



<u>Committee and Date</u> Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley and Claverley Local Joint Committee 16 September 2009 7.00 p.m.
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<u>Item/Paper</u> 3 Public

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NOTES OF ACTIONS AND DECISIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 2 JULY 2009 AT WESTGATE, BRIDGNORTH
7.00 – 8.25 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Shropshire Council

John Hurst-Knight
Christian Lea
William Parr
Les Winwood
Tina Woodward

Town/Parish Councils

David Voysey, Alveley and Romsley Parish Council
Simon Elcock, Astley Abbots Parish Council
David Tooth, Beckbury Parish Council
Geoff Bodenham, Bridgnorth Town Council
Richard Cotham, Claverley Parish Council
Isabelle Faithful, Quatt Malvern Parish Council
Malcolm Duff-Walker, Ryton and Grindle Parish Council
John Owen, Stockton Parish Council
Len Ball, Worfield Parish Council

Shropshire Council Officers present:

Michael Hyatt, Lead Officer
Helen Powell, Support Officer
John Hodgkinson, Community Working Manager – Southern Area
Vicky Turner, Community Regeneration Officer
Anne Cousins, Committee Officer (Notes)

West Mercia Police:

Sgt Bob Matthews
PC Richard Wood (Bridgnorth Town)
PC Matt Picken (Bridgnorth Rural East)
CSO Sue Eden (Bridgnorth Rural East)

There were approximately 12 members of the public present at the meeting.

ACTION

1. Election of Chair

There were two nominations for Chair, Cllr John Hurst-Knight and Cllr Christian Lea.

It was resolved that Cllr Christian Lea be elected Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Michael Wood, Shropshire Council.

3. Appointment of Vice Chair

It was proposed, seconded and duly resolved that Cllr Mrs Tina Woodward be appointed Vice Chair for the ensuing municipal year.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Chairman's Welcome and Constitution of Local Joint Committee

- 5.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, including members of the public and new members of the Committee, and set out the purpose and powers of the meeting.

6. Public Question Time and Identification of Future Agenda Items

- 6.1 Issues raised by members of the public included the difficulty experienced in renewing a Leisure Card in Bridgnorth and a request to receive clear guidance from Shropshire Council on the use of signs and billboards on verges and pavements. Michael Hyatt, Lead Officer, undertook to pursue these matters further with relevant Shropshire Council officers.

- 6.2 Future agenda items suggested were:

- Rights of Way issues
- Roads and speed limits
- Culture and leisure facilities available in the area
- Health issues and involvement of PCT
- Police finance
- Invitations to local schools to encourage their participation

7. Key Current Policing Issues – PACT (Partners and Communities Together)

- 7.1 Sgt Bob Matthews, West Mercia Police, introduced his colleagues from the local policing team and gave a brief explanation of the PACT process. He explained PACT meetings gave people the opportunity to raise any issues of concern with the police and the top three priorities raised were then dealt with. As well as PACT meetings, there were PACT survey forms and a weekly police surgery at the library.

MH

7.2 It was agreed the PACT meeting would take place for the first ten minutes of future Local Joint Committee meetings.

ACTION

8. Funding Guidelines 2009/10

8.1 Michael Hyatt, Lead Officer, introduced this item and set out the process by which organisations could apply for funding from the £71,000 budget available. Application forms were available from Vicky Turner, Community Regeneration Officer, or the Shropshire Council website (www.shropshire.gov.uk).

8.2 It was agreed the deadline for receipt of applications to be considered at the September meeting would be **Monday 17 August 2009**.

ALL

8.3 Members of the Committee were informed that the application form and financial guidelines had been standardised for all 28 Local Joint Committees across the county. It was up to Members to decide if they wished to set any additional criteria.

8.4 Members of the public raised concerns about funding for small organisations in the Bridgnorth area which had previously received grant assistance from Bridgnorth District Council. These organisations were now being told by Shropshire Council that they should seek funding from the Local Joint Committee. Members of the Committee felt it was unrealistic to expect the £71,000 Local Joint Committee budget to be able to cover all the various sources of funding which had previously been available from the District Council.

8.5 Rachel Humphries, Town Clerk, Bridgnorth Town Council, and Vicky Turner, Community Regeneration Officer, offered to meet any organisations with funding requirements to discuss options with them. Anyone interested was invited to contact either Rachel (01746 762231) or Vicky (Tel 01746 713129).

RH/VT

8.7 There was discussion about how the creation of the unitary authority had affected Bridgnorth and members of the public commented that they felt disenfranchised. There was a particular perception that Bridgnorth had suffered financially since the demise of Bridgnorth District Council and that other areas in the county had done much better in comparison. It was suggested that the Director of Resources be invited to attend the next meeting of the Local Joint Committee.

MH

9. Name of Committee

It was agreed the name of the Committee should be Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley and Claverley Local Joint Committee.

10. Dates of Meetings in 2009/10

10.1 The dates of future meetings were noted.

10.2 It was agreed the venue for the next meeting on 16 September 2009 would be Worfield Village Hall. In response to a request from a member of the public, it was agreed maps would be included with the agenda papers.

ACTION

AC

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....