

**Committee and Date**

Bishop's Castle, Chirbury &
Worthen and Clun LJC

10th February 2011
7 pm

Item

3

Public

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

**NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS STEMMING FROM THE MEETING HELD
ON 13TH OCTOBER 2010,
7.00 – 8.40 P.M.
AT
CLUN MEMORIAL HALL, CLUN, 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 (From item 9 onwards.)
Peter Phillips	Bishop's Castle

Town/Parish Councils

Valerie Whately	Bettws-y-Crwyn Parish Council
Jane Carroll	Bishop's Castle Town Council
Andrew Craig	Chirbury with Brompton Parish Council
Colin Pendry	Clun and Chapel Lawn Parish Council (Vice Chairman in the Chair)
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:

Jake Berriman	Support Officer
Frances Hall	Community Regeneration Officer
Penny Chamberlain	Committee Officer (Decision Notes)
James Anthony-Edwards	Head of the Libraries and Information Services

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service: Mr Dave Dickens, Southern Manager

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

	ACTION
<p>1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence</p> <p>1.1 The Vice Chairman, Colin Pendry, welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the Chairman, Councillor Heather Kidd was unavoidably delayed at another meeting at the Shirehall, The members of the Committee introduced themselves.</p> <p>Apologies for absence were submitted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trevor Hughes – Bedstone & Bucknell Parish Council; and • CSO Ross O'Neill. 	
<p>2. Declarations of Interest</p> <p>2.1 The following members declared their personal and prejudicial interests in the items set out below:</p> <p>Jane Carroll– Note 12 (Budget 2010/2011 Decision Report) Personal and Prejudicial interest in relation to the application from Bishop's Castle Tourism Community Interest Company due to her being the applicant. She indicated that she would leave the room should consideration of, and voting take place, on that individual item. (As the application was not discussed, she remained in the room.)</p> <p>Nigel Hartin – Note 12 (Budget 2010/2011 Decision Report) – Personal and Prejudicial interest in relation to the application from Bucknell Playgroup due to his wife having submitted the application on their behalf. He left the room during the consideration of, and voting, on this matter.</p>	
<p>3. Decision Notes of the LJC Meeting Held on 7th July 2010</p> <p>3.1 The Decision Notes of the Bishop's Castle, Chirbury & Worthen and Clun Local Joint Committee held on 7th July 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Vice-Chairman.</p>	Vice Chairman/ Committee officer
<p>4. Police Report</p> <p>4.1 On behalf of Ross O'Neill, Community Police Officer for the Bishop's Castle area, Frances Hall, the Committee's Community Regeneration Officer updated the Committee on recent police activities within the overall LJC area.</p>	
<p>5. Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service</p> <p>5.1 Mr Dave Dickens, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Services, Southern</p>	

Manager, made a presentation to the Committee on the potential changes to the service in the Committee's area.

5.2 He reported on the fire incident data for the LJC19 area for 2009/2010, the cost of providing the existing service, possible budget predictions for 2011 to 2014 and the likely impact of the changes both upon the service and the public.

5.3 He answered questions from members of the Committee and public on a number of issues, including the following:

- The use of postcodes to direct officers to the scene of the incident and the merits of the householder being able to provide as much information as possible including Ordnance Survey references.
- The possibility of additional fire fighting equipment being supplied in the local area should it become necessary to close one or more of the local stations.

5.4 In conclusion Mr Dickens asked members of the Committee and public to complete the questionnaire tabled at the meeting so his service was better informed about the issues which the public felt were important to them. He also indicated that he would like to provide an update at the next meeting of the Committee in February when the outcome and implications of the spending review would be known.

Committee
Officer

6. Better use of Library Services - Consultation

6.1 James Anthony-Edwards, Head of Shropshire Council's Library and Information Services gave a presentation on the current review being carried out into the mobile library service.

6.2 He reported on the timescale and scope of the review, the initial consultation results, the libraries interaction with locality working and possible options for the future operation of the service.

6.3 He answered questions from members of the Committee and public on a number of issues, including the following:

- The social implications for persons in the rural area should the mobile library service be withdrawn.
- The lack of broadband in a number of rural areas thereby limiting the extent that on-line services could be accessed by the public.
- The possibility of Broadplaces acting as library drop-off points in future.

6.4 The Vice-Chairman thanked Mr Anthony-Edwards for his attendance and for his contribution to the meeting.

7. Closure of the Nationwide Agency, Bishop's Castle

- 7.1 Discussion took place regarding the proposed closure of the Nationwide Building Society Agency in Bishop's Castle and the possible alternatives available. Consideration was also given to any actions that might be taken by members if they wished to oppose the proposal.
- 7.2 The local member urged members to write and voice their concerns about the closure to Shropshire Council's Portfolio Holder for Rural Affairs, Cecilia Motley, and the Member Champion for Older People, Andrew Davies. It was also suggested that they write to the Chairman of the Building Society and the local member of Parliament on the issue.
- 7.3 In response to comments from both members and the public expressing disappointment at replies received from the Society's complaints team on the issue, a member suggested that letters be addressed to the named Chairman and be marked "Private and Confidential".

8. Joint/Locality Working

- 8.1 In light of the delayed arrival of the Chairman, it was agreed that consideration of this item would be deferred to the next meeting to enable her to brief members in full on the matter. In recognising and thanking the members of the public who had attended the meeting specifically for the discussion of this item, the Vice-Chairman urged them to attend the next meeting to enable a full and informed debate to take place.

**Committee
Officer**

9. Issues Update from around the LJC area

- 8.1 Several members took the opportunity to update the Committee on various matters arising in their parishes, as follows:
- The decision earlier that day by Shropshire Council's Cabinet to approve their previous decision regarding land at Bishop's Castle Business Park. Disappointment was expressed that Cabinet had agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Development Services to agree the final terms of the contract rather than the matter being agreed at a future Cabinet meeting.
 - Attendance at a Flood Forum.
 - The cost of training to the parishes at sessions organised by the Association of Local Councils.
 - The possible closure of the public toilets in Clun and

**Community
Regeneration
Officer
Officer**

elsewhere in the county, in the event that the relevant parish council decided not to take over the facility

- The more detailed analysis and conversations to be had and the next steps to be taken following expressions of interest by parishes in becoming part of a cluster in the SAMDEV process.
- The possible cutting of the highway maintenance grant with a view to delivering a more cost effective service in a different way.
- The ongoing review of all areas, ways of working and delivery of services by Shropshire Council in order to achieve savings as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review.
- The signing up to the Charter between the parishes and Shropshire Council.

10. Contact Information Sheet

- 10.1 In response to an earlier suggestion by the Chairman that it would be useful for a contact sheet to be produced with details of service providers relevant to this Committee's area, Frances Hall indicated that given the general consensus of the meeting, she would draw up the paper for submission to the next meeting in February.

Community
Regeneration
Officer/
Committee
Officer

11. Shropshire Council Consultations

- 11.1 It was noted that the following items were included on the Shropshire Partnership's Consultation Portal:

- Wheelchair accessible taxis;
- Empty Homes Strategy; and
- Shropshire Parking Strategy.

12. Budget 2010/2011 Decision Report

- 12.1 Members considered a report by the Committee's Lead Officer, Claire Porter on an assessment of the 10 applications which had been received during the third round for funding from the annual budget allocation of £49,000.

12.2 RESOLVED:

That, subject to the application by the Bishop's Castle Tourism Community Interest Company being deferred to the next meeting to enable fresh information to be considered, and to the application by the Dragonfly Project being deferred until planning permission had been granted and there was confirmation received that £34,000 match funding, the proposed budget allocations as set out in the report by the Lead Officer be accepted, namely:

Lead
Officer/
Community
Regen
Officer

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Decision</u>
• Bucknell Playgroup	Approved funding of £510.
• Clun Senior Citizens Group	Refused funding of £100 as this organisation had been awarded a grant for the same project in 2009 and it was considered that the applicant should look elsewhere for support this year.
• Stiperstones Pre School	Approved funding of £1,500.
• Walking for Wellbeing	Approved funding of £700.
• Trustees of Black Mountain Chapel	Approved funding of £1,800.
• Brockton Methodist Church	Approved partial funding of £500.
• Marches Feast of Words	Approved partial funding of £1,000.
• Restore the Wave	Approved partial funding of £750

13. Public Question Time

- 13.1 Reference was made to the decision earlier that same day by Shropshire Council's Cabinet to not accept the reference back from the former Development Services Scrutiny Committee in relation to land at Bishop's Castle Business Park. Several members of the public expressed their disappointment at the decision given the strength of local opposition to the proposal and asked if any steps could be taken by the Committee to change the decision.
- 13.2 In response members explained that there was no action that the Committee could take and referred them instead to the possible options of either seeking a judicial review on the matter or submitting a formal complaint re the process to the Standards Committee/Local Ombudsman.

14. Future Agenda Items

- 14.1 It was noted that representatives from the Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service would be present at the next meeting. It was also agreed that the item deferred from this meeting on Joint/Locality Working should be considered at that meeting.
- 14.2 It was also agreed that a representative from Shropshire Council be

Committee
Officer

asked to attend the meeting to report on the winter gritting schedule and how it was impacting upon the LJC area.

Committee
Officer

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

- 15.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held in Bishop's Castle at 7 pm on Thursday, 10th February 2011.

All

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....