

**Committee and Date**

Loton and Tern Local Joint Committee

20th January 2010**Item/Paper****8**

Public

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COMMUNITY WORKING UPDATE**Playbuilder Funding**

Playbuilder is a national initiative being led by the Department for Children, School and Families, which will see significant funding invested in outdoor play as part of a three-year programme from 2008-09 to 2010-11. Shropshire Council has recently secured Playbuilder status, which will enable us to refurbish or develop 22 play areas, for 8 -13 year olds, across the county over the next two years.

Two parishes in the LJC have expressed an interest in applying for Playbuilder funding to develop play areas in their communities. Westbury Parish Council has put in an expression of interest to The Playbuilder funding programme for a new play area behind Brookside Gardens in Yockleton. If successful in the first phase of applying for Playbuilder funding they would look to consult with members of the public on what equipment would be needed. Up to £50,000 could be available, although they may also look to make an application to the Local Joint Committee if additional funding is required.

Bomere Heath Council are also looking to develop a similar project within Bomere Heath, although this site is linked to a Severn Trent site and funding from Playbuilder may not be the most suitable fund to develop this project. I'll be working with Dorothy Jones from Shropshire Council to see how best to support this project.

Charter for Shropshire Councils

With the creation of Shropshire Council, following local government re-organisation in April 2009, there is a need for a new Charter between all councils in Shropshire. The original "Charter for Shropshire Councils" was created in 2004 and was adopted by the County Council, the five District and Borough Councils and a number of the 154 parish and town councils in Shropshire.

The new Shropshire Charter will assist in building further on the existing strong, collaborative partnership-working between the different councils in the county that between them represent all levels of democratic local government in Shropshire.

A draft Charter has been published and is now out for consultation. A copy of the Charter has been sent to all parish and town councils and a copy can be downloaded from the Shropshire Council website at www.shropshire.gov.uk/communityworking. If you have any comments on the Charter please send them to the Head of Community Working, Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND. Email communityworking@shropshire.gov.uk by March 31st 2010

Potential future applications to the LJC for funding

Shrewsbury Squash Club, who are based next to Shrewsbury rugby club, in the Uffington Parish are interested in applying to the Local Joint Committee. They would like to upgrade their two squash courts at an estimated cost of £3600, although full quotes for the work are still being sort. They aim to submit a full application ahead of our March LJC meeting.