



Committee and Date  
Bishop's Castle, Chirbury &  
Worthen and Clun Local Joint  
Committee

9 February 2012

7.00pm

Item

**13**

Public

## **BISHOP'S CASTLE, CHIRBURY & WORTHEN AND CLUN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE – FUNDING DECISION REPORT.**

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### **1. Summary**

In 2011/12 this Local Joint Committee had a total budget of £26,181 available to spend. This is made up of £24,500 from the LJC budget, £1,441 from the arts funding and £240 carryover from 2010/11.

In this financial year the Committee has approved grants totalling £16,376.20 which leaves **£9,804.80** available to be awarded to projects in 2011/12

The basic grant criteria of the LJC is that projects can apply for grants of up to £500 without needing matched funding; or grants of between £501 and £2500 provided a minimum of 50% matched funding is secured. The maximum grant available from the LJC is £2,500.

Where matched funding is required for a project this must be in the form of cash, as in kind support is not accepted as matched funding.

### **2. Recommendations**

- A. Members are asked to support the applications A-H at the recommended grant levels. Members may put forward alternative proposals to those contained in the report, and vote on them in the course of the meeting.
- B. Members are asked to review application I, and if in support of the application decide on the level of funding they wish to allocate to this project

### **REPORT**

#### **A) Bishop's Castle Heritage Resource Centre - Gleanings from the past – Looking to the future**

**Total project costs: £10,210**

**Grant requested from LJC: £1,021**

**Recommended grant: £500**

**Project outline:** The project will provide and gather in information on heritage relevant to the individual parishes of Lydbury North and Betws-y-Crwyn by producing Parish Profiles with information on:

- Material held at Shropshire Archives on each parish
- Material held at BCHRC on each parish
- Material that people living in each parish want to add to the profiles

The development of the Parish Profiles will be community-led, promoting a sense of place and identity.

To bring the project alive, we will run small projects within the overall theme:

- Bring and share days held in the parishes to raise interest and collect material
- Displays offered to village halls, pubs and other community locations in town and parishes
- Provide administrative support
- Co-ordination support for Parish Champions, researchers etc
- Digitisation of material held at Shropshire Archives by request from the parishes identified by the Parish Champions

Training sessions for Parish Champions and others to include such things as behind the scenes tours at Shropshire Archives; familiarisation with resources and use of digitisation and other facilities at BCHRC.

Various aspects of the project address the issues of:

- Isolated communities, engagement with community, and appreciation of local cultural heritage by involving local people in developing Parish Profiles, which will foster a sense of local identity and cohesion, led by the communities themselves.
- Reduction of carbon footprint by improving the provision of research material at BCHRC, reducing the need to travel to view the material

Individuals and groups in the two parishes have been approached and are keen to participate in the project.

The project has secured £9,189 from the Shropshire Hills AONB Leader programme, and the LJC grant would be used as matched funding for this project. Discussions with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) suggest that if this project is successful a bid for further funding to the HLF to undertake similar projects within the AONB would be considered favourably.

<b>Project Costs:</b> List anticipated items of expenditure below	£
Consultancy fees	3,900
Digitisation of material at Shropshire Archives	1,500

Training at Shropshire Archives & BCHRC	900
Administrative support & delivery of publicity, Parish Profiles & display material	1,490
Web page development	1,000
Volunteer expenses Mileage Refreshments	400
Laser printer	500
Hall hire	520
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	
<b>Project Funding:</b> List anticipated project income or grant funding (including LJC Grant applied for) and any contributions in kind.	£
<b>AONB</b>	9,189
<b>LJC</b>	1021
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING (should equal total project costs)</b>	10,210

## B) Leasowes Bank Arts Festival 2012

**Total project costs:** £12,260

**Grant requested from the LJC:** £960

**Recommended grant award:** £960

**Project Outline:** Our annual summer programme brings contemporary classical, cutting edge jazz and other diverse new music of the highest professional standard to this remote rural location. Since its foundation in 1981 the festival has presented over 172 concerts and commissioned 52 new works.

The festival aims to:

- Celebrate music-making in South Shropshire, raising the County's profile culturally and providing added tourist focus
- Provide a wide range of music performed to the highest professional standard and including much new work.
- Bring together many musical genres and cultural diversity.

- Develop an audience that values and supports new music and enable musicians to present challenging programmes that are difficult to stage in more 'mainstream' venues.
- Provide a 'cultural forum' for the informal exchange of ideas between artists and their audience where ideas can be developed and future events and projects can be initiated on this interaction.

This year the festival will deliver 5 concerts to more than 450 people over a 2 week period featuring artists of international standing. High points include the festival commission on 25<sup>th</sup> July when the **BARBICAN TRIO** give the world premiere of an Arts council funded commission : a new Piano Trio composed by **James Francis Brown**. The work of local composer **Charles Dakin** who, until his recent death, lived in Norbury will be featured in the piano recital given by **MARK BEBBINGTON** on 18<sup>th</sup> July. Leasowes Bank has enjoyed a long association with Charles Dakin, having commissioned him on two occasions and most memorably, having commissioned his community opera 'Wild Edric' in 1990 which featured over 100 local young singers and musicians and was premiered at the Ludlow Festival and then given a second and third performance at Bishops Castle Community College and The Music Hall Shrewsbury. The renowned recorder player **Piers Adams** will give a concert as too will the jazz trio Acoustic Triangle and the final concert will be celebration of the London Olympics entitled 'Passing the Baton'.

Leasowes Bank Arts Festival also features community activities and in 2012 a concert in aid of Ratlinghope Church will take place the first week in July and David Preshous from Lydham has kindly agreed to present a variety of readings and monologues and we are in discussion with the popular local group Men from Off. These concerts are always successful as they have featured many local amateur groups that truly represent the talent and commitment to be found in the community. Shropshire Youth Jazz Ensemble make their annual appearance at Leasowes when they present a Jazz Supper Concert. Another popular local event. The ensemble is drawn from across the county and includes young musicians aged from 9 to 18. The music is specially arranged for this, according to the instrumental 'line-up' and a venue and occasion like this, when they can demonstrate their talent and the fruits of their hard-work, is such an important aspect of their musical development. This concert has become very popular with local residents and we usually sell-out and the concert, again, raises much needed funds for a very worthwhile activity.

This season at one of the first concerts we will be welcoming the world famous recorder-player Piers Adams. Piers is not only a renowned performer but a highly experience educator and he will be available for groups workshops when he is in Shropshire. The recorder is a very popular instrument and there are a number of amateur groups that have been formed, membership tending to be retired people, in the area and this will be an opportunity for these groups to work with and learn from a professional musician. A very rare opportunity and one which will be much valued. These workshops would be self-funded and, financially, have no bearing on this application but they are only possible because Piers Adams is being brought to Shropshire to perform at Leasowes Bank. These community events and workshops are not part of this funding application but they do benefit from free advertising space on the festival brochure and use of the concert barn. With the series of 5 concerts these events could not happen.

We know there is a continued need and demand for our project:

- a) We hold a mailing list of over 400 names of people who have attended the concerts over the last three years. We are already receiving requests for information about 2012.
- b) Without Leasowes Bank Arts Festival there would be one less fund-raising activity for Ratlinghope Church and this event also provides an opportunity for the residents of Ratlinghope and neighbouring parishes to gather together for a social event. Shropshire Youth Jazz Ensemble, which relies totally on its own fundraising for its existence would lose a valuable opportunity, not only to raise money but to perform before an audience made up of family, friends and local residents.

Two local recorder groups, one based in Ratlinghope and the other in Clun – comprising many people who are retired, have already asked to be considered should the workshops with a professional recorder player be possible

Each year we try to develop the musical activities combining innovation with a response to local need and interest. As there is no public transport to Ratlinghope we will use our brochure to 'formalise' a car-sharing scheme. Although we have ample parking space we consider that fewer cars in this beautiful area is good, not only for the environment, but also for the 'audience experience'. We have a role in tourism in Shropshire. We are featured in tourist information about Shropshire, receive coverage in both local papers and national journals and, over the last 31 years the Festival has added to the 'cultural landscape' of Shropshire which is an important factor in the County's tourism provision.

<b>Project Costs:</b> List anticipated items of expenditure below	£
Musicians concert fees Musicians food & accommodation	5,350 295
Heating, Cleaning ^ Maintenance Piano moving & tuning	880 450
Marketing / Publicity Printing & delivering 10,000 brochures & 600 Posters	1,010
Administration: Post, Phone & printing tickets Royalties Temporary event licences Insurance [inc. public liability]	470 230 105 620
Support in kind: Volunteer time – run up to	2,850

concerts [300 hours x £ 7.50 = £ 2250] Volunteer time – at concerts [80 hours x £ 7.50 = £ 600]	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>12,260</b>
<b>Project Funding:</b> List anticipated project income or grant funding (including LJC Grant applied for) and any contributions in kind.	£
TICKET SALES	4,400
ARTS COUNCIL	1,750
JOHN IRELAND TRUST	300
HOLST FOUNDATION	120
RVW TRUST	580
PRS FOUNDATION	1,300
Support in kind	2,850
LJC funding	960
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING</b> (should equal total project costs)	<b>12,260</b>

### C) Global Village Proposal - Shelton Hospital

**Total project costs:** £52,900

**Grant requested from LJC:** £500

**Recommended grant award:** £250

**Project outline: Global Village Proposal – arts commissions for new facility for mental health provision**

**Information for Shropshire Joint Committees on the Arts Strategy for the new build at Shelton Hospital.**

#### **Background to the new build**

The Modernisation of Mental Health Services in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin has been over fifty years in the making. It was in 1956 that the Shropshire Star proudly announced of the closure of Shelton Hospital but this dream will only finally be realised next year, in 2012.

The project involves the significant development of teams of professionals working with service users in or close to their own homes. As a result there is actually a need for substantially fewer beds than there are in the current Shelton Hospital, with a planned reduction from *circa* 160 beds to 116 beds.

Those service users who require a spell as an inpatient as part of their planned care will be seen in new buildings. The Trust has worked exhaustively with staff and service users to define and design the new buildings. Set in 10 acres of landscaped gardens, the new buildings will be single storey, providing 100% single ensuite bedrooms and purpose-designed support accommodation.

The aim is to create a therapeutic environment that aids recovery and creates a sense of well-being for service users, staff and visitors. Creative use of colour and art is integral to delivery of that aim.

### **Arts Strategy**

The aim of the arts strategy within the build will be to:

- Create a positive working environment for staff
- Provide a calm, and relaxed healing environment for service users
- To create artworks either through participation or commission that are high quality, provide interest and beauty and form to the site
- Encourage the use of natural light where possible to enhance well-being
- Assist with wayfinding to improve the service users/ visitor experience
- Successfully promote the professional , caring service that the Trust provides

### **Funding**

There is an amount of funding that will be made available through the new build project, but we are also applying to Heritage Lottery Fund and to the Arts Council to support the development of creative and research projects that will provide artwork for the new spaces.

### **Heritage Lottery Fund**

We are applying for funds to support an archive and research project that will seek to explore the history and heritage of the existing Shelton hospital. This project will source new material to add to the existing archives held at Shropshire Archives. We want to reach out and gather stories, memorabilia, reminiscences and photographs from people who have a story to tell about their association with the building and mental health services over the years. We will work with the local community on gathering this information through open days at Shelton, press and media coverage to publicise the project and also a celebration event. Material gathered at the end of this project will in turn be used as resources for an artist to come and work with service users on the interpretation of the material gathered. The final results of this project will be exhibited in the new building.

This project will provide learning and participation opportunities for the local community as well as current users and staff of the Trust. It will endeavour to celebrate the existing building and the services that have been offered to the public over the years, but also to ease the transition into the new build and support the endorsement of this new facility. We hope to invite children, young people and the local arts community to get involved in this project.

## Arts Council

We are looking for additional funds to support the development of 4 key artworks for the site:

- A commission for the main entrance that will provide a welcoming focal point for all visitors, staff and service users to the site. The piece should make the building an attractive one and one that respects the needs and interests of particularly the service users as in-patients in the building.
- A commission that provides a pleasing focal point in the centre of the outside landscaping area – the area that sits within the footprint of the site and is looked out upon by all the main buildings (but not all rooms).
- A series of artworks that contribute in a creative way to the wayfinding strategy for the site. An artists approach will bring an innovative concept that supports the wayfinding policy by introducing artworks that provide easy identification of the various buildings within the site and access to them.
- Use of salvaged wood from the building site- to be used by local craftsperson to create a series of wooden seating to be placed close to the bistro area of the main building – to be used during warmer months.

All artworks will be developed in consultation with service users and staff (where possible) to ensure that they have ownership of the work and a pride in the creativity they have been involved in and the final result which enhances the spaces.

Application to the arts council will require a certain percentage of partnership funding and this in turn will bolster our application and give it more potential for success. We are asked to prove that we have sought partnership funding from a range of sources including local potential through business support, local authority grants and also other trusts and grant-giving bodies. Hence this application to the Local Joint Committees.

The benefits of the arts within health settings has been endorsed by the department of health as well as the arts council –

The DoH published in 2006, a report that concluded: *“The working group believes that the messages are clear - that arts and health have a clear contribution to make and offer major opportunities in the delivery of better health, wellbeing and improved experience for patients, service users and staff alike. The DH has an important role to play in promoting and supporting the development of arts in health, working in partnership with others.”*

## Further support

We would welcome support from the Joint Committees plus any businesses within Shropshire and Telford to ensure that we are able to achieve the aims outlined in the arts strategy to enhance a building that will provide modern mental health services to a range of people within Shropshire and Telford for many years to come. A small amount of financial support from Joint committees will help us to raise the funds from these grant-giving bodies and help to achieve our aims for the new build plus to underpin the acceptance of the new facility and seek to contribute positively to the anti-stigma campaign for mental health.

## Data of numbers of inpatients for period April 2010 to April 2011



Shrewsbury	197
Oswestry/ Ellesmere /Whitchurch	80
Market Drayton	21
<b>Ludlow / Craven Arms /Bishop's Castle / ChurchStretton</b>	<b>51</b>
Newport	17
Much Wenlock and area	20
Bridgnorth	43

Approx another **200** patients recorded as being supported by our Shropshire community teams who have had an inpatient stay and are likely to return as an inpatient within 3 years.

Plus at least another **700 people** - relatives and friends who visit patients and also the **900 staff** who live and work in Shropshire who will benefit from the enhanced facility.

**Based on the percentage of referrals from the Bishop's Castle area the applicant is requesting a grant of £500 from this LJC towards the costs of this project.**

<b>Project Costs:</b> List anticipated items of expenditure below	£	
<b>Artists fees</b>		
<b>1 major commission for main entrance of new build</b>	<b>£8000</b>	<b>To include fees for workshops and production, expenses and mentoring of local artist</b>
<b>3 smaller commissions for main entrances to ward blocks @ £6800 each</b>	<b>£20400</b>	<b>To include fees, workshops and expenses.</b>
<b>Materials for all commissions</b>	<b>£6500</b>	
<b>Fees for the Project Group in Oswestry to create commissions in respect of wayfinding around the site.</b>	<b>£10000</b>	<b>The Project Group is made up of service user members and led by experienced local artists.</b>
<b>Project Management, marketing, administration, communications department support plus basic contributions to volunteers supporters and</b>	<b>£8000</b>	<b>Provided by the Trust in kind</b>

<b>their travel and expenses</b>		
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>£52,900</b>	
<b>Project Funding:</b> List anticipated project income or grant funding (including LJC Grant applied for) and any contributions in kind.	£	<b>Confirm status of funding</b> eg: Secured/unconfirmed/ applied for etc
<b>News Build project funds</b>	<b>£4900</b>	<b>secured</b>
<b>Arts Council</b>	<b>£30,000</b>	<b>unconfirmed</b>
<b>LJCs</b>	<b>£10,000</b>	<b>unconfirmed</b>
<b>In kind contributions</b>	<b>£8,000</b>	<b>confirmed</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING</b> (should equal total project costs)	<b>£52,9000</b>	

#### D) Clun Valley AED Scheme – Expansion of scheme

**Total project costs:** £5,700

**Grant requested from LJC:** £2,850

**Recommended grant award:** £2,500

**Project outline:** Our first phase of the project was to purchase, recruit and have trained sufficient volunteers so as to be responsive to anyone within the Clun Valley who is diagnosed by the West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) as having suffered from Cardiac Arrest. As an outcome of the first phase the project has purchased a total of nine defibrillators, some located in digi-lock waterproof enclosures on the outside of village halls and public houses, others operating by means of a rota of volunteers and allowing all the units to be available for public access, upon the dialling of 999. These units have been installed together with a unit donated by the WMAS in Clun, Newcastle, Bettws-y-Crwyn, the Anchor, Mardu/Whitcott, Bedstone and Bucknell, Chapel Lawn, Clungunford and Aston on Clun. The second phase which has already been commenced, has trained volunteers in Llanfairwaterdine, and Clunton. Discussions and demonstrations have also taken place in Lydbury North and Bishop's Castle. Donations will we hope will be forthcoming from each parish council. In areas without mobile phone reception, we have purchased and installed VoiPhone systems to operate via DSL lines. It has been suggested because of difficulty of access at flood times a further unit be installed at Clun on the opposite side of the river and permission has been secured from a local shop keeper to install on the external shop wall. The other locations in Bishop's Castle have yet to be determined.

In rural areas, the emergency service ambulance personnel and Community First Responders have difficulty in providing medical support to those who suffer from Cardiac Arrest within the timeframe required to restore life (4-5 mins). Evidence has proven that for every minute defibrillation is delayed, the chance of survival decreases by 10%. Sudden Cardiac Arrest claims over 75,000 lives in the United Kingdom every year. Over 80% of those who suffer can be treated by a defibrillator. If the defibrillator arrives quickly enough 85% of those could have survived. AED's will also provide diagnostic information which can accompany the patient to hospital.

The British Heart Foundation, have determined that a total of 100,000 people will suffer heart related issues, many of which could be saved by a speedy response determined as being unlikely in rural and isolated areas such as the Clun Valley and the surrounding areas. Information relating to these issues can be found on a variety of webpages, Trust Medical identify that in the United Kingdom 1,750 people per week will suffer Cardiac Arrest, fewer than 1 in 20 will survive out of hospital. NHS figures support early defibrillation in most cases. An individual instance is able to be located on the WMAS web pages and identify this scheme as being one that has restored life to a resident within our area and by one of our trained AED responders.

<b>Project Costs:</b> List anticipated items of expenditure below	£	
<b>Four-G3 Powerheart Defibrillators</b>	3,600.00	
<b>Three-cPad(IP65 yellow) Waterproof Enclosures</b>	2,100.00	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>£5,700.00</b>	
<b>Project Funding:</b> List anticipated project income or grant funding (including LJC Grant applied for) and any contributions in kind.	£	<b>Confirm status of funding</b> eg: Secured/unconfirmed/applied for etc
LJC 19	2,850.00	Applied for
Scheme Funds	1,450.00	Secured
Contribution from Four Parish Councils	1,400.00	Applied for (Three Agreed)
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING</b> (should equal total project costs)	<b>£5,700.00</b>	
<b>Please confirm how much funding you are seeking from the Local Joint Committee?</b>	<b>£2,850.00</b>	

## E) Bishop's Castle Youth Club – Extension of youth activities

**Total project costs:** £5,000

**Grant requested from the LJC:** £1,000

**Recommended grant award:** £1,000

**Project outline:** This is a newly formed club for young people 14 years of age, run by Irene Stelfox the former Shropshire Council Youth Worker for the area. The club is aimed at young people aged 14 and above who would like to continue with the activities they were involved with previously. The young people take part in a variety of activities including volunteering in the community or fund raising, learning new hobbies and skills, improving their fitness and completing a journey during the summer months. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is used for those who wish to receive recognition for their achievements.

Following the closure of the main youth project earlier in the year the above group has been formed in response to young peoples' requests and recognition of lack of facilities in the area. Evidence of need is well documented for the area; young people living in rural areas are at a disadvantage compared to those from urban towns. Leisure and social meeting places are few and always require transportation. Rural isolation issues resulting in poor social skills, depression and reduced access to opportunities is still an issue despite social networks.

Up to thirty young people were previously involved in the session, are of mixed academic ability and include those previously targeted as being in greater need. During the previous five months the youth worker has continued to provide the activities voluntarily leading to discussion and consultation where many of the group have expressed a wish to continue and that new members are offered the opportunity. (September consultation has approximately twenty new members requesting to join)

The group is open to all young people from the area who will be taking part in a programme of activities that include volunteering, learning new skills and activities. In order to enable all young people access to this group, regardless of income and parental support, funding is being requested to reduce the direct costs to young people and their families.

Shropshire Council currently provide for this area a much reduced youth provision based on:-

Targeted Youth Support for individuals mainly in school time and one two hour session of Positive Activities for 10 -16 years of age.

For the majority of young people there is a need to develop positive interaction with both their peers and others in the community which develops independence, confidence and social skills. Both of these will be needed to enhance their ability to progress in the future particularly in the current climate of low expectations for future jobs or higher education.

The activities of the club contribute to achieving a Duke of Edinburgh Award which is highly regarded by colleges and employers as showing the achievements of a young person in their own time.

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<b>Project Costs:</b> List anticipated items of expenditure below	£	
<b>Weekly activities</b>	<b>£500.00</b>	<b>Team building activities, skills sessions, trips visits</b>
<b>Registration for D of E</b>	<b>£400.00</b>	
<b>Activities instructors and equipment hire</b>	<b>£3,500.00</b>	
<b>Transport</b>	<b>£300.00</b>	
<b>Admin/Club insurance etc</b>	<b>£300.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>£5,000.00</b>	
<b>Project Funding:</b> List anticipated project income or grant funding (including LJC Grant applied for) and any contributions in kind.	£	<b>Confirm status of funding</b> eg: Secured/unconfirmed/applied for etc
<b>Young people donations</b>	<b>£1,000.00</b>	<b>Young people will continue to raise funding to reduce costs</b>
<b>Positive Activity Fund</b>	<b>£2,000.00</b>	<b>Applied for</b>
<b>LJC funding</b>	<b>£1,000.00</b>	<b>Applied for</b>
<b>Youth staff</b>	<b>£1,000.00</b>	<b>Inkind</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING</b> (should equal total project costs)	<b>£5,000.00</b>	
<b>Please confirm how much funding you are seeking from the Local Joint Committee?</b>	<b>£1,000.00</b>	

## **F) Land, Life and Livelihoods - Preparation of Business Plan for Clun Community-Led Catchment Management Project**

**Total project costs:** £500

**Grant requested from the LJC:** £500

**Recommended grant award:** £250

**Project outline:** We would like to apply for £500 from the Local Joint Committee to carry out a defined piece of work to progress our local community initiative.

The preparation of a Business Plan is the next critical step in our efforts to develop community-led river catchment management in the Clun Forest.

With this support, Land, Life and Livelihoods will be able to fund the preparation of a professional Business Plan which we can use:

- to gain support from local and national partners and agencies which will be critical to the success of this project,
- as a basis for further applications for project funding,
- to highlight the activities which we plan to progress straight away with local communities, groups and organisations.

The Business Plan will be prepared by a professional consultant, but the work will involve:

- A review of what Land, Life and Livelihoods is trying to achieve through the Catchment Management Project,
- Consultation with Steering Group members about the project,
- A business planning workshop with local stakeholders,
- Preparation and presentation of the Business Plan document.

Land, Life and Livelihoods wishes to design and create an innovative, integrated catchment management project which will involve the whole community. The project has the following objectives (as defined in the Scoping Study produced earlier this year with support from the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership/Shropshire Council):

- Working to improve and strengthen community environmental management, following and building on experience of the Environmentally Sensitive Area Scheme (ESA), which is due to end in 2013.
- Working with local partners and national agencies to develop and pilot a tailored socio-economic agri-environment scheme for the Upper Clun catchment which will support sensitive environmental land management and ensure a fair return for farmers and benefit to the rural community.
- Working with all sections of the community to improve the water quality of the Upper Clun and its feeder springs and brooks, and in doing so improve the habitat for the freshwater pearl mussel, other priority species including otter, dipper and curlew, and wildlife generally.
- Working with all sections of the community including households, businesses, schools, community groups and organisations to involve everyone in projects and activities which will lead to better environmental understanding and action for living more sustainably in our catchment.

- Working with all sections of the community to ensure that there is community awareness about the catchment through education and celebration of this special place and an increased sense of wellbeing, ownership and responsibility.
- Working with others to value all knowledge and to build a knowledge base which will inform community led catchment management now and in the future, both here in the Upper Clun catchment and elsewhere.
- Managing the Upper Clun catchment for the benefit of downstream communities and wildlife; and to provide regulating services such as flood and climate regulation.

This project is being progressed by Land, Life and Livelihoods, a local initiative started in 2005 which aims to care for all life, the unique environment of the Clun Forest and to promote thriving, healthy farms and communities. Land, Life and Livelihoods is run voluntarily by local people with part time co-ordinating support, which has previously been granted funding from time to time by the Sustainable Development Fund of the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership.

Land, Life and Livelihoods has carried out a number of consultations in the Clun Forest including a Key People Event held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2010, interviews with 40 farmers which contributed to research for Natural England's Multiple Objectives Project, and a consultation meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009, the findings of which contributed to the Commission for Rural Communities' Inquiry on the Future of Upland Communities. Much of this consultation has identified the River Clun as a vital feature of the landscape and a focus of local people's sense of place. It has demonstrated the importance of the environment both to people's livelihoods and to their overall wellbeing.

The Catchment Management Project is supported by the Land, Life and Livelihoods Steering Group which includes representation from a range of local people, including farmers, naturalists, teachers, local wildlife groups and community organisations. The project is also supported by the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership (who funded the production of a Project Scoping Study earlier this year).

Critical to the project is the need to improve the quality of the catchment waters, thereby improving the conditions for identified priority species, such as the freshwater pearl mussel. The Lower River Clun is designated as part of the River Teme Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and also as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) because of its freshwater pearl mussel population. This is a species of international importance, classified by IUCN as endangered, it is listed in the EU Habitats Directive. Formerly widespread in the UK it is now found in only two other English rivers, apart from the Clun. The species, thought to have been around for 200 million years, has a unique lifecycle. It requires very clean, unsilted rivers, cleaner than the current requirements for human drinking water. Achieving the highest water quality is fundamental if the freshwater pearl mussel is to remain in the Clun.

We hope that everyone who lives and works within the project area (currently defined as the Parishes of Newcastle, Mainstone and Bettws-y-Crwyn) will benefit. We want to involve households, farms, businesses, schools and community groups in this project. Our vision is that in the foreseeable future our communities will be

living, farming, growing and prospering in this beautiful, peaceful place, enjoying a clean, wildlife rich river and a catchment with healthy soil, biodiversity, farm animals, food, forest and people, where everyone will put its care first. Skills, old and new, will flourish along with the arts, design and creativity generally. All businesses and our health will benefit from our quality environment. In the longer term, there will be renewable clean energy and climate care and a sense of wellbeing, celebration and gratitude.

The Business Plan will set out how this project can be achieved – setting out the steps to be taken and how much each will cost, who should be involved in each and where funding might be available. It is the next step in getting this project off the ground.

Land, Life and Livelihoods is trying to progress the Clun Catchment Management Project. We have identified that an important next step in getting the project off the ground is the preparation of a business plan. Alongside this we are working with our Steering Group and local partners (such as Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership) to make contact with, and gain support from, national agencies (such as Defra, Natural England and the Environment Agency), who we hope will support us in this project in the longer term. This Business Plan will help us in our discussions with others in demonstrating clearly our mission and objectives, and how we plan to deliver the project.

This project is very much 'community-led' and in that respect we believe it to be fairly unique. We want all sections of the community to come together to learn more about our special environment, and to be supported in taking action to conserve and enhance it. This project is not just about the environment though – it is as much about conserving and supporting the livelihoods and wellbeing of the people who live here so that our communities thrive into the future.

<b>Project Costs:</b> List anticipated items of expenditure below	£	
Consultancy fees (4.5 days @ £100)	450.00	
Hire of venue for workshop	40.00	
Refreshments at workshop	10.00	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>500.00</b>	
<b>Project Funding:</b>	£	<b>Confirm status of funding</b>



List anticipated project income or grant funding (including LJC Grant applied for) and any contributions in kind.		eg: Secured/unconfirmed/applied for etc
<b>LJC Grant applied for</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>Applied for</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING (should equal total project costs)</b>	<b>500.00</b>	

### G) Enterprise South West Shropshire – Business plan for the Role

**Total project costs:** £5,000

**Grant requested from the LJC:** £5,000

**Recommended grant award:** Defer decision on this application and request presentation from the applicant at the next LJC meeting.

**Project outline:** Enterprise South West Shropshire is a Social Enterprise that provides a range of highly valued services in the South West of the County. Our 2 major components are the support provided through the drop-in IT Centre and the hire of event-enabling equipment from the Village Outreach Project.

The IT Centre is open 5.5 days a week and provides office services and IT support and training to local businesses, individuals and community groups. It also manages the bishopscastle.co.uk (visitor and local info.) and bishopscastle.biz (local business directory) websites. The company also runs the local business network which provides support to its 140 members. The Company manages Enterprise house with an annual footfall of around 50,000 people.

These services, although highly valued in the area, have never made a totally watertight business model. This is mainly due to the sparse population and the necessary breadth of services we provide. Consequently, at every year end for the past 15 years, the Company has little, or no surplus income.

Income streams are varied and include rent from the tenants in the building, the occasional grant funded project as well as income from the County Council in the form of a Service Level Agreement. This fund was cut by 20% in 2011 which made the finances of the Company even more fragile. Whilst we believe that our services should be delivered in partnership with the Council, we would also like a larger degree of independence and a degree of financial surplus that we would channel into new ventures to support the area. There are a number of new areas of work that we are currently looking into.

We propose to engage a local consultant who will work closely with the Board of Directors and the Company Manager to identify new roles that will yield new income and new projects of a sustainable nature. We have recently established a sub-committee to develop our long held desire to do more for young people in the area. Many of these projects will contribute to local sustainability in both business and community sectors.

Our Board are highly representative of the area – we have 2 County Councillors, representatives from business, community, faith communities, parish and town councils. They are all keen to see the work of ESWS continue and for the company to move towards a more independent future. We are also keen to look at what levels of support the company can give to local businesses to help support them through the current difficult economic times.

Based on local consultants fees the **anticipated cost of this piece of work would be £5,000**, which we are asking the LJC to fund. Matched funding from ESWS would be used to deliver the suggested outcomes of the consultant's report, and would come from the companies own funds, external grants and income generated by facilities at the Enterprise House.

This project is asking for a larger grant than the LJC guidance allows for, of £2,500 but based on the importance of ESWS to businesses and the community in Bishop's Castle and the surrounding area, the Committee are requested to consider awarding a larger grant for this project.

## **H) Bishop's Castle Public Hall – New tables and chairs for the hall**

**Total project costs:** £2,434.86

**Grant requested from the LJC:** £1,217.43

**Recommended grant award:** £1,217.43

**Project outline:** The Public Hall in Bishop's Castle is widely used for community events and functions in the town, including community group meetings, sports and social club functions, birthday parties and wedding receptions.

This project is to replace the existing chairs and tables in the hall, which have been subject to wear and tear due to use over a long period of time. The purchase of this equipment will make the hall more presentable to members of the public wishing to hire the hall, and will be easier to store and put out than the existing furniture which is not of a uniform type.

We propose to purchase ten 1.8 x 0.8 metre POSI-LOCK folding tables (costing £137.58 each) and 50 Charcoal coloured plastic stacking chairs (costing £15.85 each) We have approached a number of companies for quotes for these and our preferred supplier is GOPAK, as they are currently offering a small discount on this furniture making the total cost (including VAT) £2436.86. We have chosen these tables and chairs as they are adaptable to the needs of the different users of the hall. We understand that the chairs we will order can have soft cushions and backs attached to them, should the hall be hired for a wedding reception.

The new furniture will make it easier to hire the hall out to more official events, such as wedding receptions, parties and functions, as it will all be of a universal style and colour, and will be in a much better condition than our existing furniture. In addition to the new furniture the hall has recently been redecorated, and the wooden floor has been re-sanded to give it a more attractive finish. As the furniture will all be of a universal style and colour, and will be in a much better condition than our existing furniture.

Matched funding for the project will come from the hall's own funds.

### **I) – Bishop's Castle Community College – BIG BANG exhibition at the NEC**

**Total project costs:** £1,000

**Grant requested from LJC:** £500

**Project outline:** The Science Department at Bishop's Castle Community College have been invited to showcase its Science Club at the BIG BANG exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March. We are the only school in Shropshire to be invited and so this is a huge honour and privilege for the college. We plan to take students from year 7 and year 10 for this 3 day event.

We are applying for a bursary from the organisers, however we need to raise 50% of the costs. We need £500.00 to reach our target, so a grant of this amount from the Local Joint Committee would enable us to confirm our attendance at the event.

## **3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal**

### **Risk Management Appraisal**

In determining these recommendations, Shropshire Council has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.

### **Human Rights**

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998

### **Community and other Consultation**

Consideration has been given to the public opinion expressed at the previous Local meetings

## **4. Financial Implications**

The LJC has a remaining budget of **£9804.80** available to spend in 2011/12. The grants a-h in this report, if funded to their full extent - £13,048.43 exceed this budget. The Committee do however have the ability to approve a project and pay the grant from the 2012/13 budget.

All applications in this report have been subject to an initial officer appraisal to check they meet the basic LJC funding criteria and that suitable quotes and bank details have been submitted with the applications.

**List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)**

**Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)**

Gwilym Butler

**Local Members**

Nigel Hartin, Heather Kidd, Charlotte Barnes

**Appendices**

None