



<u>Committee and Date</u>
Cleobury and Rural Local Joint Committee
13 th January 2010
7 pm

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

CLEOBURY AND RURAL LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

**NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 OCTOBER 2009 AT 7.00 PM
DODDINGTON VILLAGE HALL, HOPTON WAFERS, WORCESTER, DY14 0NR**

PRESENT:

Members of the Committee:

Paul Andrews	Shropshire Council
Gwilym Butler	Shropshire Council
Madge Shineton	Shropshire Council
Deborah Brown	Cleobury Mortimer Parish Council
Linda Clayton	Hopton Wafers Parish Council
Bill Foster	Wheathill Parish Council
David Haywood	Kinlet Parish Council
Brian Howells	Burford Parish Council
Chris Jones	Milson and Neen Sollars Parish Council
Mark Link	Farlow Parish Council
Theresa Mackrow	Coreley parish Council
Diane Newsham	Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council
Michael Tomkinson	Neen Savage Parish Council

Co-optees

Chris Dimond	Cleobury Country
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Shropshire Council Officers:

Jake Berriman	Head of Strategy and Policy
Steve Jarvis	Shropshire Youth
Steve Price	Lead Officer
Dominic Wallis	Support Officer
Lisa Bedford	Community Regeneration Officer
Linda Jeavons	Committee Officer

West Mercia Police:

Sarah Smithson	West Mercia Police
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Also in attendance:

Richard Morley	Cleobury Youth Forum
Sandra Edwards	Cleobury Youth Forum
Ben Woodward	Cleobury Youth Forum
Paul Sutton	South Shropshire Housing Association
Elaine Reece	South Shropshire Housing Association
Lance Gurney	Bromford Housing
Brian Powell	Shropshire Rural Housing Association
Don Grant (Sub)	Wheathill Parish Council

There were approximately 40 members of the public at the meeting. All attendees sat in groups and were joined by Councillors and Officers.

ACTION**13. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and all members of the Committee, Officers and guests were introduced.

There were no apologies for absence.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared their personal or personal and prejudicial interests in the items set out below:

Personal Interests

Name	Item	Nature of Interest
Madge Shingleton	Item 7 – Affordable Housing.	Director of Rural Housing Association.

Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Name	Item	Nature of Interest
*Linda Clayton	Item 8 – Applications for Funding – Doddington Village Hall	Liaison Officer for Village Hall Committee.
*Chris Dimond	Item 8 – Applications for Funding – Cleobury Country Ltd	Member of group applying for the Countryside Explorer Grant.
*David Haywood	Item 8 – Applications for Funding – Kinlet Village Hall	Treasurer – Kinlet Village Hall Committee.
*Brian Howells	Item 8 – Applications for funding – Burford Village Hall	Chairman of Burford Parish Council and member of Village Hall Committee.
*Mark Link	Item 8 – Applications for Funding – Doddington Village Hall	Partner in the Company that has quoted to supply hedging plants.

Name	Item	Nature of Interest
**Madge Shineton	Item 8 – Applications for Funding - Cleobury Country Ltd	Member of the group promoting the Countryside Explorer Grant

*Left the room and took no part in the consideration of or voting on this matter.

**Left the room and took no part in the consideration of or voting on this matter. The Vice Chair, Michael Tomkinson, took the chair for this item.

15. DECISION NOTES

RESOLVED : That the decision notes of the last meeting held on 20th July 2009, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Matters Arising Thereon:

15.1 (Minute No. 7) – To note:

- the appointment of Chris Dimond and Bob Braddock (Substitute) as co-optees representing Cleobury Country;
- that to date no nominations had been received from the Youth Forum; and
- that a nomination will be made by Lacon Childe School following a meeting of Governors.

15.2 (Minute No. 11) – To note the response from Matrix Medical on the proposed relocation of the Medical Centre in Cleobury, as follows:

“Having been appointed by the local GP Practice, Matrix Medical is currently looking to secure a site for the proposed new medical centre in Cleobury Mortimer.

We can advise that we have shortlisted a number of suitable sites and hope to draw up plans once a site has been secured. We will of course be consulting the councillors and local public in due course and would be happy to answer any questions in the meantime.”

RESOLVED: that, in respect of the Medical Centre,

- (i) an update be requested before the next LJC meeting; and
- (ii) that, if sufficient progress has been made, the project be considered as a possible agenda item at the March meeting.

LB

16. YOUTH SUPPORT AND ACTIVITIES

Richard Morley gave a presentation on the Cleobury Youth Partnership. A copy of the presentation is attached to these notes, marked 'A'. Richard explained the importance of being continuously responsive to the needs and demands of young people, and the necessity to develop projects to meet those needs.

During recent consultation the following short / medium / long term aspirations and concerns were identified:

Short term:

- Improvements to skate park – more bins and better shelter;
- Maintain Friday / Saturday night outreach provision;
- Maintain existing building in Talbot Square (Youth Club & allotment project);
- Refurbish Talbot Square building; and
- More activities (social events, facilities)

Medium term:

- The need to make young people feel safer and less vulnerable – especially at skate park because of bad lighting;
- Lack of transport, especially from the more rural outlying areas; and
- Longer term funding and resources.

Long term:

- Youth café

The lack of transportation was raised, which prevented young people living in the outlying areas attending events. In response, it was suggested that Shropshire Council be approached to see if the Shropshire Link facility could be utilised to provide a pick-up and drop-off service for young people living in the outlying areas.

Sarah Smithson, West Mercia Police, spoke in support of the partnership and said that since its inception there had been a noticeable decline in criminal damage and anti social behaviour in the area.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That £5,000 be ringfenced from the Priorities Budget for youth provision, subject to it being inclusive of the outlying areas; and
- (ii) That a more detailed proposal be put forward to the next meeting.

GB

CLEOBURY
YOUTH
PARTNER-
SHIP

17. COMMUNITY SAFETY

PC Sarah Smithson attended the meeting - she explained that the surrounding area was covered by three Beat Officers who she would liaise with with a view to them attending future meetings.

Sarah reported on the local crime statistics which had improved overall and Lisa Bedford explained that the overall figures were the lowest in all the LJC areas.

A member of the audience reminded all about the Parish Watch and Ringmaster / Rural Watch schemes. The Ringmaster scheme is a community messaging system providing crime prevention advice to anyone who has signed up for the service. It informs people quickly via text or e-mail about suspicious individuals or activities in the area.

In response to a comment, the Chairman informed the meeting that there would be a police presence half-hour before every meeting of the LJC to enable members of the public to ask questions of concern and community safety. A précis of the questions / concerns would be given at the meeting.

18. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Jake Berriman gave a verbal presentation on Affordable Housing. An information leaflet was distributed identifying affordable housing sites which are hopefully going to be progressed within the boundaries of this Local Joint Committee (attached marked 'B').

The Housing Strategy for Shropshire Council was adopted in February 2009 and along with the Interim Planning Guidance on Affordable Housing, encourages and guides the development of affordable housing across Shropshire.

In response to questions and comments, he explained the following:

Shropshire Council works with parish councils, landowners, housing associations and developers to identify opportunities to deliver affordable housing. Housing Associations offer homes for rent, sale and part-sale.

To assist local people who have a need for affordable housing individuals can now build their own affordable home. There are certain criteria which must be met, ie restrictions on size, materials and value of property. The site must be in a suitable location and the occupier must be in need of housing and have a strong local connection. The dwelling must be affordable to the applicant and remain affordable to subsequent occupiers in perpetuity.

An explanatory leaflet is available from Shropshire Council entitled "Build your own affordable home: Single plot exceptions sites explained".

The Chairman thanked all Officers for attending and contributing to the meeting.

19. APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

Lisa Bedford, Snr. Community Regeneration Worker, gave an overview of each application and it was agreed as follows:

19.1 Community Chest Scheme

RESOLVED: that Shropshire Red Cross be awarded £100 towards the costs of carers attending a monthly support group in Ludlow.

19.2 Larger Projects

RESOLVED: that the following decisions be made in respect of the under-mentioned applications:

Applicant	Project	Decision
Doddington Village Hall	Boundary Fencing to new land	£2,086
Kinlet Village Hall	Central Heating System Noted: that a second quote had been received following despatch of the report.	£2,500, subject to receipt of a third quote.
Burford Village Hall	Kitchen improvements	£2,395

The Vice Chair took the chair for the following item:

19.3 Priorities Budget

Applicant - Cleobury Country Ltd

Project – Countryside Explorer Bus

RESOLVED: that £5,000 be ring-fenced towards the costs of relaunching the Countryside Explorer bus service, subject to the following:

- Full tendering being undertaken;
- Remaining match-funding to be secured;
- No repeat of this level of funding to be given in future years; and
- An update to be provided for the January meeting for final agreement.

The Chairman returned to the meeting and resumed the chair.

19.4 Representatives on Community Chest Appraisal Panel

RESOLVED: that Linda Clayton and Chris Jones be appointed as this Committee's representatives on the Community Chest Appraisal Panel.

20. PUBLIC QUESTIONS TIME AND IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Chairman encouraged everyone to complete the feedback forms; and if they had a question or issue that they did not wish to raise during the meeting, to complete the Question / Issues forms and hand to Officers at the conclusion of the meeting.

In response to a question, all groups, ie Scouts, Guides, Rainbows, Rangers, Brownies, were encouraged to apply for grants. All were reminded that application forms were available from Lisa Bedford, Community Regeneration Officer.

In response to comments about the future of recycling, a suggestion was made that a representative from Veolia attend a future meeting to discuss their plans to increase recycling in the area. Requests were made for more recycling bins, especially in Hopton Wafers, Kinlet, Farlow & Orton and Stottesdon.

Gwilym Butler informed the meeting that Local Joint Committees were able to scrutinise local service delivery by referring them to one of the Council's Scrutiny Panels. Also, if the LJC felt it wanted to increase recycling in the area they could provide funding to enhance the service.

In response to a question, Gwilym Butler informed the meeting that four parishes had expressed an interest in flashing speed limiters. He suggested that columns could be erected in these parishes and periodically the flashing unit could be moved around. He went on to suggest that the LJC could purchase a flashing speed limiter with each parish paying a proportion of any maintenance costs. Many were concerned with speeding and it was suggested that a representative from the Police attend a future meeting.

Following concerns about the lack of winter gritting in the area, it was suggested that an Officer from Highways attend the next meeting – all were reminded to check gritting bins.

In answer to comments / concerns made by members of the public on the collection of waste from homes down long tracks and on private roads, or, indeed, any other problems, the Chairman suggested that everyone write to their respective Parish Council detailing their specific problems/concerns. This information could then be brought to a future meeting of this Committee for discussion.

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Issues and Questions log

Referring to No. 3 on the Issues Log (response from the Asst. Director Public Protection) – The penultimate paragraph listed a range of solutions and a question was asked about the requirement to obtain planning permission in respect of permanently positioning bins and boxes at the curtilage of a property.

SP/LB/LJ

Referring to No. 4 on the Issues Log – Lisa Bedford informed the meeting that police in the South Shropshire area were now trained in the use of speed guns and would be targeting problems areas shortly.

Setting Local Priorities/Future Agenda Items

All noted the key priorities as detailed below. These had been drawn from local consultation, including parish and market town plans in Cleobury Mortimer, Kinlet, Stottesdon and Sidbury, and Burford. In addition, local Parish Council LJC members contributed their own priorities; and feedback forms were completed by attendees at the last meeting.

- Local Economy – support for existing and new businesses
- Tourism – maximising potential
- Affordable Housing for local people
- Provision of leisure / recreation activities
- Sustaining Community Buildings
- Traffic and Highways – speeding and highway maintenance
- Younger People – youth activities and facilities
- Local Environment – especially watercourses and flooding

It was agreed that the main topics for future consideration would include speeding traffic and highways, supporting the local economy and watercourses and flooding.

21. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

(a) To note future meeting dates, times and venues:

Wed, 13 th Jan 2010	Kinlet Village Hall	7.00 pm
Thurs, 25 th March 2010	Lacon Childe School	7.00 pm

(b) To note that the application deadline for grants to be considered at the next meeting is 4th December 2009.

As this was Lisa's last meeting for a while, the Chairman thanked her for all her hard work and wished her well. Tom Brettell would be taking over her role from December.

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm

Chairman: _____

Date: _____