



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

18th October 2011
7.00 pm

Item /Paper

4

Public

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

**NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH MAY 2010 AT 7.00PM,
THE LAST INN, HENGOED, OSWESTRY, SY10 7EU.**

PRESENT:

Members of the Committee:

Councillor Steve Davenport	Shropshire Council – St Martins
Councillor Trevor Davies	Shropshire Council – Selattyn & Gobowen
Councillor David Lloyd	Shropshire Council – Selattyn & Gobowen
Councillor Mrs Angela Bright	Weston Rhyn Parish Council
Councillor David Boyce	St Martins Parish Council
Councillor Mark Turner	Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council

Also present:

Julie Ruler	Community Action Officer
Shelley Davies	Committee Officer (Notes)
Mark Pembleton	Service Manager for Business and Enterprise
Karen Whitney-Lang	Regeneration & Tourism Manager (Wrexham
	County Borough Council)
Hugh Flouch	Networked Neighbourhoods

There were approximately 24 members of the public at the meeting.

1. Election of Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and

AGREED:

That Councillor Lloyd be elected Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and

AGREED:

That Councillor Turner be elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

3. Welcome and Introduction from the Chairman

The Chairman introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that the Local Joint Committee operated as a key link between the Unitary Council, Parish/Town Councils and the people who live in the community.

4. Apologies for Absence

None received.

5. Declarations of Interest

The following personal interests were declared

Councillor Mark Turner – Agenda Item 13, Funding Application J.

Councillor David Lloyd - Agenda Item 13, Funding Application B.

Councillors Mrs Angela Bright and Steve Davenport - Agenda Item 13, Funding Application I.

6. Notes of the previous meeting

AGREED: That the notes of the meeting held on 16th February 2011 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

7. Feedback from Local Joint Committee Meeting held on 16th February 2011.

A list of issues raised at the previous meeting with feedback was circulated. The Chairman referred to the issues raised at the previous meeting and gave an update on each item.

8. PACT

Sgt Pugh attended the meeting to give an update on local policing issues and answer any questions from members of the public.

Sgt Pugh reported that there had been a number of scrap metal thefts in the area and urged members of the public to secure their belongings and report anything suspicious to the police. It was noted that shed burglaries were also on the increase and that shed alarms were available from the police for vulnerable people.

The issue of speeding was raised as a concern and Sgt Pugh explained that he would like to have an officer dedicated to speed enforcement but it was not possible to resource.

The situation regarding the future of Community Support Officers (CSOs) was questioned. Sgt Pugh explained that funding for CSOs was ring fenced until 2012. The Committee agreed to send a message to the incoming Chief Constable in relation to the value of CSOs.

9. Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site Presentation

The Committee received a joint presentation on the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site from Mark Pembleton, Service Manager for Business and Enterprise (Shropshire Council) and Karen Whitney-Lang, Regeneration & Tourism Manager

(Wrexham County Borough Council).

Mark Pembleton detailed the background to the site and noted that the 11 mile canal corridor was determined a World Heritage Site (WHS) by UNESCO in June 2009 because of its international importance for architecture and engineering.

It was reported that Shropshire Council was currently working on a car park project at the Poachers Pocket site which would act as a gateway for the WHS, giving access from the Shropshire side and removing pressure from the access point at Chirk Bank.

Mark Pembleton explained that articles had been published in the national press to promote the area and a new guide on how to access the area using Public Transport had been produced. It was also noted that Leader + funding had enabled British Waterways to improve the towpath in Chirk Bank and make it more accessible.

Karen Whitney-Lang explained that an overall sign strategy was needed for the whole 11 mile site and the focus at present was concentrated at getting this right.

In response to a question in relation to timescales for signage, Karen Whitney-Lang explained that there had been no timescales given by UNESCO and that it was unlikely in the current financial climate that signs would be in place within the next 6 – 12 months.

A member of the public stated that traffic lights were needed at the Chirk Tunnel and also suggested that New Marton Locks was a good site for an information point.

Maggie Rowlands, Secretary for the Aqueducks explained the work that they had undertaken as the community group for the WHS project.

10. Youth Activities and Provision Update

The Committee received an update on Youth Activities and Provision from Julie Ruler, Community Action Officer and gave details of youth events for the Summer.

11. Big Lottery Update

A Big Lottery Update was circulated at the meeting.

Hugh Flouch gave a presentation on Networked Neighbourhoods – a new initiative from the Big Local Trust to get communities together through local online channels.

In response to questions Hugh Flouch:

- Confirmed that the initiative tries to engage all members of the public through different technology such as video/audio.

- Works well in rural as well as urban areas
- Strengthens and improves relationships between residents and the local press.

12. Public Question Time

Sue Napper – Disabled Holiday Information circulated a guide produced using funding from the LJC Community Fund.

13. Community Fund

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

Agreed:

(a) That Gobowen, St Martins and Weston Rhyn LJC agrees delegation of £1,306 it has received to support art activity within its area, to Oswestry and District Arts Association who will utilise it to run a small Arts Grants programme on behalf of the LJC.

(b) That the following are allocated funding as stated:

- A. Fairfield Residents Group - £745
- B. All Saints Church Hall - £1000
- C. St Johns Church – Decision deferred
- D. Zebra Crossing Gobowen - £2500
- E. Community Meals Project - £850
- F. Preeshenlle Lunches - £572
- G. 1st Gobowen Scout Hall - £1000
- H. After Offa - £1500
 - I. 3PYA holiday sessions - £1000
- J. Selattyn Holiday Club - £320
- K. Oswestry & District Arts Association - £1306

14. Community Action Update

Julie Ruler, Community Action Officer gave an update and noted that the deadline for the next round of the Community Fund was 16th September 2011.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 18th October 2011 in St Martins Centre.

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____