

BOWBROOK, COPTHORNE, RADBROOK LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 19 MAY 2010 7.00 PM - 9.00 PM 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)

Officers Present:

Nick Taylor, Lead Officer

Gwyn Bevan, Community Regeneration Officer

Amanda Holyoak, Committee Officer

Gary Farmer, Operations Manager, Shrewsbury Town Council

West Mercia Officers Present:

PC Dulson

CSO Taylor

There were 29 members of the public present.

1. Election of Chairman

Mr Peter Nutting was elected Chairman.

2. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

There were no apologies.

3. Appointment of Vice Chairman

Mr Keith Roberts was appointed Vice-Chairman.

4. Welcome

The Chairman thanked all in attendance for coming and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

5. Declarations of Interest

ACTION

5.1	Mr Nutting declared a personal interest in item 7, Allotments and Shrewsbury in Bloom when it became apparent, as his wife had an allotment.	
6.	Young People's Issues	
6.1	The pressures of exam time meant that no young people from Radbrook Youth Club were present at the meeting to present their opinion on the local area but a list of their views was circulated to those present.	
6.2	The general view of the environment in Radbrook was positive and young people felt safe in the area. However issues flagged included: no sports facilities; no bmx track; no local facilities such as a swimming pool or bowling alley. They had said they wanted a live music gathering place, community barbecues, a sports centre, swimming pool, five a side football and a cricket team.	
6.3	The Chairman thanked the Community Regeneration Officer for establishing good links with the youth clubs in the LJC area and for gaining useful feedback. He said thought could be given to the possibility of finding some land for a BMX track.	Gwyn Bevan
7.	Reports from Police and Fire Service	
7.1	PC Dulson reported that in the Radbrook Area there had only been eight offences in April and one in May so far and that it was a very low crime area. In Bowbrook there had been 13 in April and four in May so far.	
7.2	He confirmed PC Grey was working on issues around parking at Bank Farm Road and Grange Road in liaison with the schools. Advice notices had been placed on cars inconsiderately parked on Bank Farm Road.	
7.4	A member of the public asked for information to be brought to meetings on crime detection figures. PC Dulson agreed to bring these but warned that some enquiries took a long time to resolve.	PC Dulson
7.5	The Chairman raised the Swiss Farm Road area around the hospital where cars often parked inconsiderately. He wondered if single yellow lines enforceable over a time limited period might be the way forward. PC Dulson said he did not think the local police team was likely to have any objection to this. This proposal would need to be investigated both by the police and Shropshire Council.	Nick Taylor
7.6	A member of the public also referred to issues previously raised regarding parking close to the schools in Copthorne Road and Richmond Drive. CSO Taylor reported that the Headteacher had been very helpful in addressing the problem and the school	

newsletter had been utilised to raise the issues of dangerous parking with parents.

- 7.7 Another issue raised was young adults driving in a dangerous manner in the car park at the rear of Shelton hospital. PC Dulson agreed to look into the issue and encouraged members of the public to note and report registration plate numbers.

**PC
Dulson**

Report from Fire Service

- 7.8 Steve Cox reported that there had been just two incidents between 1st Jan 2010 and 31st March 2010. These had both been accidental and there were no incidents of arson within the LJC area. Members of the public were reminded that the fire service would fit smoke alarms free of charge and could be contacted on 01743 260200.

8. Allotments and Shrewsbury in Bloom

Allotments

- 8.1 Gary Farmer, Operations Manager, Shrewsbury Town Council, explained that the Town Council was responsible for allotments over eight locations totalling 38 acres and 478 plots. An additional site at Bowbrook had recently been established.
- 8.2 Establishing new allotment areas was expensive, involving, for example, security fencing, drainage and compost toilets. However the Town Council took the issue seriously and was looking at possible expansion including at the site at Bowbrook.
- 8.3 The Town Council was to meet with individual allotment associations to discuss best practice and it was intended to produce a best practice guide and introduce an appeals process. It was reported that it was not intended to increase charges by any more than a small percentage.
- 8.4 There were over 100 people on waiting lists which were maintained by individual allotment associations. He acknowledged that some people were on more than one waiting list and that some people possessed a number of plots sometimes over different sites. There was no policy on this at the moment, but this was one of the issues under discussion.

Shrewsbury in Bloom

- 8.5 Mr Farmer explained that Shrewsbury in Bloom involved a group of volunteers from all sectors of the community. He explained the core pillars of the judging criteria but felt it should be viewed as a campaign rather than a competition as it was about community groups getting together and leading by example.

- 8.6 Questions were asked about the new glass house complex in Shrewsbury, the costs of this and where the flowers grown in them were located. Questions were also asked about the cost of participating in 'In Bloom', particularly in the current financial situation.
- 8.7 Mr Farmer explained the costs of the glass houses and acknowledged that the majority of flowers were located in the town centre. However, the Shrewsbury in Bloom Committee was open to suggestions for improvements in all areas of the town and it was up to the community to identify locations and take steps to make a bid as was being done by Mountfield residents.
- 8.8 The location of flowers and appearance of entry roads to the town was also discussed. The lead officer of the Committee agree to contact the highways department about the old A5 from Roman Road to Meole Brace Roundabout where daffodil bulbs had not been replaced following road and gas works.
- 8.9 The Chairman said that the Committee would give some thought to daffodil bulbs and planting of other flowers within the LJC area.
- 8.10 Mr Farmer was thanked for attending the meeting.

Nick Taylor

Committee
Members

9. Note of Last Meeting

- 9.1 The note of the meeting held on 18 March 2010 was confirmed as a correct record.

10. Public Question Time

- 10.1 The Chairman raised the issue of parking on the large paved area by Mytton Oak Road shops where some bollards had been removed. He asked if action could be taken to reinstate the bollards.
- 10.2 A member of the public asked if the number of LJC's was to be reduced. The Chairman reported that this was still under discussion but the current arrangement would stand for this year.
- 10.3 Questions were also asked about the Central, North and South Partnerships which were to be disbanded and the costs of running the Shropshire Partnership. The Chairman pointed out that this was not an issue local to BCR LJC.
- 10.4 Members of the public asked if Shropshire Council would have a regular question and answer public meeting as SABC had done. The Lead Officer said that the annual consultation process for the

Jason
Hughes

budget would provide a mechanism for the public to express their views.

- 10.5 A member of the public asked about the route of the 70 bus service through Shelton which had been cut back from five an hour. Mr Adams said the service along Calcot Lane had been withdrawn, all 70 buses would now go down the old A5 to Oxon to Oxon business Park and then turn around. He understood that there was still to be a half hourly service.
- 10.6 In response to a question about the real time bus information boards, the Chairman explained that the contract to maintain them had been withdrawn to achieve savings.
- 10.7 A member of the public asked when plastic bottles would be collected. There had been a recent successful trial and it was thought that this would be around October or November time.

11. Local Development Framework - Site Allocation and Management of Development Consultation

- 11.1 Members of the public were circulated with a document asking for views on issues and options for the Site Allocations and Management of Development Plan (SAMDEV) Document for the Shrewsbury and Bayston Hill area. The consultation would run until 25 June 2010.
- 11.2 The SAMDEV showed where allocations of individual sites had been identified for development to take place. The consultation had been divided into LJC areas and the Shrewsbury area included Bayston Hill.
- 11.3 The Committee and members of the public examined a map on page 10 which showed areas including those designated as sustainable urban extension (black hatching) and as potential housing sites (red hatching). The area between Welshpool Road and the new link road (possible part of the North West Relief Road), Churncote roundabout to Holyhead Road had been highlighted as sustainable urban extension areas with a mixture of housing, services, and park and ride service.
- 11.4 The Council was particularly seeking views on the red hatched sites which had been suggested by landowners for housing development.

Questions, comments and issues raised by members of the Committee and members of the public included:

- Were the black hatched areas on the map likely to happen and more likely than the red areas to be developed for housing
- Had there been duplication of work with that undertaken by Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council on the 'Vision for

Shrewsbury' .

- Why was there no mention of the future of education provision in the document
- The importance of not making short term decisions about schools in the town if housing was to increase
- Was the black hatched area to the west of the town dependent on the North West Relief Road being built
- What percentage of the red hatched land would be needed to provide enough housing
- What percentage of new housing would be affordable
- Was there any provision for a significant leisure facility in the area similar bearing in mind the poor leisure and recreation facilities in the area
- How much employment land would there be and where would it go
- Was the number of houses expected to be built based on what central government wanted or what was right for Shropshire
- What would the impact of the sustainable urban extensions be on roads approaching and traffic in the town centre

11.5 In response, Mr Taylor explained that many of the red hatched 'potential housing sites' areas were unlikely to be taken forward for development. However, more than just the black hatched areas would be needed to reach housing targets. It was not possible to say in percentage terms how much of the red hatched areas would be needed.

11.6 He explained that the same consultants used for the 'Vision of Shrewsbury' had been engaged again and work on the Vision would be fed in to the consultation. The Development Plan was a legal requirement whereas the Shrewsbury Vision was not constrained by Planning legislation and could be complementary to it.

11.7 He confirmed said there was a policy in the Core Strategy linking education and learning with development of housing.

11.8 The black hatched area in the west of the town was not dependent on the North West Relief Road but that there should be enough value in developer's contributions to pay for a bypass of the Welshpool road.

11.9 Mr Taylor reported that the Core Strategy set out that 35% of new housing should be affordable.

11.10 Mr Taylor encouraged members of the public to make their views known, for example with regard to the lack of leisure facilities in the LJC area. It might be that developers could be asked to make contributions related to leisure.

11.11 The figure for housing development in Shropshire had been agreed via the West Midlands Regional Plan. It had been generally accepted

that this was about the right figure.

11.12 Mr Taylor acknowledged that traffic congestion could rise and that the NWRR would help relieve this. Developers would be expected to pay for road junction improvements in the major areas of development.

11.13 The black hatched areas would include a significant amount of employment land and at least one more high quality business park.

11.14 Mr Taylor thanked those present for comments made and encouraged completion and return of the consultation form.

13. North West Relief Road Update

13.1 Nick Taylor provided a brief update on the North West Relief Road. The Department for Transport had recently announced that it would not accept any new business cases for roads from Local Authorities pending a review of finance and priorities.

13.2 The design and business case for the North West Relief Road had therefore been put on hold. The future of the road was now dependent on government priorities

13.3 In response to questions from the members Mr Taylor said spending on preparation for the business case was being managed very carefully.

14. Local News and Information from Members

14.1 Mr Roberts reported that Crowmeole Lane had been resurfaced and remarked and confirmed that it would not be closed to two way traffic as had been proposed.

14.2 He also reported on traffic issues at the junction of Bank Farm Road and Radbrook Road.

14.3 Mr Adams reported that two more dog mess bins were to be installed in Gains Park to meet demand. He also had been looking into the planning regime around small businesses operating from home and had met with the relevant Portfolio Holder to consider the law which appeared to be out of date.

14.4 Mr Nutting reported on the on-going work in securing a community centre in the area. He also reported that a planning application was in for land at Darwin's Wood for 25 houses, nine of which would be affordable.

15. Update from Community Regeneration Officer

- 15.1 Gwyn Bevan, Community Regeneration Officer, reported that he was working with both young people's and older people's groups so he could bring their views to LJC meetings even if they were not able to attend themselves.
- 15.2 He circulated a draft of the community planning questionnaire and encouraged anyone interested to come along to meetings which were held on the last Wednesday of every month at the Inn on the Green at 7pm.
- 15.3 It was hoped to distribute the questionnaire towards the end of July and the focus would be on recreation, sports facilities and health issues. He invited suggestions for other areas to cover. The outcome of the questionnaire would provide evidence for future bids for funding.
- 15.4 He offered to attend any local groups or help out with any local problems.
- 15.5 The Chairman thanked Mr Bevan for his hard work in the area, particularly in relation to recent anti- social behaviour issues, and tidy up campaigns.

**Gwyn
Bevan**

16. Grant Applications

- 16.1 Nick Taylor introduced a report on grant funding applications made to the Committee (a copy is attached to the signed note of the meeting).

The Committee considered the applications and

RESOLVED

- A that funding of £2,036 be awarded to the SAHA Football Club
- B that funding of £1,591 be awarded to Meole Brace Garden and Allotment Club
- C that an application from Shrewsbury Children's Bookfest for £500 be turned down as the event had no particular connection with the LJC area.

**Nick
Taylor**

17. Dates of future meetings

Tues 6 July 2010 at 7pm at Oxon Old School Hall *(changed from Thursday 15 July 2010)*
Thursday 14 October 2010 at 7.00 pm at Radbrook Primary School
Thursday 17 February 2011 at 7.00 pm at Oxon Old School Hall