



Committee and Date

Bishop's Castle, Chirbury & Worthen and Clun LJC

20<sup>th</sup> January 2010  
7.00 pm

Item

**3(a)**

Public

**BISHOP'S CASTLE, CHIRBURY & WORTHEN AND CLUN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE**

**NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS STEMMING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2009, 7.00 – 9.00 P.M.**

**AT  
NEWCASTLE VILLAGE HALL, SHROPSHIRE**

**Responsible Officer** Penny Chamberlain  
e-mail: penny.chamberlain@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 252729 Fax 01743 252713

**Committee Members Present:**

Shropshire Council

Nigel Hartin Clun  
Heather Kidd Chirbury & Worthen

Town/Parish Councils

Valerie Whately Bettws-y-Crwyn Parish Council  
Neil Hird Bishop's Castle Town Council  
Andrew Craig Chirbury with Brompton Parish Council  
Colin Pendry Clun and Chapel Lawn Parish Council  
John Croxton Clunbury Parish Council  
Jonathan Roberts Clungunford Parish Council  
Llewellyn Morgan Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council  
Jackie Williams Lydbury North Parish Council  
Keith Mansell Myndtown Combined Parish Council  
Eddie Jones Newcastle on Clun Parish Council  
Brian Ince Worthen with Shelve Parish Council

**Shropshire Council Officers Present:**

Claire Porter, Lead Officer  
Jake Berriman, Support Officer  
Frances Hall, Community Regeneration Officer  
Penny Chamberlain, Committee Officer (Notes)  
Martin Withington, Head of Transportation

**West Mercia Police:**

PC Nick Williams  
CSO Ross O'Neal

There were approximately 30 members of the public present at the meeting.

**1. Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

1.1 The Chairman, Nigel Hartin, welcomed everyone to the meeting and each member of the Committee introduced themselves.

Apologies for absence were submitted as follows:

Peter Phillips	Shropshire Council (Clun Division);
Trevor Hughes	Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council;
Jane Carroll	Bishop's Castle Town Council; and
Anthony Haighway	Mainstone with Colebatch Parish Council.

**2. Decision Notes of the LJC Meeting Held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

2.1 The Decision Notes of the Bishop's Castle, Chirbury & Worthen and Clun Local Joint Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman/  
Committee  
officer

**3. Comments and Suggestion Response List – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

3.1 A comments and suggestion response list for issues raised at the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009 was submitted for information.

The following matters were noted:

- Item 1 – Teme Leisure to report back to next meeting on issues raised on SpaRC.
- Item 7 – The appreciation and thanks given by Mainstone with Colebatch Parish Council to PC Williams for his assistance in dealing with unauthorised raves in the locality.
- Item 8 – Pilot of new personalised poster in the LJC area.

Community  
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officer/  
Committee  
officer

**4. Declarations of Interest**

4.1 The following members declared their personal or personal and prejudicial interests in the items set out below:

- Nigel Hartin – Item 5 – Budget 2009/2010 Decision Report – Personal and Prejudicial interest in relation to the application by Bucknell Allotments Association due to his involvement with the submission of the bid. He left the room during the consideration of, and voting on, this item and in his absence Colin Pendry took the chair.
- Eddie Jones – Item 5 – Budget 2009/2010 Decision Report – Personal interest in relation to the application by Worthen and Brockton Bowling Club as they played in the same league as Newcastle.

- Colin Pendry – Item 5 – Budget 2009/2010 Decision Report – Personal and prejudicial interest in relation to the application by Clun Senior Citizens Group as being eligible to be invited to the Christmas Lunch. He left the room during the consideration of, and voting on, this application.
- Colin Pendry – Item 6 – Bus Services/Shropshire Link Service – Personal interest in relation to the Shropshire Link Service as Chairman of the Community Based Transport Group which had recently prepared a report on the issue, albeit he received no remuneration for holding the position.
- Jackie Williams – Item 5 – Budget 2009/2010 Decision Report – Personal interest in relation to the application by the Lydbury North Community Newsletter Association as a local resident.

**5. Budget 2009/2010 Decision Report**

5.1 Members considered a report by the Committee's Lead Officer, Claire Porter on an assessment of the 14 applications which had been received during the first round for funding from the annual budget allocation of £49,000.

5.2 **RESOLVED:**

(a) That the proposed budget allocations as set out in the report by the Lead Officer be approved, namely:

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<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Decision</u>
▪ Clun & District Badminton and Sports Club	Approved partial funding of £250 with the proviso that the applicant organisation raised subscription fees for the club in order to pay for coaching in the future.
▪ Clun Parent and Toddler Group	Approved partial funding of £250 with the proviso that the equipment purchased was made available to the whole community to use.
▪ Clun Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch	Approved partial funding of £100 with the suggestion that the applicant fundraised in order to pay for the lunch, or asked participants to pay towards the costs, and to consider holding it locally.
Lydbury North Community Newsletter Association	Approved funding of £330.

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| ▪ Lydbury North Young Archaeologists                 | Approved partial funding of £300 with the proviso that the applicant fundraised to cover the remaining costs and used £71.58 of the grant specifically to purchase the archaeological field equipment noted in the application.   |
| ▪ Mainstone Village Hall Committee                   | Approved funding of £500.   |
| ▪ Worthen and Brockton Bowling Club                  | Approved funding of £500.   |
| ▪ South Shropshire Engineering Ambassadors           | Approved funding of £500.   |
| ▪ Bishop's Castle Tennis Club                        | Consideration deferred to the next meeting and the applicant advised in the meantime to refer the project to the South Shropshire Sports and Leisure Advisory Group which offered grants specifically for sporting activities.  |
| ▪ Bishop's Castle Tourism Community Interest Company | Approved partial funding of £3000 conditional on the project securing the LEADER match funding and on the Festival Officer pro-actively advertising the service in the Local Joint Committee area.  |
| ▪ Bucknell Allotments Association                    | Approved funding of £4,630 conditional on confirmation being received from the applicant that the land purchased was protected for future use as allotments and that it would be kept in trust for the community, for example, the land might be kept in trust by the local parish council. |
| ▪ Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group                | Funding of £2000 not approved as it was considered that there was already a wealth of information and substantial support (through DEFRA, NFU etc) for local farmers and this project would duplicate what was already on offer. The project would also not bring match funding into the    |

area.

- Light Foot Enterprises Community Interest Company Funding of £2,600 not approved as it was considered that the project would benefit the applicant and the owners of the building only and not the wider community. The project would also not bring match funding into the area.
- Marches Community Choir Approved funding of £2,960.

(b) That all project applicants should be asked to provide a copy of their organisation's annual accounts when submitting a grant application to enable the Committee to understand fully the need for which a grant was being requested.

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#### 6. Bus Services/Shropshire Link Service

- 6.1 The Chairman referred to the last meeting when concerns were raised about the withdrawal of bus services in the local area and expressed satisfaction that other bus companies had taken over some of the routes (namely: 773 and 745) originally operated by Horrocks. The Vice-Chairman thanked him and Matt Johnson (Shropshire Council) for all their efforts.
- 6.2 The Chairman also welcomed Martin Withington, Head of Transportation who was in attendance to assist discussion on the Shropshire Link Service coverage which was currently being reviewed by Shropshire Council following 6 months of operation. In turn Mr Withington explained that registered users of the service had already been contacted separately for their views and that the Council were particularly interested in seeking feedback, opinions and suggestions at the LJs from non-users of the service. All issues raised and findings would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee at the start of November.
- 6.3 During the ensuing discussion comments and points were made by members of the Committee and public as follows on the Shropshire Link Service:
- Apparent lack of ability for the Service to cope with journeys from persons who wished to cross the border to Newtown, Powys.
  - Requirement to give more than 24 hours notice was not particularly satisfactory for the elderly who might not be feeling well enough by the requested journey day and time.
  - System of booking was too difficult and complex, particularly causing confusion for the elderly and Dial-a-Ride system was more useful.
  - Particular mention about problems being experienced in recent

weeks in the Clun area whereby bookings had been refused on the grounds that the service was fully booked for a particular day, then at times, successful bookings for the same day had been made later in the week.

- Apparent lack of ability for the bus driver to accept extra users on the day even though the bus might not be full.
- Thought should be given to linking the service with other public transport systems to enable onward connections and journeys from the market towns.
- Consideration should be given to using the buses more during the school holiday periods especially where the vehicles were used for the school routes during term-time.
- A suggestion was put forward that during the school holiday periods, a service should operate to Bishop's Castle from the Chirbury & Worthen area to enable youngsters to make use of the leisure facilities at SpaRC.

In responding, Mr Withington thanked everyone for their contribution and views and confirmed that the matters raised would be included as part of the feedback on the review of the service.

Head of Transport

6.4 Queries and comments were also made in respect of the local bus services as follows:

- The possibility of the re-instatement of the 773 bus service to Newtown.
- Timetables should be updated regularly, as and when necessary, with more publicity being given to the services.
- Some settlements had more than one notice board, besides the bus stops, where bus timetables could be displayed and the local parish councils could assist the operators with the display.
- Local newsletters could be used to inform the public of the services and/or a resident could act as a champion of the service within their locality.
- Possible promotion of the services via the Community Services team.

Mr Withington again thanked everyone for their views and confirmed that he would look into the matters raised and respond back.

Head of Transport

6.5 In thanking Mr Withington for his attendance and assistance at the meeting, the Chairman asked for a report back on the issues to be submitted to the next meeting in January.

Head of Transport

**7. Shropshire's Sustainable Community Strategy/Local Development Framework – Core Strategy**

7.1 The Committee's Support Officer, Jake Berriman, gave a short presentation on Shropshire's Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Development Framework's principal document, the Core

Strategy, which aimed to set out a clear, longterm vision for the future pattern of development across the county and which would be used to guide decisions on planning applications.

#### 8. Break Out Sessions

8.1 The Members of the Committee facilitated workgroups to identify key issues and possible future topics for discussion.

The following summarised the items and areas of concern highlighted at the conclusion of the break out sessions:

- Future of local shops and facilities.
- More flexible planning needed in respect of business development.
- Improved mobile phone reception and better public telephone facilities.
- Gritting and general condition of rural highways.
- Possible introduction of 5 mile corridor to help cross border activities.
- Young people not satisfied with transport services.
- Lack of sporting provision for youngsters in the rural area.
- More promotion required of the Good Neighbour Scheme.
- Lack of affordable housing in the rural area and general information about the scheme.
- Advertising on planning applications.
- Siting of wind turbines in rural areas.
- Availability of grants for business and tourism development.
- Definition of an affordable housing settlement unclear.
- More rural communities felt disenfranchised from the planning process.
- Community infrastructure and development.

8.2 The Chairman thanked everyone for contributing and advised that officers would compile a list of all the items raised and would feedback to the Committee to assist with future topics for discussion.

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#### 9. Public Question Time

9.1 PC Nick Williams confirmed that he had recently completed a training course on speeding enforcement and would be carrying out this activity in the near future in the Local Joint Committee area.

Other issues raised by members of the public included the following:

- The need for volunteers to be security checked and the bureaucracy associated with the requirement and process.  
*(The Chairman indicated that this would be taken on board as an issue for future consideration.)*

- The use of mobile phones by drivers and whether the police would be taking action on this whilst carrying out speeding enforcement.  
*(PC Williams indicated that positive action would be taken in respect of anyone caught using a mobile phone whilst driving a vehicle. He also indicated that prosecutions were made but not normally reported in the press. Various activities were to be undertaken during the first week of November under the banner "Not in My Neighbourhood".)*
- Parish Meetings would like to be represented on the LJCs.
- Possible production of contact information sheet, including photographs, of service providers relevant to this LJC area, perhaps pull-out in centre of Shropshire Magazine.  
*(The Chairman indicated that he would look into this further.)*
- Confirmation was given that grant payments would be made in advance.

**Future Agenda Items**

11.2 It was **agreed** that the following items be considered at the next meeting of the Committee in September:

- Shropshire budget consultation;
- Rural roads and highways;
- Explanation of "Affordable Housing": and
- Household Energy Service.

ALL

**12. Dates and Time of Next Meeting**

12.1 It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee would be held in Marton Village Hall at 7 pm on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

ALL

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....