



Committee and Date
 Eastern Shrewsbury Local Joint
 Committee
 3 October 2013
 7.00 p.m.

Item
6
 Public

EASTERN SHREWSBURY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTION STEMMING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2013 AT WILFRED OWEN SCHOOL. 7.00 pm – 9.10 pm

Responsible Officer Amanda Holyoak
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Committee Members Present:

Councillor Tony Durnell (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council)
 Councillor Hannah Fraser (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council)
 Councillor Miles Kenny (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council)

Others Present:

Gill Jones, Community Action Manager
 Fiona Howe, Committee Officer

ACTION

1. CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the following residents: Joan Ball, Roy Ellis, Mr Harvey and Geoff Profitt

3. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

4. NOTE OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was agreed that the notes of the meeting of the Eastern Shrewsbury Local Joint Committee held on 10 July 2012 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

The content of the Comments, Questions and Suggestions Action Sheet, was displayed on the wall, and a copy is attached to the signed minutes.

5. COMMUNITY LED PLAN TOOLKIT FEEDBACK

The Chairman presented the feedback from the toolkit event that took place at the last meeting on 10 July 2012.

His summary covered the responses made to the questions asked on:

- If there was one thing you could change in the area what would it be;
- Reasons for finding it difficult to get to know people in the area & solutions;
- What do you think about housing in the area;
- What do you think about the environment in the area;
- What do you think about the leisure facilities in the area;

All of the information had been passed on to Underdale and Monkmoor and Abbey Community Committee (UMACC) to inform research for the Community Led Plan.

Jill Bedford of UMACC went on to explain the background and main aims of the Group which included:

- Making connections with, and getting to know other people who live and work in the area
- Finding out what people value about living in the area, and what they would like to improve, or have more of
- Influencing Shrewsbury Town Council and Shropshire Council, for example, on matters related to work, travel and leisure in the area

The Group had received some funding from Central Government and had been able to employ someone for 20 days to help them carry out research more systematically. Further contact would be established with other groups in the area, such as those involving older people and younger people. Membership did not involve an enormous commitment and the Group were hoping more people would join them.

The next UMACC meeting was scheduled for 19 March 2013 at 7.00 pm at the Shirehall and all were encouraged to come along to find out more. A website was under development www.umacc.net which contained contact details.

A member of the public suggested that details also be included in Councillor newsletters.

The Chair thanked Jill for explaining UMACC.

6. Our Place, Our Plan, Our Future Round Table Discussion

All those present were invited to take part in an exercise which involved recording views and comments on post it notes in response to questions about the economy and the environment in the Eastern Shrewsbury area. This was designed to help obtain a more in-depth understanding of the needs of the local community. Simon Ross from the Marches Energy Agency and PC David Hart were available to answer questions from those present.

Following the exercise the Chairman asked Groups to feedback. A copy of the summary of the responses is attached to the minutes.

Simon Ross from the Marches Energy Agency then explained opportunities available for people living in the area to reduce their fuel bills. A scheme just about to start and due to run until March 2015 would mean that all living within a certain area of Eastern Shrewsbury would qualify for both free cavity wall and loft insulation.

A new external insulation grant had also become available for steel houses and this would provide 50% of the costs and include a free loft insulation top up.

He also explained 'Cheaper Energy Together' a project seeking 5,000 households in the West Midlands to allow negotiation of a cheaper, fairer deal from the energy companies.

He went on to explain other schemes to those on qualifying benefits, and also repairs to or new boilers for vulnerable people in communities. The new 'Green Deal' involved a package of measures allowing householders or businesses to make energy-saving improvements without having to pay all the costs up front.

Further details on all schemes were available from Keep Shropshire Warm on 01743 277123.

The Chairman thanked Simon for the extremely useful presentation.

7. Applications for Funding

The Community Action Manager introduced a report on grant funding applications made to the Committee (a copy is attached to the signed note of the meeting). Following discussion of each application it was

RESOLVED:

That the following projects be approved and funded from the 2012/13 budget:

- A British Red Cross Young Carers - That a contribution of £1,492.32 be approved for young carers to be given an opportunity to take a break from their responsibilities at home, enjoy a variety of activities and to

facilitate monthly peer support meetings

- B Only Flutes Allowed - That a contribution of £1,560 be approved to promote the choir and purchase suitable music, with the condition that the group provides entertainment to the schools and other venues in the Eastern Shrewsbury LJC area
- C Governors of Crowmoor Primary School - IT Skills for Parents - the Committee endorsed a contribution of £3,320 which had already been approved by the Chairman
- D Bricklayers Bowling Club - That a contribution of £3,200 be approved toward purchase of a replacement bowling pavilion with the aim of attracting more local people in the area to participate
- E Shropshire Playbus - That a contribution of £2,000 be approved to allow a programme of visits to locations recommended by the Local Joint Committee
- F Monkmoor Community Fund Day Outline Project - That a contribution of £2,194.68 approved towards Monkmoor Community Fun Day and associated young people's activities - with a recommendation that a remaining £955.32 be committed in principle from the 2013/14 budget

8. Public Question Time

The following questions, queries and observations were made by Members of the Public:

Footpath along Telford Way

This had been improved and subsequently dug up by the electricity board who had failed to put it right afterwards.

It was confirmed that it was the utility company's responsibility to restore the footpath and they would be asked to do so as part of their licence to carry out the work.

Footpath between Monkmoor Road Bus Stop, where road bridge drops down to Robertson Way

This route down to the footpath alongside the allotments was filled with deep holes which were very particularly dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians, particularly older people and those with push chairs. It was impassable following heavy rain.

The Chairman reported that he was aware of and seeking action to deal with the problems on this diverted Right of Way. He was looking into whether locals could fill the holes themselves with material from the allotment as this appeared to be the quickest way to get things done.

The unused Post Office red parcel deposit/storage box which had

Cllr Kenny

fallen into disrepair on Portland Crescent still had not been removed.

Fiona Howe

A request had been made to the Post Office for its removal and this would be chased up.

Will the fencing around the Column be up for much longer?

Hannah Fraser explained that a report with the outcomes of recent survey work had been received by the Council. Options discussed so far had included

- i) repairs to the statue –(previous repairs had cost in the region of £120,000 and the stone used could not be replicated)
- ii) a replica statue
- iii) removal of the statue

Those present were asked to share their opinion on these options, and a replica statue was the most popular.

Hannah explained that she expected to be kept informed of developments and would pass on any information as soon as she heard anything.

Cllr Fraser

9 Future Meeting Dates

It was noted that future meeting dates would be confirmed following the Unitary and Town Council elections on 2 May 2013.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....