



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

4 October 2012

7.00 pm

Item

4

Public

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

**NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS STEMMING FROM THE MEETING HELD
ON 14 JUNE 2012
7.00 PM – 10.15 PM
AT
CHIRBURY VILLAGE HALL**

Responsible Officer Amanda Holyoak

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Committee Members Present:

Shropshire Council

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

Town/Parish Councils

Valerie Whately	Bettws-y-Crwyn Parish Council
Karen Bavastock	Bishop's Castle Town Council
John Croxton	Clunbury Parish Council
Sandra Davies	Newcastle on Clun Parish Council
Jonathan Roberts	Clungunford Parish Council (Vice Chair)
Kate King	Lydbury North Parish Council
Ann Parry	Myndtown Combined Parish Council
Brian Ince	Worthen with Shelve Parish Council

Officers Present:

Mathew Mead, Community Action Officer

There were approximately 8 members of the public present at the meeting.

ACTION

1. Election of Chair

Charlotte Barnes was elected as Chair

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Rod Bond, Chirbury with Brompton Parish Council
Trevor Hughes, Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council
Llewellyn Morgan, Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council
James McVicar, Clun and Chapel Lawn Parish Council
Beryl Palmer, substitute Member, Clun and Chapel Lawn Parish Council

3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

Jonathan Roberts was appointed Vice-Chairman.

4. Declarations of Interest

- 4.1 The following personal and prejudicial interests were declared in respect of funding applications: - in the funding application from Enterprise and South West Clun Valley AED Scheme, Heather Kidd, Charlotte Barnes - They left the room when consideration of, and voting took place on this individual item. In the funding application from Clungunford PCC - Jonathan Roberts – Clungunford PCC

5. Decision Notes of the LJC Meetings Held on 9 February 2012

- 5.1 The Decision Notes of the Bishop's Castle, Chirbury & Worthen and Clun Local Joint Committee held on 9 February 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. Police Report

- 6.1 Inspector Thomas was welcomed to the meeting and invited to provide an update on policing matters.
- 6.2 He explained the reasons for the move of CSO Ross O'Neil from Bishop's Castle to Church Stretton. CSO Sheena Jones would remain in Bishop's Castle.
- 6.3 The Committee expressed its appreciation to CSO O'Neill who was extremely well regarded in the Bishop's Castle area. Members emphasised the importance of full involvement of the CSO in the community. It was suggested that CSO Jones attend Town and Parish Council meetings to introduce herself in the first instance.
- 6.4 Inspector Thomas reported that West Mercia Police had to find savings of around £20 million between now and 2015/16. It had formed an alliance with the Warwickshire Force to share resources and he endeavoured to keep local Councillors informed of the implications of future change and savings.
- Inspector Thomas/
CSO Jones

- 6.5 He reminded Members that the new 101 number was for reporting historical crimes, and the 999 number was only for emergencies and crimes in progress. He strongly recommended www.immobilise.com as a source of information on burglar deterrents and a way to help police identify the owners of lost & stolen property.
- 6.6 PC Gutteridge went on to report on crime within the LJC area. Nuisance noise and anti social behaviour had been identified as PACT priorities and a number of letters had been sent out to the parents of youths found with alcohol.
- 6.7 She also drew attention to leaflets and posters circulated on prevention of distraction burglaries and criminals offering a service to vulnerable people and taking them to cash points to withdraw cash. These crimes were on the rise in other parts of Shropshire
- 6.8 Members of the Committee whose areas fell into the Craven Arms LJC area did not get to hear crime figures and this concern was noted.
- 6.9 The Committee thanked the police officers for attending the meeting and expressed its appreciation for the open communication.

7. Public Question Time

- 7.1 Representatives from South Shropshire Housing Association introduced themselves and said they would be happy to answer any queries related to housing at this and future LJC 19 meetings. This offer was welcomed by the Committee.
- 7.2 They went on to answer questions on the number of people looking for houses, the amount of housing available and on Choice Based Letting. The Chair asked them to highlight to the Housing Association the Committee's concerns on the following: the time it took to obtain a bidding number from Homepoint; the difficulties of bidding online for those without a PC or broadband; a need for improved communication regarding Homepoint; housing being allocated to people who were not local. Registering with Homepoint was recommended 3 – 4 weeks in advance of seeking a property to bid on.

8. Issues Update from Around the LJC Area

- 8.1 Brian Ince and several other members of the Committee drew attention to problems with the new Mobile Library Service which included being several hours late, not arriving at all, and no longer stopping at schools which had been some of the best users.
- 8.2 It was suggested that this issue be added to the agenda for the next meeting and a request be made for an officer to attend and explain **AH/MM**

usage figures and hear concerns about performance.

- 8.3 Many Members of the Committee reported on successful Jubilee events and thanked the LJC for its contribution to these.
- 8.4 Valerie Whately expressed concern about the condition of roads in Bettws-y-Crwyn and other very rural areas. Another Member referred to successful prosecutions against the Council relating to damage caused by pot holes.
- 8.5 Kate King updated members on a vanguard planning approach in Lydbury North
- 8.6 Nigel Hartin referred to the importance of local councillors encouraging awareness of and participation in of the SAMDEV process. He also reported on a number of shed and garden break ins in Clun.
- 8.7 Ann Parry, reported that Myndtown Combined Council had made some recent co-options and now had a new Chair. She also reported on a Wenlock Olympian demonstration gliding event which had received much international interest and would bring business to the local economy.
- 8.8 Karen Bavastock reported on a positive SAMDEV meeting held in Bishop's Castle, although many there had said that they had not heard about it previously.
- 8.9 In relation to SAMDEV, Heather Kidd reported that Worthen was to be a housing hub with some open market housing which would allow construction of safe pavement to connect the school/village hall and shop . She congratulated Andy Mortimer, Planning and Corporate Policy Manager for doing a really good job.
- 8.10 John Croxton raised concerns about verge trimming being less and later often resulting in narrow and dangerous narrow lanes.

9. Broadband

- 9.1 Alison Brock, Project Manager for Rural Broadband provided an update on Broadband Developments since the last LJC meeting.
- 9.2 Her presentation explained how Shropshire Council were progressing the project to bring improved broadband to rural areas of the county so that there was 100% coverage at a minimum of 2mbps in the county, with superfast available to as many as possible.
- 9.3 The procurement stage would take place over the summer with delivery anticipated in 2013. As soon as further information about roll out timescales was known it would be made available to LJC's.

- 9.4 A public consultation for state aid to understand the private sector's planned broadband developments in Shropshire for the next three years was underway. This was so the project area could be determined. A meeting with local councillors was also planned regarding sub contracts.
- 9.5 The Council was tied to the European process but it could be possible to specify in the procurement process the desire for involvement from local firms. In terms of infrastructure, it would be a Shropshire wide solution and a blend of technologies was likely to be the answer due to the geography of the county.
- 9.6 A demand stimulation exercise was also underway and the higher the demand, the more funding was likely from the private sector. Once the contract was in place the next stage would involve encouraging people to take it up through training. The intention was for everyone to have both physical access and the required skills.
- 9.7 Some Members expressed concern that broadplaces were disappearing.
- 9.8 The consultation was available on <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/shropshirecouncil.nsf/open/BE135B04B7815B3B802579DE0043A0E5>
Those who were unable to access this on the internet were invited to contact Alison on 01743 252205 to arrange a paper copy. The Committee thanked her for attending the meeting.

10 Bishop's Castle Business Park

- 10.1 The Chair provided an update on a Steering Group which had been set up to consider how to make the Business Park more appealing, what infrastructure was needed and how it should grow. It was hoped to attract local businesses which would have more interest in the land and to maximise job creation and a consultation was currently underway. It was suggested that the Group engage with young people regarding future of the Business Park.

Chair

11. Update on SpArC Centre

- 11.1 Members were informed that opening hours had now been rationalised to the most popular usage times. It was however intended to extend these if business grew. The school was now required to pay for the lifeguards and the Committee asked the Community Action Officer to investigate if this was the case across Shropshire.

MM

12. Report from Community Action Officer

- 12.1 Matthew Mead reported that the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital

Trust was to provide an information update on 19 June 2012 at Craven Arms Community Centre.

- 12.2 He also reported on street lighting reductions due to take place between midnight and 5.30 am in Bishop's Castle, Bucknell, Clun, Lydbury North and part of Yockleton. He agreed to let members know who to contact regarding which lights were the most appropriate. MM

13. Grant Applications 2011/2012 – Decision Report

RESOLVED: that the following grant applications be agreed or deferred as listed

BC 13 Enterprise South West Shropshire Business plan - amount requested: £2,500 - **AGREED**

BC 14 Worthen Youth Club - amount requested: £500 - **AGREED**

BC 15 Figtree Ltd Snailbeach Tails - amount requested: £500 - **AGREED**

BC16 Bishop's Castle Methodist Church - Modernisation of Toilet Facilities amount requested: £2,500 - **AGREED**

BC17 Village Outreach - Repair of Skate Ramp: amount requested £1,400 - **DECISION DEFERRED** (The Committee recommends exploration of commercial sponsorship and other ways of making the project more sustainable, eg by leaving the skate ramp in one location for a long period of time, before it considers the application again)

BC18 Community First Responders - amount requested towards purchase of vehicle £2,372 - **DECISION DEFERRED.** (The Committee is minded to support the application but requires clarification on who will pay the running costs of the vehicle)

BC19 Young Engineers - amount requested: £500 - **AGREED**

BC 20 St Cuthbert's Clungunford birdscreen - amount requested: £300 - **AGREED**

14 Future Agenda Items

Members felt that meetings, the last two in particular, had been lengthy and this was likely to discourage public attendance. It was agreed that agendas should be planned carefully and perhaps include a police update only every other meeting.

Agenda items suggested for consideration at the next planning meeting included: the Mobile Library Service, Update on the

Council's 'NewCo' proposals from the Area Director, the implications of budget cuts; Housing issues, broadband update and ambulance service update.

15 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 4 October 2012 at 7.00 pm, to be held at a location within the Clun Electoral Division

Chair: _____

Date: 4 October 2012