

**Committee and date:**

Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook
Local Joint Committee

14th January 2010

7.00 p.m.

Item

6(i)

Public

BOWBROOK, COPTHORNE AND RADBROOK LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE**NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 21ST OCTOBER 2009 AT 7.00 P.M. AT RADBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL, CALVERTON WAY, SHREWSBURY.**

Responsible Officer: Sarah Townsend

e-mail: sarah.townsend@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: (01743) 252803

Fax: (01743) 252713

Committee Members Present:

Councillor Peter Adams (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council)

Councillor Keith Roberts (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council)

Shropshire Council Officers Present:

Nick Taylor, Lead Officer

Karen Collier, Support Lead Officer

Sam Hine, Head of Community Working

Gwyn Bevan, Community Regeneration Officer

Sarah Townsend, Committee Officer (Notes)

West Mercia Police Officers Present:

PC Michael Dulson (Bowbrook and Porthill)

PC Tanya Grey (Copthorne, Meole and Radbrook)

CSO Robert Taylor (Bowbrook and Porthill)

There were approximately 55 members of the public in attendance.

ACTION**1. Chairman's Welcome**

- 1.1 The Vice-Chairman, Councillor Keith Roberts, chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chairman. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Members and Officers in attendance.

2. Apologies for Absence

- 2.1 Apologies were received from the Chairman, Councillor Peter Nutting (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council), and several local residents.

3. Declarations of Interest

- 3.1 Councillor Keith Roberts declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 7 (Applications for Funding), as his wife was the Brown Owl for the Meole Scout and Guide Group. He left the room during the consideration of and voting on this item.

4. Notes of the Previous Meeting

- 4.1 **RESOLVED:**
That the notes of the meeting of the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook Local Joint Committee held on 22nd July 2009 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.
- 4.2 An updated version of the completed Comments, Questions and Suggestions Action Sheet was circulated (copy attached to the signed notes). This provided details on the progress made in respect of the issues raised at the previous meeting. Its content was noted
- 4.3 Several local residents questioned why the Arriva Bus Service Review had not been put onto the agenda for the meeting, when it had been agreed at the previous meeting that a representative from Arriva would be invited to attend in order to address residents' concerns. Nick Taylor, Lead Officer, responded that following the previous meeting, everyone who was in attendance at the meeting received information regarding the changes to the bus routes. These were not considered to be major when compared to the changes that had been implemented within other local areas and therefore, the Committee had decided not to put the Arriva Bus Service Review onto the agenda for the meeting.
- 4.4 Several members of the public expressed their dissatisfaction with the new bus routes, the signage in the bus station and electronic bus timetables not being in operation. Following discussion, Mr Taylor stated that he would invite Arriva to attend 14th January 2010 meeting in order that they could hear residents' concerns.

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It was agreed to take Agenda Item 11 next (Public Question Time).

5. Public Question Time

- 5.1 The Chairman invited questions from members of the public. Issues raised included:
- 5.2 The current sports facilities within Shelton Hospital
Please refer to the attached table entitled 'Completed Comments, Questions and Suggestions Sheets'.
- 5.3 What is the latest position on the South Site of the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital?
Mr Taylor reported that a planning application had been lodged with the Council and negotiations were currently taking place with the applicant.
- 5.4 Shropshire Council's Policy on Mobile Phone Masts
Please refer to the attached table entitled 'Completed Comments, Questions and Suggestions Sheets'.
- 5.5 The area of land on Fir Tree Farm and whether it would revert back to being recreational land
Please refer to the attached table entitled 'Completed Comments, Questions and Suggestions Sheets'.

6. Local News and Information

- 6.1 The Chairman informed the meeting that from 2nd November 2009, new rules

would be implemented in respect of entry permits for Shropshire's Household Recycling Centres. Further information regarding the changes was available to be taken away at the end of the meeting.

- 6.2 The Chairman stated that he was looking for volunteers to help plant daffodil bulbs within Radbrook. Anyone interested in helping was asked to speak to him at the end of the meeting.

- 6.3 Mr Steve Cox, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service (Green Watch), highlighted the importance of smoke alarms in all households and stated that a free home fire safety check and smoke alarm was available to anyone on request by contacting the Community Fire Safety Department at Brigade Headquarters, St Michael's Street, Shrewsbury. SY1 2HJ.

7. Police Report

- 7.1 PC Michael Dulson introduced his colleagues PC Tanya Grey and CSO Robert Taylor and updated the meeting in relation to the following issues of concern that had been raised at the previous meeting:

- 7.2
 - A person had been stopped and warned in relation to riding a motorbike within the play area off Shelton Road.
- 7.3
 - The Royal Shrewsbury Hospital had recently lost several car parking spaces and therefore, the situation of people parking in nearby residential streets could potentially worsen. It was noted that the problem was difficult to deal with, as, provided people were not causing an obstruction, there were no parking restrictions.
- 7.4
 - No complaints had been received since the last meeting regarding lorries using The Mount at night when there was a lorry ban in place. He urged people to contact him if this was still an issue.

- 7.5 PC Dulson and PC Grey reported on the local statistics relating to burglary, robbery, vehicle crime, anti-social behaviour and violent crime (including domestic violence). The statistics were also available on the West Mercia Police website (www.westmercia.police.uk).

- 7.6 It was noted that the average number of crimes and anti-social behaviour had increased within the Copthorne and Radbrook area. The local policing team were working with Severnside Housing to address the issues.

- 7.7 CSO Taylor provided an overview of his job, stating that it involved working within the community in order to enhance police presence and provide reassurance, leading to the reduction of crime.

8. Applications for Funding

- 8.1 Mr Taylor introduced his report, which set out details of two grant funding applications that had been received (copy attached to the signed notes). It was noted that the Committee had a budget of £38,000 and not £28,000 as had been stated within the report.

8.2 Meole Scout and Guide Group Application

- 8.3 Mr Taylor explained that in relation to the voting on this application, the Committee would not be quorate due to Councillor Keith Roberts having a

personal and prejudicial interest. He advised that the decision on whether to grant the funding would be delegated to himself, as Lead Officer, with a recommendation from Councillor Peter Adams as to whether or not he was minded to approve the funding application.

8.4 Councillor Keith Roberts left the room during the consideration of the application and took no part in the discussion of and voting on the application. Several questions were asked by members of the public, which the applicant answered and during the discussion, Mr Taylor confirmed that any money left in the 2009/2010 budget would be carried over for use in the 2010/2011 financial year.

8.5 It was noted that the group served a wide catchment area that was spread across more than one Local Joint Committee. Accordingly, the group had also applied for £800 funding to the Meole, Column and Sutton Local Joint Committee, which had been approved at their meeting held on 15th October 2009.

8.6 **RESOLVED:**

That the following application be delegated to Mr Taylor, Lead Officer, for consideration with a recommendation from Councillor Peter Adams that he was minded to approve the application:

- **£800 towards total project costs of £2,337.95 to enable the Meole Scout and Guide Group to purchase new furniture and related equipment.**

NT

8.7 (Councillor Peter Adams requested that it be recorded that if Mr Taylor were to approve the application and another joint application was received in the future covering the Meole, Column and Sutton Local Joint Committee area, he expected the Meole Column and Sutton Local Joint Committee to 'return the favour').

8.8 Bowbrook Allotment Community Application

8.9 In relation to this application, several questions were asked by members of the public that were answered by the applicants. These included whether the applicants were making a financial contribution towards the proposals, whether the proposals would be of benefit to local schools and organisations, the number and size of the plots and whether the proposals would enhance the community.

8.10 **RESOLVED:**

That the following application be approved from the 2009/2010 budget:

- **£1,950 towards total project costs of £2,438 to enable the Bowbrook Allotment Community to purchase items to develop natural areas for community use.**

NT

8.11 (The Committee requested that it be recorded that the approved funding was a one off payment and that, as outlined within the application, nature trails should be established on the land and local schools should be invited to visit the allotments, in order to enjoy and learn from the facilities).

9. **Proposals for a new Community Hall and Associated Sports Facilities within the Copthorne Area**

9.1 Gwyn Bevan, Community Regeneration Officer, outlined the current open land within the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook areas and explained that the areas that could potentially accommodate a community hall and associated sports facilities were Shorncliffe Drive and the land past the Bowbrook Allotments.

- 9.2 A local resident questioned whether there was a need for another community hall and associated sports facilities given that Radbrook Community Centre and Bicton Heath Community Centre were within commuting distance.
- 9.3 Mr Bruce Crawcour was in attendance to explain how a new community centre and associated sports facilities could be funded. He outlined various local community halls that he had been involved in obtaining the funding for and stated that for a community hall with associated sports facilities, he would expect the cost to be in the region of approximately £500,000 - £550,000.
- 9.4 Mr Crawcour advised that the community hall would need to be owned and led by a committee of enthusiastic local residents and not, by Shropshire Council and that having established those people willing to be involved, additional user groups who would benefit from the proposed facilities would need to be identified. The funding application would need to demonstrate that there was a clear need / demand for the proposals and that any new facilities would not just result in existing user groups moving from their current locations to the new proposed facilities.
- 9.5 In terms of funding, Mr Crawcour explained that there were currently no major funding streams available, but that this should not delay the commencement of the project if there was a genuine need for the facilities. By commencing the project as soon as possible, an application would be ready to be submitted when funding becomes available.
- 9.6 It was noted that any new facilities built would be zero vat rated.
- 9.7 A local resident questioned whether the Shorncliffe Drive site was potentially earmarked for a new school. Mr Taylor responded that it was but that this was currently only a possibility.
- 9.8 It was **agreed** that Mr Bevan would continue contacting local organisations in order to establish whether they thought there was a need for a new Community Hall and associated Sports Facilities within the Copthorne Area.

GB

10. Planning Application for the Shelton Hospital Site

- 10.1 Mr Taylor stated that on 26th August 2009, Shropshire Council received an outline application from South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare Trust for the erection of a new mental health inpatient building, construction of car park and provision of open space and landscaping on the Shelton Hospital Site. The consultation period ended on 22nd September 2009 and the application would be considered at a committee meeting in either December 2009 or January 2010.
- 10.2 At the previous meeting, residents questioned the access layout. Mr Taylor confirmed that access would be via Somerby Drive and it was proposed that the southern part of Somerby Drive be re-aligned and extended to provide main vehicular access.
- 10.3 It was noted that Shropshire Council were currently in discussions with the applicants and that there may need to be a further round of public consultation with local residents.

11. Local Development Framework Core Strategy

- 11.1 A presentation was given by Mr Taylor, Lead Officer and Shropshire Council's Assistant Director Strategy and Development, on the Shropshire Local

Development Framework (copy of presentation attached to the signed notes). The Local Development Framework would play a crucial role in prioritising and shaping development within Shropshire over the next 20 years and would replace existing Local Plans and Structure Plans.

11.2 Mr Taylor explained that the Local Development Framework was a collection of various planning policy documents, known as Local Development Documents, which considered a wide range of important planning issues such as housing, employment, retail, the environment and transport. When adopted, the policies and guidance contained in the Local Development Documents would play an important role in the assessment of individual planning applications within Shropshire.

11.3 It was noted that the first document being prepared for the Shropshire Local Development Framework was the Core Strategy, which was due to be adopted in March 2011. Further representations on the Core Strategy could be made in the new year with the details being published in the local newspaper and on the Council's website (www.shropshire.gov.uk).

11.4 In terms of the sports grounds and open spaces at Shelton Hospital leased from the Secretary of State, a question was asked regarding what the Council's proposals were for owning these grounds in public perpetuity for the benefit of the community. Mr Taylor responded that Shropshire Council would be looking to secure some of the facilities and would also be looking for a contribution from the developer for community facilities.

12. Future Agenda Items

12.1 It was suggested that the following agenda items be considered at the next meeting:

- Proposals for a new Community Hall and associated Sports Facilities; and
- Arriva Bus Service Review.

13. Date of Next Meeting

13.1 It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook Local Joint Committee would be held on Thursday, 14th January 2010 at 7.00 p.m. (venue to be confirmed).

ALL

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The meeting ended at 9.30 p.m.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....