



<u>Committee and Date</u>
Brown Clee and Highley Local Joint Committee
Brown Clee Zone

<u>Item</u>
5
Public

BROWN CLEE AND HIGHLEY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE
BROWN CLEE ZONE
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH OCTOBER 2011
7.00 pm – 8.15 pm

Responsible Officer Linda Jeavons
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- Committee Members Present:**
- Mrs M Nicholls Shropshire Council
 - Mr R Tindall Shropshire Council
 - Mr N Lewis Aston Botterell, Burwarton and Cleobury North Parish Council
 - Mr B Theobald Chelmarsh Parish Council
 - Mr C Millington Chetton Parish Council
 - Mr S Wentworth Ditton Priors Parish Council

Officers present:
Alison Brock, ICT Client Support Manager, Shropshire Council
Linda Monteith, Community Action Officer, Shropshire Council
Linda Jeavons, Democratic Services, Shropshire Council

West Mercia Police:
PC Ann O’Leary West Mercia Police

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
Andy Bevon, Shropshire Fire and Rescue

There were 5 members of the public in attendance.

28. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and all Members and Officers introduced themselves.

The Chairman informed the meeting of a change in the order of business - item 9 (Applications for Funding) would be considered after item 6 (Update on the Broadband Project – Connecting Shropshire).

ACTION

29. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from:

Mr H Lane - Billingsley, Deuxhill, Glazeley and Middleton Scriven Parish Council

30. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

31. DECISION NOTES

RESOLVED : that the decision notes of the meeting held on 25th May 2011, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

32. UPDATE FROM LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE**Local Police**

PC Ann O'Leary was in attendance prior to the meeting and provided an opportunity for members of the public to raise any local policing or community safety concerns. She also gave an update during the meeting on recent police activities within the area, and reported that rural crime in the area had increased, with many thefts taking place from outbuildings. She urged everyone to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity and reminded all of the Police telephone contact numbers:

- 0300 333 3000 – to report anything suspicious
- (01746) 861222 – for the local Police

All calls to Crimestoppers (0800 555 111) were anonymous and always acted upon.

A member of the public reminded all about the importance of the Neighbourhood and Rural Watch schemes; these schemes allowed information and advice to be disseminated quickly to local people.

Shropshire Fire and Rescue

Andy Bevan, Shropshire Fire and Rescue, was in attendance. In response to a question, he informed the meeting that the fitting of smoke alarms in Highley was ongoing; anyone over the age of 70 or registered disabled may qualify for a free smoke alarm; and the telephone number to contact to request a home fire safety check, or to request a smoke alarm was (01743) 260260.

33. FEEDBACK FROM FUNDED PROJECTS

Dan Shotton representing Ditton Priors Playing Field Association thanked the Committee for the grant which had enabled them to provide swings and complete the project.

An update from the Ditton Priors Community Polytunnel group would be received at the next meeting.

LM

34. UPDATE ON THE BROADBAND PROJECT – CONNECTING SHROPSHIRE

Alison Brock, ICT Client Support Manager, Shropshire Council, was in attendance and gave an update on the Broadband Project – Connecting Shropshire, a project to improve broadband speeds and coverage in Shropshire. She explained:

- Shropshire had been awarded £8.2 million to help bring superfast broadband to rural parts of the County.
- An additional £2 million had also been secured from Shropshire Council's Capital Programme.
- Faster broadband was vital for our economic growth, to deliver public services, and to conduct our everyday lives.
- Over the next few months Shropshire Council would be working with communities and businesses to create a plan describing how the funding would be spent. The vision is that by 2016 all Shropshire businesses and homes would have access to an affordable, efficient and fast broadband service.
- A key aspect of the project was demand stimulation with businesses and communities. We need to be able to prove that broadband was wanted and would be subscribed to to attract a technical partner.
- Quarterly updates would be forwarded to Town / Parish Councils to keep them up to speed with what is happening with the project.

Next Steps

She referred to two on-line questionnaires (one for businesses and one for residents), which could be found at www.connectingshropshire.gov.uk – paper copies were also available and could be obtained by contacting Alison Brock.

She urged all local Parish and Town Councils to write a letter of support for the project, which would help to provide an evidence base that broadband was wanted by Shropshire residents. Letters to be forwarded to Alison Brock, Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Shropshire, SY2 6ND; or email: alison.brock@shropshire.gov.uk : or telephone (01743) 252205.

35. APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

The Community Action Officer introduced the report.

LM

RESOLVED: that the following grants be approved:

Applicant	Project	Decision
Ditton Priors Parish Council	Allotment sheds and composting bins	£1,600
Eardington Parish Council	Two outdoor benches	£475
Burwarton Parish Council	Replacement of notice board	£1,000
1 st Brown Clee Girl Guides	Outdoor play equipment	£482.49
Eardington Parish Council	Village hall notice board	£500
Chelmarsh Parish Council	Replacement of wooden fence at Chelmarsh Village Hall car park	£755
Chelmarsh Parish Council	Repairs to bus shelter	£290
Ditton Playing Fields Association	Ditton Playing Field Pavilion Refurbishment	£2,178 towards new chairs only.

36. AMENDMENT TO LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION – SCHEME OF DELEGATION

RESOLVED: that delegated authority be given, with immediate effect, to the Community Action Officer, in consultation with the Chairman (or Vice-Chair in their absence) and all other Members of the Brown Clee and Highley Local Joint Committee (Brown Clee Zone), to determine urgent and time sensitive matters. On receipt of any urgent or time sensitive matters, the Community Action Officer would notify each Member of the Committee by email and invite them to respond with their agreement or otherwise within seven days before a decision was made.

LM/LJ

37. PRIORITY SETTING

RESOLVED: that the following projects be identified as future spending priorities for any underspend carried forward from 2011/12 to 2012/13.

LM

- (i) Restoration of the public house (The Pheasant Inn) at Neenton for community use.
- (ii) Issues arising out of the Toolkit event held on 14th July.

38. COMMUNITY ACTION OFFICER – UPDATE

The Community Action Officer gave an update on her work and achievements to date.

Work to date:

- Attended Ditton Summer Show – To promote the Brown Clee Toolkit event.
- Attended the Brown Clee Toolkit - 14th July at Cleobury North Village Hall - 16 people were in attendance.

Comments / Feedback received:

- i. “Interesting to talk about local community and meet other local people”
 - ii. “Well worked discussion process and opportunity to present opinions”
- Continued to support the community of Neenton
 - Assisted the Brown Clee Girl Guides, Ditton Playing Fields Association, and Eardington Parish Clerk with their funding applications.

Linda continues to hot desk at Oak Farm and invites anyone to drop in if they require advice or assistance. She is available on a Thursday between 9am and 3pm, but please call / email beforehand.

39. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

40. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

15th February 2012 – Highley

- Broadband Project – Connecting Shropshire

41. DATES AND VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The following dates and venues for future meetings were noted:

**LJ/
Shropshire
Council
Officers**

Highley

Wednesday, 15th February 2012 - Severn Centre Highley
Pre-Agenda meeting - 25th Jan 2012 - (For Committee Members only)

Chairman: _____

Date: _____