

ELLESMERE AREA LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

30 October 2013 – ISSUES RAISED FROM ‘LET’S TALK’

	QUESTION / ISSUE	RESPONSE /ACTION
1.	It was noted that an article in the Shropshire Star commented that Ellesmere was vibrant and successful market town	Chairman Ann Hartley complemented the Chamber Of Commerce and local voluntary groups that support the town. The splendid events and festival help bring visitors to the town.
2.	Concerns were raised over the excessive mud on the lanes.	It was reported that NFU have issued safe guidelines to farmers.
3.	Recent rainfall has highlighted poor drainage in some rural lanes. This has resulted in some areas as being issues with drains.	Chairman Ann Hartley reported that this issue will be passed to Tim Sneddon for comment but she felt Shropshire Council responded in a timely fashion to notifications. Parish Councils discuss this issue at monthly meetings and pass concerns forward <u>Response</u> Shropshire Council have a programme for gully cleansing and have identified “hot spots” where leaves or mud fill them up more quickly, which we will empty at an increased frequency as required. Local problems can, however, still occur. If anyone sees a blocked gully, drain or culvert report it to the local highway office and we will get it unblocked as a matter of urgency. It is cheaper to keep drains running rather than repairing roads or verges damaged by flood waters.

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4.	Delight was expressed with recent road repairs and the introduction of traffic calming. Also the excellent snow clearing that took place earlier this year.	Noted
5.	Concerns raised over the fact that in many cases signage relating to roadworks has not been removed following completion	If roadworks are being undertaken on behalf of Shropshire Council, then I will remind all of the need to get all signs brought back in. That should be done as a matter of course, there may be a need to leave some signs for a period, if there is a new road lay out or if the surface temporarily presents a risk, such as after surface dressing. There are, however, many roadworks undertaken by utility companies. They should also remove any signs after works, but don't always do that. Highway Technicians will look out for this as failure to properly clear as site can lead to us issuing a Fixed Penalty Notice and penalising the company for failure to comply.
6.	The development proposals in Welsh Frankton will spoil the appeal and views within the settlement. Whilst the southside is an issue the northside is seen as being acceptable.	Noted and confirmed the north side was set for approval.
7.	Ellesmere opening times have been cut	This is in line with consultation and Shropshire Councils budget review.
8.	It was raised that the fact First Responders had to pay VAT/fuel duty on their outgoings.	This is an issue that the group could take up if they choose to.