



Committee and date:  
Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook  
Local Joint Committee

18 March 2010

7.00 pm

Item

**7(i)**

## **BOWBROOK, COPTHORNE AND RADBROOK LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE**

### **NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JANUARY 2010 AT 7.00 P.M. AT RADBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Responsible Officer:** Amanda Holyoak

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#### **Committee Members Present:**

Councillor Peter Adams (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council)

Councillor Peter Nutting (Chairman) (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council)

Councillor Keith Roberts (Vice-Chairman) (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council)

#### **Shropshire Council Officers Present:**

Nick Taylor, Lead Officer

Gwyn Bevan, Community Regeneration Officer

Amanda Holyoak, Committee Officer (Notes)

Laura Rowley, Director of Resources

Martin Withington, Head of Transportation

#### **West Mercia Police Officers Present:**

PC Michael Dulson (Bowbrook and Porthill)

CSO Robert Taylor (Bowbrook and Porthill)

CSO Lee Jones (Meole and Copthorne)

There were 28 members of the public in attendance.

## **ACTION**

### **1 Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.

### **2 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **4 Arriva Bus Service Review**

- 4.1 Gordon Frost, Area Bus Manager, explained that he was new in post in Shrewsbury and had brought a colleague with him who had detailed local knowledge of bus routes.

- 4.2 He was aware of changes made to routes in September and that some of these had been popular and others not so popular. A review would now be conducted by Arriva to see what had worked well and what had not worked so well.
- 4.3 Comments, concerns and suggestions were invited from members of the public and these included the following:
- Service 1 - now unreliable and timetable not robust enough
  - Why unscheduled services were put on to the hospital and back
  - Issues around route of Service 70 to Oswestry, Shepherds Lane and Welshpool Road
  - Why not choose one route to put all the non low floor buses on. At least then people would know what was coming.
  - The changed route of Service 12 which now only stopped at the bus station in one direction
  - Changes to service through Belle Vue past Louise House, meaning older people could no longer get there
  - Bicton Heath area did not have a local service any more
  - The importance of including non bus users in any consultation
  - If route 70 is to be re-routed, route 22 needs to be reinstated
  - pollution and the need for drivers to switch off the engine when not moving.
  - Why bus fares are so much more expensive, particularly single fares
- 4.4 A member of the public also asked why it was not possible to use park and ride services to travel from the town centre to Harlescott and Meole Brace. Martin Withington, Head of Transportation, Shropshire Council gave a brief response. *(His full response is detailed in the attached 'questions, comments, and suggestions' report).*
- 4.5 The Chairman asked how the public would find out about the outcomes of Arriva's review. Consultation would take place with Shropshire Council and detail of changes would be made available on Arriva buses website or by promotion on vehicles themselves. The Chairman asked that consideration be given to how these messages were relayed to the public, perhaps using local media.
- 4.6 The Chairman thanked the representatives of Arriva for attending the meeting and urged them to please try and resolve some of the issues raised. Mr Frost confirmed he would feed the comments and questions raised at the meeting into Arriva's review.

## **5 Budget Consultation**

- 5.1 Laura Rowley, Director of Resources, Shropshire Council, made a brief presentation on budget proposals for 2010/11 and the issues facing the Council. She answered questions and noted comments from members of the public and reported that an on-line budget simulator was available on the Council's website through which people could express their

views. She encouraged those present to contact the Council to register their views, all comments received would be looked at and fed into the budget process.

- 5.2 The Chairman felt that the proposed 1.29% increase in council tax for the area represented a reasonable balance and asked those present to indicate whether they also thought this figures was reasonable. He also asked for an indication of who would prefer a lower council tax rise, and who would prefer a higher council tax rise with improved services. This was the least popular option for those present.

- 5.3 The Chairman thanked the Director of Resources for attending the meeting.

## **6 Note of the Previous Meeting.**

### **6.1 RESOLVED:**

That the note of the meeting of the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook Local Joint Committee held on 21 October 2009 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

- 6.2 The Committee confirmed the action of the lead officer in agreeing the funding awarded to the Meole Scout and Guide Group at the last meeting and it was reported that a letter of thanks had been received.
- 6.3 An updated version of the completed Comments, Questions and Suggestions Action Sheet was attached to the note of the meeting. This provided details on the progress made in respect of the issues raised at the previous meeting.
- 6.4 The response made to issues around land on Fir Tree Farm was raised and a member of the public said his issue was not with a planning application made but with the designation given to this land in planning policy documents prepared by Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council.
- 6.5 The Chairman said that clarification would be provided on this in advance of the next meeting but this point was responded to later in the meeting (please see 8.4 - 8.6 below)
- 6.6 Another member of the public said he had raised a question about domestic violence figures at the last meeting and how these were recorded by the police. Jill Jones, Team Leader Community Regeneration, offered to share information on the Shropshire Domestic Violence Forum and PC Dulson confirmed that currently police statistics only recorded all assaults and did not separate domestic violence figures. A request was made for information on domestic violence incidents to be brought to the next meeting.

**Nick Taylor**

**Jill Jones**

**Gwyn Bevan/  
PC Dulson**

## **7 Local News**

- 7.1 Gwyn Bevan, Community Regeneration Officer reported on a consultation process currently underway by Community Involvement in Care and Health (CINCH) on care and health services. Surgeries would be held on this and would be publicised.

## **8 Public Question Time**

- 8.1 The Chairman invited questions from members of the public. Issues raised included:
- 8.2 Impact of loss of parking spaces at Royal Shrewsbury Hospital  
This had resulted in excessive parking in the area, with just one lane of traffic able to pass by parked cars in Crowmeole Lane. The Chairman reported that the Council was looking at extending yellow lines beyond the junction and a consultation would take place on this.
- 8.3 School drop off – Copthorne Road/Richmond Drive junction  
Parents were parking beyond the marked parking bays to drop children off at school and near the junction with Copthorne Park Road which was causing a hazard. It was thought it had been agreed that the Lower car park at The Beacon could be used for this purpose. It was agreed to look into this and report back.
- 8.4 Land at Fir Tree Farm  
The designation under the Local Plan for this area of land was questioned and whether it had changed and why there had been no public consultation if it had changed. The Chairman reiterated that the Local Joint Committee could not participate or comment on any regulatory matters or planning applications but asked the Lead Officer to generally explain the process for land designation.
- 8.5 Nick Taylor explained that a development brief for areas of land had been agreed by Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council following a period of consultation. However anyone could seek planning permission for any sort of development, and if it were approved, this could override any development brief for the land that currently existed.
- 8.6 Consultations always took place on any planning application and the Chairman emphasised that any interested parties to respond to the consultation on the planning application. When an application was determined, existing planning policies including any previous development briefs would be taken into account, along with results of public consultation and any other relevant studies. In terms of the land in question, Mr Taylor confirmed that the Council was not changing the brief for the land but the planning application on which the Council consulted could override this if granted.

## **9. Police Report**

- 9.1 PC Dulson reported that although police records did not match with the

**Gwyn Bevan**

LJC boundaries he was able to give a summary of crime in the area. He reported that PACT meetings took place once every three months and the views of the public were obtained at these meetings, as well as through surveys and Local Joint Committee meetings. This helped to decide where to target efforts.

- 9.2 He commented on work undertaken to combat the fear of burglary in the Bowbrook area. Although burglary figures were very low with only 1 or 2 a month, initiatives had been taken and advice given on preventative measures. This issue was still high on the agenda and work would continue.
- 9.3 A member of the public asked if the police were aware of anti social behaviour in the Bowbrook and Gains Park areas. PC Dulson confirmed that the police were aware and were targeting the area with visible patrols.
- 9.4 PC Dulson asked if there was anything that could be done to make people feel safer and encouraged members of the public to make contact whenever they had a concern.
- 9.5 There had been no spikes in the crime figures since the last meeting and crime in the area mostly took the form of theft from vehicles and sheds and criminal damage offences with about 5 reported each month.
- 9.6 Members of the public asked how intelligence was used to target individuals for drug enforcement action and about publicity around these. The Chairman asked PC Dulson to bring information back on drug issues to the next meeting
- 9.7 The Community Support Officer for Copthorne and Radbrook reported on a very low level of crime in the area and emphasised the importance of removing personal items from vehicles when leaving them parked.

**PC Dulson**

### **Fire Service**

- 9.8 Steve Cox from the Fire Authority reported that the amount of calls from the area were very low and reported on work underway to ensure all homes had working smoke alarms. Anyone could request a visit and the fire service could install smoke detectors free of charge.

## **10. Community Venues and Sports Facilities**

- 10.1 Gwyn Bevan, introduced a report (copy attached to the signed note) on work carried out since the last meeting looking into community venues and sports facilities in the area and a meeting held in December to take the work forward.
- 10.2 He thanked those who had participated so far for contributing and explained he was now scoping facilities in the whole of the town to see if there were any short term solutions to existing gaps in provision.

10.3	He explained the clear evidence of need required to take the process forward and referred to the Community Planning Toolkit, a nine step process which central government had identified as the best way to access funding. Work was currently at stage 2 of this process.	
10.4	Next steps would involve setting up a steering group to drive forward the plan.	Gwyn Bevan
10.5	In the short term he was able to report that it might be possible to use land at Shrewsbury Sports village for another cricket wicket and also possibly at the playing field at Radbrook.	
10.6	Members of the public asked about Shorncliffe Road as a potential site for a community venue. The Chairman explained that this was his preferred site but it was important to carry out an exercise to identify clearly what local people wanted.	
10.7	Members of the public also commented on funds available from a Section 106 agreement related to planning permission at the Shrewsbury Hospital site which it was hoped could be used for open space and community facilities.	
10.8	The report was noted and progress would be reported to future meetings.	
<b>11.</b>	<b>Applications for Funding</b>	
11.1	Nick Taylor introduced the report (a copy is attached to the signed note). which set out details of two grant funding applications that had been received.	
	<b>RESOLVED</b>	
	That the application for £6,000 for community planning activity within the LJC area, on behalf of the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook Community Planning Group be approved	
	That the application for £500 for the Time2PLAY Toy Library be deferred pending investigation of alternative sources of support	
<b>12</b>	<b>Future Agenda Items</b>	
12.1	It was suggested that the following be considered for agenda items at future meetings:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Voluntary organisations in the area – a report on what formal/informal voluntary activity was happening in area</li> </ul>	Gwyn Bevan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information on land ownership in Shorncliffe Drive and the area currently designated for a new school</li> </ul>	Nick Taylor
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mytton Oak Road – the dropped kerbs by the doctors surgery have</li> </ul>	Nick Taylor

now gone and the path is narrower, was this a deliberate change or a mistake by the contractor

- Allotments – who is responsible for delivery, will more become available, and is there a prospect of more by the hospice

**Members**

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m and the Chair thanked all present for attending.

**Chairman:**.....

**Date:**.....