



<u>Committee and Date</u> Cleobury and Rural Local Joint Committee
21 <sup>st</sup> October 2010 - 7 pm

<u>Item</u> <b>3</b> Public <u>Paper</u>
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**CLEOBURY AND RURAL LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE  
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>th</sup> JULY 2010 AT 7.00 PM  
IN CLEETON ST MARY VILLAGE HALL, CLEOBURY MORTIMER,  
KIDDERMINSTER, DY14 0QW**

**PRESENT:**

**Members of the Committee:**

Gwilym Butler	Shropshire Council
Richard Huffer	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
Theresa Mackrow	Coreley Parish Council
Diane Newsham	Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council
Andy Vanderhook	Neen Savage Parish Council

**Co-optees**

Nick Bews	Boraston Parish Meeting
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**Shropshire Council Officers:**

Mike Hyatt	Asst Chief Executive Partnerships and Performance
Cheryl Williams	Finance Manager
Louise Cross	Team Leader, Economic and Development
Andy Jones	Property Services
Steve Price	Lead Officer
Dominic Wallis	Support Officer
Tom Brettell	Community Regeneration Officer
Linda Jeavons	Committee Officer

**West Mercia Police:**

PC Paul Sparrow	West Mercia Police
CSO Nick Morris	West Mercia Police

**Also in attendance:**

Martin Holloway	BT Openreach
Simon Marshall	BT Openreach

**There were approximately 35 members of the public at the meeting. All attendees sat in groups and were joined by Councillors and Officers.**

**17. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from:

Mark Link	Farlow Parish Council
Chris Dimond	Cleobury Country
Val Simpson	Lacon Childe School (Governor)
PC Sarah Smithson	West Mercia Police

**18. CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Agreed that items 7, 5 and 6 be taken as the next items of business.

**19. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL BUDGET CONSULTATION**

Gwilym Butler (Shropshire Council), Mike Hyatt (Assistant Chief Executive Performance and Partnerships) and Cheryl Williams (Finance Manager) were in attendance.

Gwilym Butler explained that Shropshire Council was looking for savings in the region of 25% over three years. There would be no rise in Council Tax for the following two years, maybe three, dependent on Government. In response to these pressures, the Council has embarked on a programme of transformation in the way it delivers public services. The Council now has to decide what to keep / cut / change to find better ways to meet the people's needs, and this will be done via public consultation. The Council aims to work with the public sector to see where savings can be made, and look at ways to raise revenue to fund services.

Question	Answer
What are non-essential staff?	It will depend on what services we actually want.
What consideration has been given to shared services?	Shropshire Council is currently looking at all vacancies as they arise and question if the job could be done by redeployment, put on hold, or no longer needed. Every vacancy is currently critically evaluated to a set of clear guidelines. It may be possible to employ a modern apprentice on a lower salary and at the same time give somebody the chance to gain experience. All agency workers are monitored and critically assessed.
Are you going to consider if some jobs are necessary?	Shropshire Council is already exploring joint working with other Councils, the Police etc and other bodies to see if we could operate shared working arrangements.

<p>What do you expect to get out of consultation – will you be providing more detail?</p> <p>If you are going to consult it is important that you come back to the people with the outcome and say what you are doing.</p>	<p>There will be a phased approach to consultation – Shropshire Council will be visiting LJs during the next round of meetings and will work closely with press to publicise all events. Consultation will also be web based.</p> <p>As plans emerge and national government proposals become clear, Shropshire Council will respond and consult again. Our aim is to hear initial ideas to see where our focus should fall.</p> <p>We will be talking to Town / Parish Councils to see what they want. We acknowledge that one size does not fit all.</p>
<p>Following a referendum, the people in this area voted against unitary and were ignored. Are you going to ignore what we say now?</p> <p><i>Response from member of committee</i></p> <p>We did not have a referendum. The Council had and has to continue to be sustainable.</p>	<p>We made a saving of £18m following unitary – if we hadn't gone unitary we would be in a worse situation.</p> <p>GB referred to the Community Strategy which was developed in consultation with partner organisations and Shropshire residents and businesses.</p>
<p>Will more services be devolved to Parish Councils – concerned with the funding of these services – will Parish Councils have to precept to fund these services?</p> <p>Would like to see services devolved back to Town / Parish Councils; there are bigger opportunities for Town and Parish Councils to deliver to whatever level they want to.</p> <p>There is talk that Town / Parish Council precepts would be capped.</p>	<p>No final decisions have been made about precepts. Parish and Town Councils may wish to take on services, if so, they will have to prioritise.</p>

GB referred to the school consultation and urged everyone to respond.

**20. TOURISM AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY**

Louise Cross, Team Leader Sector Support, Economic Development, Shropshire Council gave an overview of the work of the Economic Development Team, followed by a question and answer session.

**21. RURAL BROADBAND PROVISION**

Martin Holloway and Simon Marshall, BT Openreach, gave a presentation on the provision of Broadband in the local area, followed by a question and answer session.

A copy of the presentation can be obtained by contacting Linda Jeavons (01743) 252738 or [Linda.jeavons@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Linda.jeavons@shropshire.gov.uk).

LJ

**22. COMMUNITY SAFETY**

PC Paul Sparrow gave an update on policing in the local area and reminded all about the Parish Watch and Rural Watch schemes and the Police contact No. 0300 333 3000.

**23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declarations of prejudicial interests were made:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>
*Bill Foster	Item 11 – Applications for Funding – Cleeton St Mary & Silvington Village Hall Committee	Member of the community.
**Madge Shineton	Item 11 – Applications for Funding – Ringfencing funds to priority areas	Chair Cleobury Youth Partnership
*Andy Vanderhook	Item 11 – Applications for Funding – Neen Savage Parish Hall	Member of Village Hall Committee

\*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, David Haywood, took the chair for this item.

**24. DECISION NOTES AND QUESTIONS AND ISSUES LOG**

- (i) **RESOLVED** : that the decision notes of the last meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2010, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to it being noted that at Minute No. 10, paragraph 1 (Refuse), the wording “on a rotating cycle around the parishes” be deleted.
- (ii) **RESOLVED** : that the Questions and Issues Log be noted.

**25. VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS**

The Senior Community Regeneration Officer appraised the Committee on the position to date.

TB

**RESOLVED:** that £250 be granted, in principle, to all parishes within the remit of this Committee and to be used in this financial year 2010/11, for the funding of speed reduction measures in their respective areas.

**26. UPDATE ON CLEOBURY MORTIMER TOILETS**

Andy Jones, Property Services, Shropshire Council updated the Committee on the progress of Cleobury Mortimer toilets. He explained that the budget had been secured and the project would hopefully be completed by Jan 11. The toilets would consist of a disabled cubicle and unisex cubicles, all complete with baby changing facilities.

**27. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions.

**28. APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING**

The Community Regeneration Officer introduced the item and it was decided as follows:

TB

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) that the following Community Chest applications be approved:

Applicant	Project	Decision
Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass	Funding towards the costs of putting on a festival of brass as part of the Cleobury Fringe.	£450.00

Applicant	Project	Decision
Homegrown	Funding towards the costs of putting on a South Shropshire schools skills and employment event.	£400.00

(ii) **RESOLVED:** that the following larger grants be approved:

Applicant	Project	Decision
St Mary's Church Bellringers Cleobury Mortimer	Funding towards the cost of rewiring the bell tower, ringing chamber and ground floor access.	£910.00
Neen Savage Parish Hall Committee*	Funding towards the cost of providing lighting for the Parish Hall car park	£700.00
Cleeton St Mary & Silvington Village Hall Committee**	Funding towards the costs of resurfacing the hall car park.	£1,481.32
Cleobury Mortimer Parish Hall Management Committee	Funding towards the cost of upgrading the kitchen facilities.	£2,500.00

The meeting received presentations from the following:

- St Mary's Church Bellringers Cleobury Mortimer
- Cleeton St Mary & Silvington Village Hall Committee

(iii) **RESOLVED:** that the following funds be ringfenced to priority areas:

Cleobury Youth Partnership***	£5,000.00
Cleobury Country Environment Forum – to aid recycling in the area	£5,000.00

\* Having declared a prejudicial interest, Andy Vanderhook left the room and took no part in the consideration of, or voting on, this matter.

\*\* Having declared a prejudicial interest, Bill Foster left the room and took no part in the consideration of, or voting on, this matter.

\*\*\*Having declared a prejudicial interest, the Chairman left the room and took no part in the consideration of, or voting on, this matter. The Vice Chair, David Haywood, took the chair for this item.

It was noted that the deadline for funding applications to be considered at the next meeting was 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010.

**29. COMMUNITY REGENERATION OFFICER – UPDATE**

The Community Regeneration Officer gave an overview of his work to date.

Members received and noted the “Report on visits to flooded locations in the Cleobury and Rural LJC area” circulated at the meeting.

**30. IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

It was agreed that the main topics for the next meeting would include:

TB/SP

- Budget Process
- Update on the Medical Centre
- Flooding

**31. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS**

- Education Provision in Shropshire

The Chair introduced the item explaining that Shropshire Council was consulting until the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010 on the proposed changes to education provision in Shropshire. Both Gwilym Butler and Madge Shingleton urged everyone to make comments.

**32. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND VENUES**

- (a) To note future meeting dates and venues:

Thurs, 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct 2010	Coreley Village Hall	7.00 pm
Thurs, 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2011	Lacon Childe School	7.00 pm

- (b) To note future preparation meeting dates:

Thurs, 30 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2010	– Hopton Wafers Village Hall	
Wed, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 2011	– New Business Centre, Cleobury Mortimer	

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting ended at 9.20 pm.

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_