

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

## **NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 14 OCTOBER 2010 7.00 PM - 8.45 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

There were approximately 20 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**

Mr Nutting declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in the application for a grant from Bowbrook Allotment Community as he and his wife had an allotment at Bowbrook. He left the meeting whilst this item was discussed.

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

- 4.1 The note of the previous meeting held on 6 July 2010 was confirmed as a correct record.

*It was agreed that the Grant Applications Report be considered as the next item at the request of one of the applicants*

### **ACTION**

## **5. Decision Report - Grant Applications**

- 5.1 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 £2,000 be awarded to Shrewsbury Handbells for purchase of new bells plus music
- B that the application for £1,000 from Shrewsbury Operatic Society be refused but that an offer be made to reconsider the application in the event that the society incurs a loss on its production
- C that funding of £185.71 be awarded to the Shropshire Army Cadet Force Band and Bugles on condition that at least three other LJC's also contribute similar amounts
- D that the approval of a grant of £700 for noticeboard and signage be referred to Cabinet for approval, as the Committee was not quorate for this decision, as the Chairman had declared a personal and prejudicial interest and withdrawn from the meeting.
- E that funding of £1,200 be awarded to Trinity Churches Café Connect at Radbrook Green
- F that the original amount applied for of £1,900 be awarded to Edgefield Green Fingers Garden Club
- G That a grant of £3,000 plus a further £1 for every additional £1 raised by the church, up to a maximum of £3,000 be awarded to Oxon Church Community Hall
- H That the application from St Winefrides Roman Catholic Church for £1,000 towards reconstruction of car park and construction of extension be turned down on the grounds that this application was not as high priority as facilities within the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook LJC area.
- I That an application for £833.33 for creation of 'digital hotdesk' at DASH SPACE in Monkmoor for purchase of digital media equipment and software be turned down on the grounds that usage of the facility by groups and individuals beyond the Monkmoor area was not clear.

Members of the Committee asked that Cabinet be informed of their frustration that they were not able to make a decision on application D as the meeting was deemed to be inquorate at that point as a

result of the arrangements in the Council's Constitution for Local Joint Committees.

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

The note of the previous meeting was agreed as a correct record. Updates on the comments, questions and suggestions made at the meeting were noted.

## **7. Reports from Police and Fire Service**

- 7.1 PC Michelle Morris new Local Police Officer for the Copthorne/Meole area introduced herself. She reported that there had been a decrease in overall crime in the area over the last 12 months. This was felt to be a result of good partnership working and the work of the Community Support Officers.
- 7.2 There had however been an increase in anti social behaviour but this was probably a result of increased confidence in reporting crime. Police Officers worked closely with Severnside Housing Association and Neighbourhood Standards agreements were used where necessary.
- 7.3 PC Morris reported that police surgeries provided an opportunity for people to raise issues with both Local Police Officers and Community Support Officers. These were held at Café Connect every second Wednesday of the month and at the Co-op on Mytton Oak Road on the first Wednesday of every month. Attendance at surgeries and PACT meetings was fairly low. Timing and venues of meetings were discussed but those present suggested that low attendance might be because crime was not a significant problem in the area.
- 7.4 A member of the public said there had been an occasional problem involving youths throwing beer bottles in the road and blocking cars. Reference was also made to a recent incident involving around 100 people although it was understood that no arrests had been made. PC Morris said she would look into this to establish the background.
- 7.5 The Chairman said his perception was that crime was not a real problem in the area and he was not surprised there was low attendance at meetings. He encouraged sharing of information with the police at LJC meetings.
- 7.6 Mr Adams felt that introduction of Community Support Officers had been a great success particularly in Gains Park. Anti social behaviour and drug problems had been addressed successfully. He suggested that CSOs might use their powers more frequently, for example, in issuing fixed penalty notices for those not using dog mess bins. He also suggested that the media be informed of such activity.

**PC  
Morris**

## **Fire Service**

- 7.7 Alex Howell from Shropshire Fire Service reported that there had been six serious fires in the last three months, five had been accidental and one had been a primary fire related to anti social behaviour.
- 7.8 He also reported on actions undertaken by the Fire Service in preparation for 5<sup>th</sup> November, including press releases and advice on storage of combustible materials. Any build up of rubbish reported by CSOs or the public would be cleared the next day. Any fire not supervised by an adult in a public place would be extinguished.
- 7.9 Members of the public were reminded that the fire service would still fit smoke alarms free of charge and could be contacted on 01743 260200.
- 7.10 The Chairman commented on fireworks let off late at night and PC Morris said she would check if there was a legal curfew on fireworks after a certain time.

**PC  
Morris**

## **8. Local News and Information**

- 8.1 Mr Roberts reported that the new dog waste bins would be multi use, suitable for both litter and dog waste. Five would be made available in Radbrook, two in Copthorne and five in Bowbrook.
- 8.2 He had obtained a large number of crocus bulbs from Shrewsbury in Bloom and had organised for local children to plant them around the pond area. He also reported that the planned toucan crossing would not be progressed until funding available was established.
- 8.3 Mr Adams reported that he had heard that the North West Relief Road was very unlikely to go ahead. He referred to the £50 million potential investment in the 'new Shelton hospital' but believed that work at Racecourse Lane had currently halted due to an issue related to greater crested newts.
- 8.4 Mr Adams also reported that he had walked the Gains Park area with maintenance staff and as a result vegetation had been cut back, access paths maintained and action taken to address diseased trees. The five additional dog waste bins would be installed on Oxon football pitch and would be emptied once a week.
- 8.5 Mr Adams said he wished to find out who was responsible for emptying the wheely bins on the A5. He felt that overflowing rubbish at these locations let the town down and he requested that a letter be sent to the appropriate person or agency requesting them to look at their arrangements.
- 8.6 Mr Nutting reported that it was likely that there would be some school closures and amalgamations in Shropshire. There was no threat to

**Nick  
Taylor**

	schools in the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook part of town, in fact schools in the area were full and more capacity was needed.	
8.7	Mr Nutting referred to the difficult financial situation facing Shropshire Council and advised that this would impact on services provided. He said it was likely that some local services would transfer from Shropshire Council to the Town Council. It was agreed that an update on the budget situation be provided to the next meeting	Nick Taylor
<b>9.</b>	<b>Update from Community Regeneration Officer</b>	
9.1	Gwyn Bevan, Community Regeneration Officer, informed the meeting of the workshops taking place throughout November in preparation for the Shropshire Olympian Festival taking place in the Quarry park in Shrewsbury in June 2011.	
9.2	He was pleased to report that there had been 1,297 responses to the Community Led Planning questionnaire . 198 residents had also expressed an interest in getting involved. Inputting the data from the questionnaires was a time consuming process which would partly be undertaken by the Community Council. The Community Led Planning Steering Group would also approach local groups to provide some assistance with this work. The results would help to identify the needs in the area and provide evidence when seeking funding for bigger projects.	
9.3	The prize draw for questionnaires returned from Porthill, Radbrook, Copthorne and Bowbrook was drawn by visitors to the meeting from Edgefield Green Sheltered Housing.	
9.4	Those present noted that the BMX track at Shorncliffe Drive was used extensively and although there had been a litter issue, it had recently had a thorough clean. Users of the track had been promised improvements if the site was kept clean and tidy. The track had contributed to a decrease in anti social behaviour, helped keep young people in the area healthy and safe and was overall a well used and fantastic facility.	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Public Question Time</b>	
10.1	A member of the public expressed concern about cycling to Oxon School with her children as the route now involved crossing a heavy plant crossing, just off of Sommerby Drive next to the land where work was taking place. She asked why a new path had not been installed already.	
10.2	The Community Regeneration Officer said he would look into this and agreed to report back directly to the person who asked the question.	Gwyn Bevan
10.3	The re-routing of the number 70 bus meant that some bus shelters had become redundant. A member of the public suggested that one of these could be re-located alongside the nursery by Welshpool	Nick Taylor and

- Road and it was agreed to look into this.
- 10.4 A question was asked about the progress towards a Community Centre at Shorncliffe Drive. The Chairman explained that the Community Planning Process had involved circulation of the recent questionnaire. If results from the questionnaire showed demand for a Community Centre this could be used as evidence when seeking funding. The Community Regeneration Officer reported that it looked as if that theme was emerging.
- 10.5 The issue of parking in residential roads was raised, particularly in the Swiss Farm Road and Westhope Avenue area where changes in bus routes had exacerbated existing problems. The Chairman said there was no obvious answer to these issues as solutions such as yellow lines or permits would need to be enforced and could adversely affect residents.
- 10.6 Other road and traffic issues were raised, including speeding traffic in the area including at Edgefield Green, and the change of use of some roads due to hospital traffic which was potentially dangerous. Mr Adams said he still wished to know why new limits on Sommerby Way, Gains Park Way and Welshpool Road had not been addressed. The Community Regeneration Officer also reported that speeding was emerging as an area of concern from questionnaire responses.
- It was agreed that the next meeting should include an agenda item on both Parking and Speeding.
- 10.7 A letter was read out from Mr Selby Martin who was unable to attend the meeting. He raised the matter of Meole Brace Golf Course which he understood had been subject to offers from developers for housing development. He said this had implications for the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook LJC area as if the golf course were to move it was likely there would be pressure for it to be located in the Nobold area.
- 10.8 The Chairman reported that he had asked a question at the Council meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010 and had been informed that an unsolicited approach had been made to the Council by a third party interested in acquiring the golf course. He had been told that no decision had been made on the long term future of the golf course.
- 11. Date of Next Meeting**
- Thursday 17 February 2011 at 7.00 pm at Oxon Old School Hall.

**Cllr  
Nutting**

**Nick  
Taylor**