



<u>Committee and Date</u>
Broseley and Barrow Local Joint Committee
21 September 2011
7.00 pm

<u>Item/Paper</u>
3
Public

NOTE OF ACTIONS AND DECISIONS FROM THE MEETING OF THE BROSELEY AND BARROW LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE HELD ON 26 APRIL 2011 AT 7.00 P.M. AT WILLEY AND DISTRICT VILLAGE HALL WILLEY, BROSELEY

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Present

Mr D Armstrong, Mrs S Gibbons Dr J E Jones (Chair) Mrs S King, Mr I Pickles and Mr P M Whiteman OBE

There were approximately 35 members of the public at the meeting.

		Action
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies for Absence/Substitutions</p> <p>The Chair reported that Mr Armstrong was attending the meeting in place of Mr Robinson who had resigned from Broseley Town Council. There were two vacancies in Broseley East Ward on the Town Council if anyone was interested in serving their community.</p> <p>It was noted that Shropshire Council had agreed that with effect from 1 April 2011, Broseley and Much Wenlock electoral divisions should join together to create one Local Joint Committee which would operate on a two zone principle (Broseley and Barrow LJC and Much Wenlock and Shipton LJC). The Broseley and Barrow Local Joint Committee would meet twice a year chaired by the elected Shropshire Council member for Broseley.</p>	
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Mrs King declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the agenda item concerning school re-organisation proposals as a governor of Barrow C E Primary School. (She left the room during the discussion).</p> <p>Dr Jones declared a personal interest as a governor of a school at Broseley which might or might not be affected by the proposals.</p>	

3.	<p>Appointment of Vice-Chairman</p> <p><u>RESOLVED</u> : That Mrs King be appointed Vice-Chair for the ensuing year.</p>	
4.	<p>Note</p> <p><u>RESOLVED</u> : That, subject to the inclusion of Mr Pickles in the list of members present, the note of the last meeting held on 2 February 2011 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</p>	
5.	<p>Social Housing</p> <p>Viv Marriott, Housing Services Manager, explained that a choice based letting scheme was operated in Shropshire. Shropshire Council advertised all their properties through Shropshire Home Point. All lettings were based on housing need. Leaflets were available at the meeting which explained how to apply for housing and how the need was determined through bandings.</p> <p>Members of the public raised concerns about the allocation of properties in Broseley which belonged to South Staffordshire Housing Association. The Chair explained that the criteria for letting these properties were decided by the Town Council. Viv Marriott reported that there were 10,000 people on the waiting list. In the former Bridgnorth District Council area there were 363 houses managed by Landlord Services, but in the previous year only 21 properties in the Broseley area had become vacant. Sixteen had been let to people locally and five to people living in Shropshire. Three of these had been allocated bungalows in view of their high medical needs.</p> <p>Viv Marriott explained that the Localism Bill contained plans to reform social housing. The Council now had the opportunity to build social housing again. The audience asked how many people/young people living in Broseley were registered with Home Point. Viv Marriott agreed to obtain this information and report back.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED</u> : Viv Marriott be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to give information and explore the local need for young people if required.</p>	VM

<p>6.</p>	<p>School Re-organisation Proposals</p> <p>It was reported that on 15 February 2011 Shropshire Council's Cabinet had approved consultations on various proposals for school organisation changes. One involved a potential statutory proposal for the closure of Barrow CE Primary School based on the data and application of the school organisation criteria approved by Council on 11 November 2010. Pre-statutory consultation had occurred between 28 February 2011 and 8 April 2011. This had included a meeting at Barrow School for staff, governors and parents on 9 March.</p> <p>The Chair stated that a report on the consultations, with recommendations, would be made to Cabinet at their meeting on 4 May 2011. The recommendations would be made public at 12 noon on the following day. This LJC meeting was not part of the consultative process.</p> <p>Critical comments were made from the audience about how the consultation process undertaken by Shropshire Council had been handled and how the outcome was being communicated. Barrow Primary School had served the local community with a high standard of education for four hundred years, but the changes of headteachers in recent years had contributed to falling pupil numbers. A request was made that the Committee should support the school's retention.</p> <p>The Chair repeated that LJC's were not part of the consultative mechanism and it was unfair to ask members to come to a conclusion on the issue in the absence of detailed information. An education officer was also not present to answer any questions.</p> <p>Mr Whiteman confirmed that he would be making representations to Cabinet opposing the school's closure.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Community involvement in Planning</p> <p>The Committee received a briefing note on changes to the Planning Service. Richard Fortune, Principal Planner, explained the background to the changes to the scheme of delegation which had been caused by a substantial reduction in resources to deliver the planning service. A flow diagram was circulated. In response to concerns he made reference to the circumstances described on the second page when applications would not be determined by officers, but by elected members. The new system which had been approved by the Council would be reviewed in twelve months time.</p> <p>Mr Fortune also answered questions from the audience about a planning application which had been submitted for 114 new houses and garaging and the creation of a vehicular access on land off Dark Lane, Broseley. This application had attracted 291 letters of objection to date. He explained that the site was an allocated housing site in the Bridgnorth District Local Plan which had been approved at an inquiry in 2005. However, while the principle of housing on this site had been established, concerns had been expressed about the particular scheme which had been submitted, the layout and the number of units. He would</p>	

	have to evaluate all the information including comments from technical consultees who had raised issues about such matters as the density of the proposed development and flooding, before making recommendations to the Planning Committee. He confirmed that he would advise objectors if specific changes were made to the scheme.	RF															
8.	<p>Current Policing Issues – PACT (Partners and Communities Together)</p> <p>PC Sean Kinson stated that while Police resources were stretched and allocated according to priority need, the public should still report all incidents which were of concern. He stressed that nuisance and anti-social behaviour should be reported to them. Non-emergencies could be reported by phone on 0300 333 3000 or in other ways explained on the West Mercia Police Website.</p>																
9.	<p>Funding Update 2011/12 and Project Feedback</p> <p>The Committee considered a report from Mrs Linda Monteith, Community Action Officer, which provided information on three bids for funding and feedback on some of the projects funded from the previous year's budget. An update on the Friendly Transport Service shuttle to Much Wenlock was circulated at the meeting.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED</u> :</p> <p>a) That the following decisions be made in respect of the under-mentioned applications:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Applicant</th><th>Project</th><th>Decision</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Haycop Conservation Group</td><td>Legal fees for Lease agreement</td><td>Grant of £420</td></tr> <tr> <td>Broseley Tennis Club</td><td>Coaching for young children in Broseley</td><td>Grant of £205</td></tr> <tr> <td>Wilkinson Avenue Residents Association</td><td>New cooker and Bains Marie</td><td>Grant of £809.99</td></tr> <tr> <td>St Winefride's Church, Broseley</td><td>Disabled Toilet pack</td><td>Grant of £700</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>b) With regard to the feedback from the Friendly Transport Service, the first proposal for a trial midweek service between Broseley and the Much Wenlock Sports Centre be approved. More information is required in relation to the possibility of a shuttle service in the school holidays and a report on this proposal be submitted to the next meeting.</p>	Applicant	Project	Decision	Haycop Conservation Group	Legal fees for Lease agreement	Grant of £420	Broseley Tennis Club	Coaching for young children in Broseley	Grant of £205	Wilkinson Avenue Residents Association	New cooker and Bains Marie	Grant of £809.99	St Winefride's Church, Broseley	Disabled Toilet pack	Grant of £700	LM
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	c) To note that the budget for 2011/12 will be reduced, as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report, and that the LJC will now have one budget pot.	
10.	Former Hill Top Farm, Floyer Hall Lane, Benthall An update was given on enquiries which had been made by Barrow Parish Council about an area of land at Benthall which was believed to be a site of special scientific interest. Part of the land was owned by the National Trust, which had agreed to send an ecologist. No response had been received from the other owner of the site.	
11.	Public Question Time /Identification of future agenda items It was agreed that a Shropshire Council licensing officer should be asked to attend the next meeting to explain the licensing process for public houses etc.	DEW
12.	Next meeting It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 21 September 2011 at Victoria Hall, Broseley at 7.00 p.m. <p style="text-align: center;">Chair</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Date.....</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.10p.m.</p>	DEW