

**EASTERN SHREWSBURY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE**  
**- COMMENTS & SUGGESTION RESPONSE:**

	COMMENT / QUESTION / ISSUE	RESPONSE DETAILS AND ISSUED BY:
1.	<b>Footpath between Galton Drive and Abingdon Road</b> – The proposed cycle path/footpath between Galton Drive and Abingdon Road proposed nearly 3 years ago was delayed waiting for cables to be laid underground. Now that the contractors have started their work can the Councillors confirm that the ground will be reinstated as the long awaited footpath/cycle path. If the plan is to be dropped for financial reasons is there no way that the Sustrans funds can be made available.	<p>Countryside Access provided the following response:</p> <p>The path in question is one that we looked at as part of the Cycle Shrewsbury minor improvements programme two years ago but was not included due to the utility works.</p> <p>It is not in the 2010/11 Cycle Shrewsbury programme and we are unclear of funding for such improvements beyond March 2011. However, we have done some design work on crossing improvements and links from Abingdon Road to Monkmoor Road/ Woodcote Way, so if funding becomes available in 2011/2012, then we could progress this work and revisit plans for the path.</p> <p>Regarding Sustrans funds, we are fortunate to receive Connect2 funding (Big Lottery/ Sustrans) for walking and cycling improvements in the town centre but these cannot be transferred to other schemes. Sustrans also distributes 'links to schools' funding (Department for Transport/ Cycling England) but Shrewsbury is not eligible this year and it will be subject to government budget cuts and uncertainties beyond March 2011</p>
2.	<b>Belvidere Roadbridge</b> – Belvidere road bridge was discussed at the last LJC. As part of the discussions it was suggested that the shrubbery that hides the approach to the bridge from the Shriehall side be cut back to improve visibility. Sadly, in the time since the last LJC meeting no action has been taken to cut back the bushes which also obstruct the footpath leading in from the postbox. Can this now be hastened with the relevant agency.	Committee Regeneration Officer confirmed that the work had been completed on this stretch of road to improve public safety.
3.	<b>Training and Development Centre</b> – Are the Councillors able to confirm that the Training Development Centre is to be, or has been sold to a developer for housing and that there are no plans to provide a community centre for Monkmoor, Abbey and Underdale on the site, which has recreational and car parking facilities readily available.	Kevin Malone requested further information from Andrew Stirling to confirm current status.

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4.	<b>Future Agenda Item</b> - I would be most interested to hear from Social Workers on how they are coping and see the future with Shropshire Council.	Chairman agreed to speak to the David Taylor, Director for Children and Young People's Services and provide feedback on possible consideration at a future meeting.
5.	<b>Footpaths</b> - Maintenance of the Severn Way Footpath between Emstry Road Bridge and Telford Estate which is in an area of outstanding natural beauty close to the town centre. The path between Shrewsbury's second weir and to the south of the island is overgrown and virtually impassable in places during the summer months.	Response sent direct to resident.
6.	<b>Scrap Metal Collection</b> - Can you look into the activities of the various scrap metal collectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are they registered.</li> <li>• They create excessive noise more or less continuously.</li> <li>• They are coming into driveways with no attempt to contact householders.</li> </ul>	Licensing/Enforcement provided the following response:  Scrap metal merchants are registered by not licensed and Licensing Enforcement cannot carry out enforcement action against. If there is a noise issue or trespassing issue then the Police may be able to assist.
7.	<b>Leisure Services for Young People</b> – Appreciate your efforts, but how many young people make use of the facilities. Most of the youngsters don't respect other people's properties. Some of the play facilities you provide are wilfully damaged by youngsters. When they are seen by adults who try to stop them they are subjected to foul language. How will you deal with this.	Neil Willcox provided the following response:  Monkmoor Rec. had total attendances in 2009/10 of 41,906. Upton Lane would have between 15 to 30 young people (teenagers) using the facilities in the evening, a bit less during the day. Approximately 10 to 20 8 year olds and over use the facilities daily.  Engaging and working with young people and getting them involved in projects gives them more ownership of the facilities and more respect for the work being done to provide more opportunities for their age group.  However, there will always be some young people who will be disenfranchised and will want to bully and threaten other young people and adults. By working with the CSO, local beat officers and other agencies we can cut down on the number of incidences of anti social behaviour. During the last 12 months Monkmoor Rec. has had little trouble; this has been down to both the CSO and police and to the centre engaging with the children and encouraging them to respect the centre and it's users. (Monkmoor used to have a major issue with children hanging around and causing trouble).  The BMX track at Upton Lane used to have issues with anti social behaviour, under age drinking and drug taking, but since the track was redesigned and the area cleaned up the issues are no longer a

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		problem, the children and adults that use the track now have respect for the facility and report any issues to Tony Durnell their local Councillor."
8.	<p><b>NHS Services</b> - I would like to raised the point concerning the need for safety devices for hospital staff. I was astonished to see that nurses and other frontline care workers needed such devices. Some things which would record gratitude and appreciation of the clever, skilled and intelligent treatment and advice accorded to patients, I could understand, but assault? But if any person could behave in such an ugly and depraved manner, I suggest that the hospital trust should claim heavy damages. Spells of community service, warnings, asbos, etc. are all very well, but such people could only understand a really serious fine with the possibility of confiscation of cars, mobile phones, televisions, etc.</p> <p>Our hospital staff, one and all, have more than enough to do without having to think about such disgusting problems.</p>	<p>This information has been sent to the Primary Care Trust to request information on their current policies. Members agreed that the Police could also provide insite into the problem and the Council should look at formulating a joint response once all the information has been received.</p>
9.	<p><b>Removal of Litter at end of Preston Street</b> – Young people are leaving beer cans and bottles in fields by the river at the bottom of Preston Street. Locals are collecting the rubbish and leaving it at the top of the farmers lane for collection by the Council but this is not happening. Could Councillors arrange for this issue to be resolved.</p>	<p>Councillor Durnell confirmed that now he was aware of the problem and would be meeting with Officers the following date and would raise this issue to ensure that the rubbish is collected in the future.</p> <p>Update - Land owners (Balfours) had agreed to remove the litter, cut back the hedges and remove the uprooted trees to improve the area. It was noted that Police had carried out spot checks on the area and had confiscated alcohol from young people, but that the main problem with regard to litter was being caused by the fishermen using the area. Members were advised that the landlord had confirmed that all fishermen needed permission to fish in the area and that a clause would be placed in their agreement stipulating that they were to ensure they cleared up after themselves and if they failed to comply then they would be banned from fishing in that area.</p>