned a film to be produced to record all the events for future generations. 	

ACTION

7.3 Lots of volunteers were needed to help with all the events. Any interested could contact Teresa or Judy. There was a Facebook page and website and the Parish Council website also provided information.

9. Bayston Hill Local Joint Committee Budget 2012/13

9.1 Lucy Roberts, Community Action Officer, introduced the report (copy attached to signed minutes) which set out proposals for the Local Joint Committee budget for 2012/13. She explained £2000 had been set aside for the Jubilee celebrations. Funding had been used to purchase laptop computers and drop-in sessions for the community were now being organised at Oakmeadow School. If anyone wished to volunteer to be the co-ordinator of these sessions, they were invited to contact the Community Action Officer or the Chairman.

9.2 **RESOLVED:**

A That funding of £9209 for 2012/13 supports initiatives and services which help develop community-based and led projects highlighted as community priorities in the updated Parish Plan 2010 and its Action Plan.

B That the LJC ring fence budget carry forward of £9585 from 2011/12 to support initiatives and services which help develop community-based and led projects highlighted as community priorities in the updated Parish Plan 2010 and its Action Plan be allocated and prioritised as follows:

£2000	Community events
£500	Speed awareness
£3000	Long Meadow Play Area
£500	Youth activities
£2085	Community woodland/allotments/open space
£500	Community education
£500	Village clean up
£500	Parish Challenge

10. Public Question Time

10.1 A resident raised the issue of a lack of footpath on one side of Pulley Lane/Green Lane and suggested the footpath should be extended from the bottom of Green Lane.

10.2 Another issue raised was the need to ensure hedges were cut back, particularly when over narrow footpaths. The Chairman commented this was always a problem but responsibility lay with householders. There was also concern about the amount of weeds on the pavements and roads, especially in the Langford Avenue and Sunfield Gardens area.

<p>10.3 Publicity for Local Joint Committee meetings was another topic. One resident said an invitation had been sent to a resident who had passed away a year ago. The Chairman said every effort was made to ensure the database was kept up-to-date. He went on to say posters had been put up around the village and the meeting had been mentioned in the Shropshire Star and The Villager.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
<p>10.4 In response to a question, the Chairman reported no further news on the future of the Oakland school site. He was aware the building would be used in the short-term to accommodate meetings usually held at the Methodist Church, which was undergoing renovation.</p>	<p>Ctte Officer</p>
<p>10.5 Concerns were raised about the hazardous state of the road and garages behind The Parade. The Chairman said this could be raised with environmental health officers.</p>	<p>Chairman</p>
<p>10.6 Another questioner asked about plans for the former Fox pub on Lyth Hill Road. The Chairman explained plans had been submitted to demolish the pub and build 8 private houses, but there were concerns about access at that junction and the plans had been deferred. He went on to say he attended liaison meetings with the Highways Agency and would raise this matter there.</p>	
<p>11. Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 4 October 2012, 7.00 p.m. at Oakmeadow School.</p>	

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....