



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

9 February 2012

7.00 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 6 OCTOBER 2011
7.00 PM – 9.00 PM
AT
BUCKNELL MEMORIAL HALL**

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Committee Members Present:

Shropshire Council

Charlotte Barnes	Bishop's Castle
Nigel Hartin	Clun
Heather Kidd	Chirbury & Worthen (Chair)

Town/Parish Councils

Trevor Hughes	Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council
Jane Carroll	Bishop's Castle Town Council
Andrew Craig	Chirbury with Brompton Parish Council
John Croxton	Clunbury Parish Council
Eddie Jones	Newcastle on Clun Parish Council
Jonathan Roberts	Clungunford Parish Council
Llewellyn Morgan	Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council
Keith Mansell	Myndtown Combined Parish Council
Brian Ince	Worthen with Shelve Parish Council

Shropshire Council Members/Officers Present:

Paul Beard, Waste Contracts Manager
Alison Brock, Business Improvement Team
Steve Brown, Head of Environmental Maintenance
Chris Edwards, Area Director
Mathew Mead, Community Action Officer

There were approximately 15 members of the public present at the meeting.

ACTION

1. Election of Chairman

Mrs Heather Kidd was elected Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

2. Apologies for Absence

- 2.1 Apologies were received from the following members: Colin Pendry, Clun and Chapel Lawn Parish Council, Valerie Whately, Bettws-y-Crwyn Parish Council, J William

3. Declarations of Interest

- 3.1 The following personal and prejudicial interests were declared in respect of funding applications : Brian Ince - application from Worthen Parish Council, as a Member of Worthen Parish Council; Jane Carroll - application from Bishop's Castle Tourism Community Interest Company; Jonathan Roberts - application from St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford; Eddie Jones - application from Café on the Green, Newcastle. They indicated that they would leave the room should consideration of, and voting take place on these individual items. As these applications were not discussed they remained in the room.

4. Decision Notes of the LJC Meetings Held on 16 June 2011

- 4.1 The Decision Notes of the Bishop's Castle, Chirbury & Worthen and Clun Local Joint Committee held on 16 June 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Police Report

- 5.1 The Community Action Officer reported that there was now a new Inspector in post, Inspector Rob Thomas. The Chair made an urgent plea for a meeting between the Inspector and Shropshire Councillors as soon as possible. She also hoped that there would be action taking on speeding, as progress seemed to have slipped back recently.

6. Impact of Withdrawal of the Community Skips Service, and Trade Waste

- 6.1 Steve Brown, Head of Environmental Maintenance, provided a report as requested by the LJC on the withdrawal of community skip service and on fly tipping.
- 6.2 He reminded those present of the reasons for withdrawal of the service and reported that there had not been a significant rise in complaints relating to fly tipping or litter since that time.

- 6.3 Reports of flytipping could be made via the Customer Service Centre (0345 6789000) ,and a visit would be made within two working days to assess the problem. He confirmed that the Council had no liability or responsibility to remove litter from private land but was sometimes able to assist with removal and recharge at cost price.
- 6.4 In response to questions from members it was confirmed that if the source of any waste could be identified then this would be followed up as a matter of course. It was also acknowledged that figures on flytipping reported to DEFRA by the Council did not necessarily include flytipping on private land.
- 6.5 Members went on to refer to what some felt were stringent rules at the Household Waste Recycling Centre at Craven Arms and referred to instances of vehicles which had travelled a long way being turned away as they were too large.
- 6.6 Paul Beard, Waste Contracts Manager, said if communication was not clear enough he welcomed suggestions for improved clarity. It was necessary to draw up a dividing line of what would be too big and all restrictions around small trailers had been removed. There was room for flexibility but there did need to be a line. He also welcomed feedback on service provided at the site. Anyone could use the trade disposal facilities.
- 6.7 It was suggested that an article in Parish Magazines about permits and permissible trailer and van sizes would be very helpful. PB
- 6.8 A member pointed out that tradespeople interested in recycling waste responsibly were not able to access the HWRC, and did not know where to take it without having to pay excessive charges. Mr Beard explained that this was a reflection of the law as it currently stood but it was likely that the government would encourage local authorities to be more involved in trade waste in future.
- 6.9 The Chair thanked Mr Brown and Mr Beard for attending the meeting.

7. Broadband Update

- 7.1 Alison Brock, Shropshire Council's ICT Client Support Manager gave a presentation on the future of Broadband in Shropshire.
- 7.2 The main points covered were:
- Shropshire Council had obtained £8.2 million from Central Government to spend on improving broadband for Shropshire.
 - 'Connecting Shropshire' was a project to decide how to spend it but help was needed from the local community. -
 - Over the next few months the Council would be working with communities and businesses to create a plan describing how

the funding would be spent. The vision was that by 2016 all Shropshire businesses and homes will have access to an affordable, efficient and fast broadband service.

- 7.3 She referred the Committee to two on-line questionnaires that would help shape future provision [one for businesses and one for residents]. She stated that support for the project from local Parish/Town Councils would be helpful in promoting the case for the project with BD UK. All Parish/Town Council representatives were asked to email their Parish/Town support to Alison.brock@shropshire.gov.uk. It was noted that progress on the project could be viewed on www.connectingshropshire.co.uk or telephone 01743 252205.

8. Area Director

- 8.1 Mr Chris Edwards, Southern Area Director, introduced himself and gave a PowerPoint presentation on his role in the area. He made particular reference to the Localism agenda and the new Town/Parish Charter being developed. He explained that the new Charter was being developed on a 'top down' and 'bottom up' approach for all parties to meet on common ground to establish the way forward for the future. He stressed the importance of local Members' leadership role in the development of the localism agenda.
- 8.2 His role involved bringing the local agenda and priorities back up to the Corporate Strategic Policy making centre and particularly focused on leisure and library services, environmental maintenance and community action.
- 8.3 He answered a number of questions from those present relating to:
- The Council's new management structure-
 - Moving on from the biomass
 - Building trust and demonstrating openness and transparency
 - Relationships with Parishes and addressing the differences between them
- 8.4 The Chairman thanked the Area Director for attending the meeting.

9. Public Question Time

9.1 *Environmental Maintenance*

Responding to questions about the Environmental Maintenance Team, the Area Director reported that there were two Technical Support Officers for the area, Heidi Steele and Alan Merrick. Their role involved inspection of litter, graffiti, fly tipping and patrolling for dog mess. Those present felt it would be useful to see detail of

	their work programme or receive updates on what they had done. The Area Director agreed to note this point but emphasised that reporting would take time away from responding to service requests	CE
9.2	<i>Housing</i>	
	Issues around housing were raised, particularly in the Bishop's Castle Area. It was suggested that Mal Price, Portfolio for Economic Prosperity and Growth be invited to the next meeting to talk about the new Joint Housing Strategy and plans to address the significant housing issues in rural areas.	MM/AH
9.3	<i>Private Water Supplies</i>	
	The issue of private water supplies was raised as it was felt there was lack of clarity around the fee structure and it appeared that Shropshire charged the maximum fee chargeable whereas Herefordshire charged less and in Wales there was no charge at all. This was adding a significant extra burden to businesses offering accommodation such as bed and breakfasts. It was suggested that Steve Charmley, Cabinet Member for Better Health and Wellbeing, be invited to the meeting.	MM/AH
9.4	<i>Septic Tanks</i>	
	Concern was expressed around whether there was a need to register septic tanks and whether there would be a charge attached to this. The Community Action Officer said he understood that government guidance had recently been withdrawn by the Environment Agency. He endeavoured to circulate any up to date information as soon as it became available to the Council. It was suggested that Chris Moss be invited to attend the next meeting to provide an update on all issues.	AH/MM
10.	Issues Update From Around the LJC Area	
10.1	Nigel Hartin reported on Federation Plans for Onibury, Lydbury North and Stiperstones Primary Schools which would be going to Cabinet in January 2012.	
10.2	No decisions were due to be made in relation to the Mid Wales Connection Project until next year. There was to be an infrastructure Planning Committee briefing shortly.	
10.3	He also reported on the Parliamentary Boundary Commission review which would have a big impact on the Ludlow area with the proposed area being very large, stretching around 80 miles from North to South.	
10.4	Eddie Jones reported on the grant made by the LJC for purchase of defibrillators. There were now nine covering the Clun Valley area	

and over 80 trained volunteers.

- 10.5 Heather Kidd reported that she understood changes proposed to the Ambulance Service were likely to leave the area no better or worse off in terms of response times. She expressed concern that that first responders in response cars were not able to deal with all scenarios. There was a cross border agreement with Herefordshire and one with Powys was currently under discussion.

11. Strategy For Sustainable Tourism in the Shropshire Hills and Ludlow

- 11.1 Jane Carroll gave a presentation on the new Strategy. The primary aim was 'to develop, manage and promote the Shropshire Hills and Ludlow as a high quality sustainable tourism destination, in keeping with its focus on a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty'
- 11.2 The presentation covered the associated aims of the strategy and observations stemming from the consultation. It also covered the Strategy's guiding principals, covered target markets, strategic objectives, awareness raising, and delivering the hills, market town and local food experience. The Strategy also covered orientating and informing visitors and sustainable access and management and supporting local enterprise. The Destination Partnership would co-ordinate implementation.

12. Update from Community Action Officer

- 12.1 Mathew Mead, Community Action Officer, reported on the Walking for Health Group in Bishop's Castle and provided contact details for anyone interested in participating or volunteering as walk leaders
- 12.2 He also provided information on changes in regulations regarding private water supplies as members had reported there was some confusion about new policies. He reported that queries on septic tanks should go to Grania Miller, Team Leader for Neighbourhood Pollution (grania.miller@shropshire.gov.uk, tel 01743).
- 12.3 His report also touched on changes to NHS services in Shropshire and details of a presentation which would be made to the Shrewsbury LJC on 10 November.
- 12.4 He also referred to the Community Games Project and reported that information was available from Alison.j.evans@shropshire.gov.uk, communitygames.org.uk (01743) 255091

13. Grant Applications 2011/2012 – Decision Report

- 13.1 Members received a report by the Committee's Community Action Officer on an assessment of the applications which had been received. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendations as set out in the report:
- a) Redlake Village Hall – New heating system for the hall.
Grant award: £2,500
 - b) St Cuthbert's Church Clungunford – New equipment for youth Clubs. Grant award: £475.13
 - c) Clunton Village Hall – New tables for the hall. Grant award: £440.09
 - d) Bishop's Castle local policing team – Friday Night Football project. Grant award: £500
 - e) Clun Memorial Hall – New crockery for the hall. Grant award: £900 and additional condition that the Hall Committee explore the option of donating the old crockery to another local organisation.
 - f) React Theatre Company - React Community Pantomime for South Shropshire. Grant award: £1,125 on condition of matched funding for the project being secured from Awards for All and the other South West Shropshire LJC's
 - g) Hightown Community Room Clun - Electrical Improvements Project. Grant award: £750
 - h) Bishop's Castle Tourism Community Interest Company - Bishop's Castle & Clun Valley Area Festival Officer.
Grant award: £1000
 - i) Worthen Village Hall – New tables for village hall. Grant award: £523.00
 - j) Worthen parish council – New notice boards. Grant award: £400
 - k) Café on the Green, Newcastle – New tables for café. Grant award: £497.60
 - l) Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council – New speed reduction signs.
Approval not granted.

Outline Funding Applications

The Community Action Officer also informed the Committee of three outline funding applications which were not yet complete and needed additional information before they could be submitted to the

Committee for assessment. These were:

Clun Forest Community-Led Catchment Management Project
Bishop's Castle Heritage Resource Centre - Gleanings from the
Past - Looking to the Future
Bishop's Castle Youth Club - funding of costs in setting up this new
Club

Members said it sounded as if these were the sort of projects which
the LJC would be interested in funding and asked that further
information be sought.

MM

14. Future Agenda Items

Potential items for the next meeting were noted as:

Water supply/septic tank issues
Housing
Site Allocation and Management of Development (SAMDEV)
Future of Bishop's Castle business park if not resolved.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 9 February 2012 at 7.00 pm, SpArC Centre, Bishop's
Castle

Signed.....
Chairman

Date: 9 February 2012