

BOWBROOK, COPTHORNE, RADBROOK LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 6 JULY 2010 7.00 PM - 8.35 PM AT RADBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Responsible Officer: Amanda Holyoak
e-mail: amanda.holyoak@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: (01743) 252718

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

There were 17 members of the public present.

1. Chairman's welcome

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

2. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

There were no apologies from members of the Committee.
Apologies for absence were received from several members of the public.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Note of the Previous Meeting

- 4.1 The note of the previous meeting held on 19 May 2010 was confirmed as a correct record. Councillor Roberts reported that the 'In Bloom' judging would take place on Tuesday 20 July.

5. Reports from Police and Fire Service

ACTION

- 5.1 Gwyn Bevan, Community Regeneration Officer, reported that unfortunately there were no representatives from West Mercia Police in attendance due to a recent serious incident under investigation.
- 5.2 PC Gray who served the Radbook and Copthorne areas had supplied crime figures for April, May and June. There was an overall decrease in crime figures on the previous year of 53.8%. All crime reported was down apart from anti social behaviour which had seen an increase in 17%, linked to World Cup football high spirits.
- 5.3 PC Gray had reported that she continued to work with schools, the hospital and Shropshire Council on parking issues, particularly in Swiss Farm Road and Bank Farm Road.
- 5.4 PC Dulson, who served the Bowbrook area of town had reported that crime figures were also down on last year by 35.7%. The increase in burglary by 25% and robbery by 100% were caused by one offence only in each of these categories. Anti social behaviour had also seen an increase by 20%, for the reason outlined above.
- 5.5 There were now more patrols by the shops in the Gains Park area and people challenged had often been from outside the area.
- 5.6 In response to a request for information on detection rates made at the last meeting, it was noted that detection rates for Shrewsbury were 30.6%, for the county as a whole 27.5% and the national average just over 20%.
- 5.7 The Community Regeneration Officer agreed to ask PC Gray and PC Dulson to supply a break down of the nature of offences in the area.
- 5.8 Simon Roberts from the Fire Service reported that there were no issues of concern in the area covered by the LJC and any incidents attended had been very minor. Members of the public were reminded that the fire service would fit smoke alarms free of charge and could be contacted on 01743 260200.

**Gwyn
Bevan/
WMP**

6. Local News and Information

- 6.1 Mr Adams said he had experienced problems obtaining answers to his questions regarding reduction of speed limits on roads in the Gains Park Area. He reported that he intended to express his dissatisfaction with the lack of response to date to the Leader of the Council.
- 6.2 Members of the public expressed disappointment with the length of time taken to obtain a response on these questions and discussed what should be an acceptable response time. The Lead Officer for the Committee agreed it was not acceptable to wait for a long time for

a response to an enquiry and said he would look into these issues and obtain the information required.

6.3

Mr Adams also reported that the Bickton Heath Community Hall was very short of people to help run it. It was hoped to reconstitute a management committee with additional volunteers. Mr Adams invited anyone interested in this to make contact with him.

6.4

Mr Roberts was pleased to report on the additional five dog waste bins to be installed in the Radbrook area. He understood that the extension of the speed limit and installation of Toucan Crossing on Radbrook road would be in place by Autumn.

6.5

Mr Nutting reported on the planning application at Darwin's Wood which would probably be dealt with by the Central Planning Committee on 5 August 2010.

6.6

He also reported that he would be meeting with Daniel Kawczynski MP and Bob Neill, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, to discuss issues regarding Town Councils. Some legislation was now out of date and unsuitable for large Town Councils which was impacting on efficiency and finances. It was also hoped to propose delegation of some services to the Town Council.

6.7

The Lead Officer for the Committee, Nick Taylor, provided an update on the following issues:

6.8

North West Relief Road

In late April 2010, the Council had been notified that no new road schemes would be considered until after the next Comprehensive Spending Review. The Council had decided in response to that letter to complete work underway on the consultation but to stop work on the Business Case and appointment of a contractor. The outcome of the public consultation process would be reported to the Development Services Scrutiny Committee on 13 July 2010 and Cabinet on 4 August 2010.

Mr Nutting referred to the development plan in the Shrewsbury Vision which included a link road from Churncote to Shelton likely to be built to serve new housing.

6.9

Shelton Hospital

Planning permission had been approved pending a Section 106 agreement for off site highway improvements and further ecological investigations were to be carried out. In response to a question it was reported that the NHS Trust had not yet confirmed that the scheme would go ahead.

It was not thought there was any threat to the land used as a sporting facility although land ownership issues were still to be determined.

6.10 Allotments

Shrewsbury Town Council and Shropshire Council were currently considering a land swap which had now been agreed in principle to allow extension of allotment land.

6.11 Pre School Provision - Oxon School

The move of pre-school provision at Bicton Heath to premises on the site of Oxon Primary School had been delayed due to the presence of great crested newts on the site which have had to be relocated. It was hoped that the building work would commence very soon and be complete early in the new academic year. It was thought that the pre-school would move in to the demountable around October half term.

Mr Adams asked if Early World was moving out of its current location and asked officers to find out and let him know.

Nick Taylor

7 Public Question Time

7.1 A member of the public asked about what appeared to be a number of consultations in the last few years which appeared to him to be covering the same ground. He also wished to know the terms of reference for the consultants currently carrying out consultation work.

7.2 Nick Taylor explained that planning exercises took place as circumstances changed and plans were reviewed, updated and replaced. Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council had a Local Plan and Shropshire Council were now preparing a core strategy for the whole of Shropshire. Businesses and people in Shrewsbury had wanted a clear vision for the town as soon as possible, not when the Local Development Framework was adopted in 2011 and not limited to issues that could be included in a statutory plan.

7.3 Consultants had been engaged with specific expertise and consultation events were held to bring up ideas, issues and options for the future of Shrewsbury, so that anyone could have a say. It was agreed to provide the terms of reference given to the consultants.

Nick Taylor

7.4 It was confirmed that 'Planning for a Flourishing Shropshire' was another stage in the development of the statutory development plan for Shropshire which would be adopted in 2012 at the earliest.

7.5 Members of the public asked about the target set for new 27,500 new houses in the county and whether this was still a mandatory figure. It

was confirmed that this figure set through the regional strategy was now advisory, rather than mandatory. However, the County and District Councils had felt that this figure was appropriate for the needs of the county over the next 20 years and would be tested at Public Inquiry in the Autumn.

- 7.6 A member of the public asked questions about Council Member and Officer travel expenses. It was confirmed that first class train travel was not permitted.
- 7.7 Mr Selby Martin, a member of the public who was not able to attend the meeting had some submitted some questions by e-mail.
- 7.8 In response to these it was confirmed that at the Radbrook Homes block of flats there were a number of different lights, street lighting and wall lights. The wall light sets were now at the right angle to stop any light going out of the curtilage of the premises. The other lights could be turned off but that would be up to the development management company looking after the site. The Pollution Control Officer believed that there was no environmental health problem or issue at this development.
- 7.9 Mr Martin had also submitted a question about a condition for the erection of the flats which had been provision of a play area which had not yet been provided and suggested that enforcement action was needed. It had not been possible to get an update on the situation before the meeting and the following information was obtained after the meeting:
- There is a current planning application to remove the planning condition under consideration therefore any potential enforcement action is on hold. Officers were holding discussions and would be making a recommendation soon.*
- 7.10 The Chair of the Shrewsbury Tidy Group thanked the Community Regeneration Officer for all his work and referred to the flower beds at the top of the Mount. In response to concerns raised at the previous meeting about daffodils lost following work on local roads by utility companies, it was suggested that a bid be put in to the LJC for bulbs. Mr Roberts suggested that it would be more appropriate for a bid be made to Shrewsbury in Bloom. It was also suggested that the utility company that had dug up the daffodils should be obliged to replace them.
- 7.11 The Chairman asked the Lead Officer to write to the Utility Company responsible on behalf of the LJC to ask them to rectify the situation Mr Taylor agreed to do this but warned that he could not guarantee that like for like reinstatement would be achieved.
- 7.12 Flowers to follow daffodils were also discussed and a member of the public suggested propagation of shrubs in the glass house complex

**Nick
Taylor**

over the summer months which could then be used to reinforce the hedgerows along Gains Park Way.

- 7.13 It was confirmed that residents from all over Shrewsbury could approach Shrewsbury in Bloom for funds, not just residents of the town centre. The Chairman agreed to speak to the Operations Manager at the Town Council regarding horticultural issues.

**Peter
Nutting**

8 Update from Community Regeneration Officer

- 8.1 Gwyn Bevan, Community Regeneration Officer, reported on his continued work with young people's and older people's groups.
- 8.2 He reported on progress in tackling anti social behaviour issues and the Community Led Planning Process. The proposed questionnaire for circulation to all households in the area had been tested and would be finalised shortly. The target date for circulation was 1 September 2010 and it was hoped it would evidence the need for community and sporting facilities in the area. It was hoped that an initial report could be made to the October LJC meeting.

9 Grant Applications

- 9.1 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 £2,876.25 be awarded to the Gains Park and Radbrook Youth Clubs to contribute to refurbishment of the BMX Track at Shorncliffe Drive

B that funding of £4,800 be awarded to the Community Working Team to provide 12 additional combined litter/dog mess bins across the LJC area

It was confirmed that some consultation had already taken place with regard to siting of the bins and anyone with any views were invited to let Gwyn Bevan know.

10. Dates of future meetings

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

Chairman:..... **Date:**.....

