



Committee and date:
Harlescott and Bagley Local Joint
Committee
4 March 2010
7.00 p.m.

Item
4(i)
Public

HARLESCOTT AND BAGLEY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH DECEMBER 2009 AT 7.00 P.M. AT GREENFIELDS AND DISTRICT SPORTS AND SOCIAL COMMUNITY CLUB (GREENFIELDS BOWLING CLUB), 19C FALSTAFF STREET, GREENFIELDS, SHREWSBURY

Responsible Officer: Sarah Townsend

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Committee Members Present:

Councillor Beverley Baker (Shropshire Council)
Councillor Vernon Bushell, Chairman (Shropshire Council)
Councillor David Farmer (Shrewsbury Town Council)
Councillor Susan Taggart (Shrewsbury Town Council)

Shropshire Council Officers Present:

Steph Jackson, Lead Officer
Ruth Houghton, Support Lead Officer
Steve Cunningham, Senior Community Regeneration Officer (Central)
Hugh Dannatt, Group Manager for Traffic and Highway Engineering
Sarah Townsend, Committee Officer (Notes)

Other Officers in Attendance:

Sam Hamer, Community Fire and Safety Officer, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
Tom Pooler, Performance Manager, West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership

West Mercia Police Officers Present:

Sgt Ram Aston
CSO David Bryant
CSO Steven Mellor

There were approximately 20 members of the public in attendance.

ACTION

1. Chairman's Welcome

1.1 The Chairman made an introductory statement welcoming everyone to the meeting and gave a brief explanation and background about the purpose and powers of the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

2.1 Apologies for absence were received from several members of the public.

3. Declarations of Interest

3.1 No declarations of interest were received.

4. Notes of the Previous Meeting

4.1 **RESOLVED:**

That the notes of the meeting of the Harlescott and Bagley Local Joint Committee held on 14th September 2009 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

4.2 The content of the Comments, Questions and Suggestions Action Sheet was also noted.

5. Local News and Information

5.1 The Chairman informed the meeting of the following items and explained that further information was available to be taken away at the end of the meeting should anyone wish to find out more:

- Consultation on Shropshire's Community Strategy 2010 – 2020;
- Consultation on a proposed new bus stop on Ellesmere Road, Shrewsbury; and
- A Shropshire Council press release on the de-registering of the No. 6 bus service.

5.2 Steph Jackson, Lead Officer, reported that since Shropshire Council had received notice from Arriva regarding the de-registering of the No. 6 bus service, Officers had been working with Bryn Melyn, the operator of service 501, which runs from Shrewsbury to Ellesmere along the same corridor. From Monday, 4th January 2010 this bus would serve the Little Harlescott Grange area and the Battlefield Enterprise Park on an hourly basis. The bus would also serve Hubert Way twice in the morning to take passengers into the town centre and twice in the afternoon to enable passengers to travel home.

5.3 A local resident expressed their disappointment that the 501 Bryn Melyn bus service would not be operating via Meadow Farm Drive and the Lantern.

6. Partners and Communities Together Meeting (PACT)

6.1 Sgt Ram Aston, West Mercia Police, provided an update on the issues of concern raised at the previous meeting, as follows:

- The Alleyway from Ludford Drive through to Mount Pleasant Road – problems with litter and anti-social behaviour.
This was a PACT priority following the last meeting and a site visit was subsequently undertaken, with a decision that the alleyway was unlikely to be considered for a gating order (please refer to the Comments, Questions and Suggestions Action Sheet for further information). However, it was noted that the Community Support Officers (CSO's) would increase patrols in the alleyway and Environmental Maintenance would increase the frequency of cleansing in the alleyway.
- Speeding along Ellesmere Road.
This had been looked into and several speeding tickets had been issued.
- Cycling within the Bagley Ward.
A number of tickets had been issued.

6.2 It was reported that there had recently been some break-ins within Harlescott and the local policing team would be visiting all local businesses to make them aware of the situation.

Sgt. RA

6.3 Sgt Aston invited members of the public to identify any issues of concern, which the local policing team would prioritise over the next three months. The following issues were raised:

- The riding of track bikes on Greenfields Recreational Field.
It was noted that this was illegal and that the local policing team would monitor the situation. Members of the public were encouraged to contact the local policing team if they saw any incidents occur.

Sgt. RA

- Cycling Sign in Wood Street and Hotspur Street.
It was suggested that the sign should be lowered as several people had reported that they hadn't noticed it.
- Camross Drive - Stealing of wheelie bins and setting them alight on bonfire night.
CSO David Bryant stated that he was aware of the situation and several children had been warned regarding the incident. It was noted that a member of the local policing team would visit the residents concerned prior to next year's bonfire night in order to establish whether it would be possible to secure the wheelie bins.

6.4 In terms of the staffing of the local policing team, it was noted that from 5th January 2010, Sgt Aston would be responsible for the Harlescott, Bagley and Ditherington areas and that West Mercia Police were currently looking to recruit another CSO in Bagley and another three or four CSO's in Harlescott.

7. Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service

7.1 Sam Hamer, Community Fire and Safety Officer, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service, reported on the work undertaken within Shropshire primary schools and fire safety within the home. The importance of smoke alarms in all households was emphasised and it was noted that a free home fire safety check and a ten year smoke alarm was available to anyone on request by ringing (01743) 260260 or by contacting the Community Fire Safety Department at Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service, Brigade Headquarters, St Michael's Street, Shrewsbury, SY1 2HJ.

7.2 Following a question, it was noted that smoke alarms were also available for those who were hard of hearing and / or partially sighted.

8. West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership

8.1 Tom Pooler, Performance Manager, West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership, reported on the work of the partnership. He stated that the Partnership was a partnership of 13 organisations, which included Shropshire Council, with the overall aim being to reduce the number of casualties and make the roads safer for all users in West Mercia through speed enforcement and by seeking to change attitudes and behaviour.

8.2 Hugh Dannatt, Shropshire Council's Group Manager for Traffic and Highway Engineering, was in attendance to answer questions specifically related to the local area. He explained that his team was currently investigating the following local issues:

- The designs for an extra crossing on Ellesmere Road;
- The speed limit and possible installation of a crossing on Hubert Road;
- The speed limits along Whitchurch and Sundorne Roads and whether they should be reduced.
- If / how the area in front of the railway station gyratory could be improved as Shropshire Council had specifically acquired £500,000 for this purpose.

8.3 It was suggested that an advance warning sign was needed to make lorry drivers aware of the low railway bridge in town as lorries were either getting stuck under the railway bridge or were forced to go the wrong way along Chester Street.

8.4 It was suggested that the speed limit along Ellesmere Road to Battlefield Island should be reduced to 30 mph. Mr Dannatt replied that whilst he was aware that this had been previously suggested, it was not a priority because very few accidents had occurred along this stretch of the road.

8.5 Mr Dannatt reported that all speed limits were required to be reviewed by 2011 with A and B roads being the first priority. In order to achieve this, criteria such as the busyness of the road and the total number of accidents that had taken place on the road were some of the things being investigated.

9. Community Working Update

9.1 Steve Cunningham, Senior Community Regeneration Officer, provided an update on several initiatives that he had recently been involved with. These included:

- **Journey to Work Guide**
Steve reported that Harlescott was a Neighbourhood Education Skills Plan (NESP) area, as it had been identified as an area with a high level of unemployment. The 'Journey to Work' Guide had been designed to help people to get back into work by sign posting them to the various provisions within the community.
- **Harlescott Community Centre**
Provided support to the Management Committee and currently looking at writing a business plan to help with the sustainability of the community centre.
- **Grease Monkey's Project**
Helped with this project by introducing the group to various contacts in order to make their project fully informed and make sure that it had the appropriate qualifications to make it viable. Also provided advice on where they could obtain funding.
- **Greenfields Bowling Club and Community Centre**
Met with members of the Management Committee regarding decorating and making various improvements to the club and promoting the facility within the community. Also, provided support with their grant funding application form.
- **Harlescott Grange Estate Walkabout**
Attended a walk around the estate with Severnside Housing Officers, Councillors, Residents and Council Officers to identify issues needing to be sorted.
- **Patch Meeting**
Met with the Police, Severnside Housing, Schools and a student to look at ways in which everyone could work more effectively together and in a more co-ordinated way.
- **Kick Racism out of Football**
Involved in this across the county but recently gave a talk at Mount Pleasant School.
- **Youth Bowls Team**
Helped with an application to the Sports Advisory Council.

9.2 Mr Cunningham stated that the above list contained some of the ways in which he could provide help and assistance to those living and working within the local community. Local residents were encouraged to contact him if they had any queries or wanted further information.

9.3 Following a question relating to the setting up of a community newsletter, Mr Cunningham reiterated that he would happily support representatives from the community to develop this, but interest was firstly needed from local residents.

9.4 In relation to network lunches, Mr Cunningham reported that the next one would be held in North Shrewsbury and that they would probably be held on a quarterly basis. He hoped that one would be held in Harlescott in the near future.

10. Applications for Funding

10.1 Steph Jackson, Lead Officer, introduced her report (copy attached to the signed notes), which set out the details of three grant funding applications that had been received.

10.2 It was reported that a further request to fund a footpath between Grafton Mews and York Road had also been received, but had been passed to Community Services for the Rights of Way team to consider as, if approved, it would need to be added to the Council's Schedule of Maintenance.

10.3 The Chairman invited applicants to present their funding applications to those present and the Committee were asked if they had any further comments to make prior to voting on each application.

10.4 RESOLVED:

(a) That the following applications funded from the 2009/2010 budget, be approved:

Application	Amount
Grease Monkeys	£2,059.54
Harlescott Wolves Football Team	£500.00
Greenfields Bowling Club and Community Centre	£1,760.00

(b) That an update on the request to fund a footpath between Grafton Mews and York Road be provided at the next meeting.

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11. Budget Consultation

11.1 Steph Jackson, Lead Officer and Head of Exchequer Services, gave a presentation on the proposed Shropshire Council budget for 2010/2011.

11.2 The key messages for the 2010/11 budget were as follows:

- To protect key services, consolidate the Council's revenue budget and minimise the pressure on Council Tax;
- To save £7.1m;
- To set aside £2m to prepare for an assumed grant loss of £4m in 2011/12; and
- To improve services through capital investment.

11.3 An interactive consultation exercise was then conducted with a series of questions posed to the public with voting using electronic keypads to determine the responses. It was noted that the results of the exercise would be taken into account by the Council in determining its 2010/11 budget.

12. Public Question Time

12.1 The Chairman invited questions / comments from members of the public. Issues raised included:

- Steve Cunningham, Senior Community Regeneration Officer, was thanked for the advice and support that he had provided to Greenfields Bowling Club and Community Centre with their grant application form.
- Whether the Coton Hill Circular could go down Greenfields Street. (Please refer to the Comments, Questions and Suggestions Action Sheet for the full question and Officer response).
- Whether anyone could submit a grant application form to the Local Joint Committee.
The Chairman advised that applications could only be submitted by people

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involved with an actual organisation / project etc.

- It was requested that anyone involved in a local project / organisation be allowed to bring their promotional leaflets to future meetings in order that they could be taken away by anyone interested in finding out more. The Chairman agreed to this request.

13. Future Agenda Items

- 13.1 It was noted that several agenda items had been suggested at the last meeting for inclusion within the 4th March 2010 meeting (please refer to the Comments, Questions and Suggestions Action Sheet for further information).

14. Date of Next Meeting

- 14.1 It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Harlescott and Bagley Local Joint Committee would be held on Thursday, 4th March 2010 at 7.00 p.m. (venue to be confirmed).

The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....