



Committee and Date
Gobowen, Selattyn, St
Martins & Weston Rhyn
Local Joint Committee

24th March 2010
7.00 pm

Item /Paper

4

Public

GOBOWEN, SELATTYN, ST MARTINS & WESTON RHYN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4TH FEBRUARY 2010 AT 7.00PM, ST MARTINS COMMUNITY CENTRE, ST MARTINS.

PRESENT:

Members of the Committee:

Councillor Steve Davenport
Councillor Trevor Davies (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs Angela Bright
Councillor Mark Turner

Shropshire Council – St Martins
Shropshire Council – Selattyn & Gobowen
Weston Rhyn Parish Council
Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council

Also present:

Simon Kenton
Mark Pembleton
Kate Garner
PC Simon Clarke
PC Kate Le Clere
Tim Morris
Dave Beal
Roger Cragg
Shelley Davies

Lead Officer
Support Officer
Community Working
West Mercia Police
West Mercia Police
Shropshire Council
Welsh Water
Welsh Water
Committee Officer (Notes)

There were approximately 20 members of the public at the meeting.

21. Welcome and Introduction from the Chairman

The Chairman introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that there was a formal agenda, but the meeting would be informal and public input would be welcomed.

22. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors David Lloyd (Shropshire Council – Selattyn & Gobowen) and David Boyce (St Martins Parish Council)

23. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mrs Angela Bright declared a personal interest in relation to funding application 3.7 (Agenda item 10).

24. Notes of the previous meeting

AGREED: That the notes of the meeting held on 7th October 2009 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of

the meeting.

25. Feedback from Local Joint Committee Meeting held on 7th October 2009.

A list of issues raised at the previous meeting with feedback was circulated. It was noted that a list would be produced at each meeting to give Members of the Public feedback on the issues that are raised.

The Lead Officer added that information on the Shropshire Council budget 2010/11 had been circulated on tables.

26. Public Question Time

Neil Graham (St Martins Parish Council) asked how local groups could use the Section 106 monies collected by Oswestry Borough Council. Tim Morris agreed to answer this question during his presentation.

27. PACT

The Chairman introduced PC Simon Clarke and PC Kate Leclere from West Mercia Police and invited members of the public to raise any issues of concern.

Councillor Neil Graham (St Martins Parish Council) requested a letter of support from the Local Police Officer for St Martins in relation to a compost toilet at Arthan's Pond.

28. Welsh Water/Severn Trent Water

The Chairman introduced Dave Beal and Roger Cragg from Welsh Water who had attended the meeting to discuss flooding issues in the area.

Dave Beal explained that a Flood Forum, formed by Oswestry Borough Council had worked well in the past to look at flooding problems experienced in St Martins and Weston Rhyn. He stated that as flooding usually resulted due to a combination of issues the Flood Forum included representatives from other organisations such as Severn Trent Water, Shropshire County Council (Highways) and the Environment Agency.

Dave Beal went on to state that Welsh Water would be happy for the Flood Forum to be resurrected and stressed the importance for members of the public to report issues of flooding to Welsh Water.

Sue Napper, a resident from St Martins explained that the Welsh Water phone message was not user friendly and that this was probably the reason why flooding incidents are not reported. Dave Beal noted that he understood the frustration experienced by customers and noted the complicated situation of having two service providers in the areas of St Martins and Weston Rhyn.

Ron Allison and Brian Herbert (St Martins Parish Council) requested a separate meeting to look at issues in St Martins in addition to the resurrection of the Flood Forum. It was added that residents were worried about the effect of further development in the area in relation to flooding.

Councillor Steve Davenport agreed to lead on the Flood Forum and the proposed meeting to address particular concerns in St Martins.

In response to a question from Councillor Angela Bright in relation to un-adopted sewers, Dave Beal explained that new legislation would come into force in April 2011 where all un-adopted sewers would automatically transfer to the relevant water company.

Dave Beal also agreed to look into the issue of whether properties that receive services and separate bills from Severn Trent and Welsh Water pay more than those who received services and a bill from one company.

AGREED:

A – That a meeting be arranged to discuss issues of flooding in St Martins.

B - The Flood Forum be resurrected (Lead Councillor - Steve Davenport).

29. Local Development Framework (LDF)

Tim Morris, Economy and Transport Policy Team Leader attended the meeting to give a presentation on the Shropshire Local Development Framework (LDF)

It was explained that the LDF included two key documents - the Core strategy and the Site Allocations and Management of Development DPD.

Tim Morris outlined the Core Strategy and in particular the implications for rural areas. It was stressed that there would not be just one approach used as there are different types of rural settlements and examples were given of different types of rural settlements.

The Site Allocations and Management of Development DPD was explained and Tim Morris stated that the Issues and Options documents based on LJC area would be published for consultation in April – June 2010. It was noted that copies of the documents would be available on the Shropshire Council website and in Council Offices, libraries and community information points.

In response to a question raised earlier regarding Section 106 monies collected by Oswestry Borough Council, Tim Morris explained that this information is now set out in a document to enable Shropshire Council to work with partners to establish how best to use the funds. The Chairman requested that further information on this issue be circulated at the next meeting.

Councillor Neil Graham stated that the dualling of the A5 was crucial to attracting businesses to the area. Tim Morris agreed that this was needed but that it did not feature as a priority for the Highways Agency as scheme are assessed against the whole West Midlands area.

Councillor Mrs Angela Bright questioned if a need for affordable housing had to be established before new homes were built and referred to properties in Chirk Bank that had been empty for over two years. Tim Morris explained that the issue of affordable housing was a key priority for Shropshire Council and outlined the ways in which it can be provided, noting that through the exceptions site policy a genuine need has to be proven. Councillor Steve Davenport added that there was a proposal to change the Council Tax exemption on empty properties to encourage more properties to be brought back into use.

In response to a question regarding the type of consultation events planned for rural areas, Tim Morris explained that these were still to be decided but further information on the consultation process would be provided at the March LJC meeting.

The Chairman suggested that the information from St Martins Parish Council regarding the need for additional public open space be passed on to Tim Morris as part of the consultation process. Tim Morris added that it would be a 'bottom up' process and information would be gratefully received.

30. Community Fund

The Committee received the report of the Lead Officer, which detailed the bids received for the second round of funding to be considered by the Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martins and Weston Rhyn Local Joint Committee.

AGREED:

The following bids are allocated full funding from the Community Fund (Round Two) subject to conditions:

3.1 St Martins Scout Group for a replacement Minibus - RINGFENCE £5000 subject to conditions.

3.2 Ifton Heath School to part fund a puffin crossing, and get speed limits outside the school - RING FENCE £2000 subject to conditions.

3.3 St Martins Methodist Church Hall to part fund essential building works and improvements to community hall
- RING FENCE £1000 subject to conditions.

The following bids are allocated full funding from the Community Fund (Round Two):

3.4 Weston Rhyn Village Institute to fund a building survey to determine what improvement works are needed - £500 granted.

3.5 Weston Rhyn Village Choir to purchase music, advertising, and room hire etc - £1300 granted.

3.6 Chirk Bank Methodist School Hall to part fund essential improvements to the old school hall - £2500 granted.

3.7 Weston Rhyn Youth Club to provide a diverse range of activities around sport, food and diet, sexual health and Drug and alcohol awareness - £1333.50 granted.

3.9 (Resubmission) All Saints Church, Gobowen for Flagpole renovation - £467.40 granted.

The following bids are provided with partial funding from the Community Fund (Round Two):

3.8 St Martins Parish Church to Part fund the overhaul and conversion to automatic winding of the historic old clock, in St Martins Church Tower - £1000 granted.

The following bids are deferred for consideration against the next round of the Community Fund:

3.10 Gobowen and Selattyn Parish Council for repairs and new tables (stacking) at The Pavilion. The bid was for £1330 and has been deferred due to guidance received from other LJsCs regarding bids from Parish and Town Councils.

31. Community Working Update

Kate Garner, Community Working noted that Maggie Rowlands, the Community Regeneration officer for the area was unable to attend the meeting and noted the work currently being undertaken by Maggie. Members of the public were asked to approach Kate Garner at the end of the meeting for any further information or Maggie's contact details.

32. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th March 2010 at 7.00 p.m at Selattyn School, Glyn Road, Selattyn.

The deadline for bids in the next round of funding was noted as 1st March 2010.

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____