

LOTON AND TERN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH OCTOBER 2010
7.00 – 8.40 p.m.

Responsible Officer Ken James

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Committee Members Present:

John Everall	Shropshire Council
David Roberts	Shropshire Council
Betty Carlyle	Alberbury with Cardeston Parish Council
Malcolm Colclough	Astley Parish Council
Elliott Blackmore	Bicton Parish Council
Mike Wilkie	Bomere Heath and District Parish Council
John Cooke	Great Ness and Little Ness Parish Council
Tony Hill	Montford Parish Council
Lynne Padmore	Uffington Parish Council
Barry Bennion	Upton Magna Parish Council
Gordon Davies	Westbury Parish Council
Shirley Davies	Withington Parish Council

Shropshire Council Officers present:

Stephen Chandler, Lead Officer, Shropshire Council
Mathew Mead, Community Regeneration Officer
Ken James, Committee Officer

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

ACTION

1. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Sue Llewellyn (Bicton Parish Council).

Elliott Blackmore substituted for Sue Llewellyn.

2. Declarations of Interest

Betty Carlyle – Personal interest in respect of the grant funding application from Alberbury Village Hall.

3. Notes of Previous Meeting

It was **Resolved** that the Notes of the meeting held on 15th July 2010 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. LJC Update

The following reports on actions taken on the following matters raised at the previous meeting on 15th July 2010 were noted:

Car Parking around Shrewsbury Rugby Club on match days increasing danger on the already dangerous road leading to Haughmond Hill and the need to examine use of the old canal route as a safe way to access Haughmond Hill

Arrangements had been made for the Head of Technical Services and the Team Leader Traffic Management and Regulation to address this meeting on the issues raised affecting rural roads in the area (see Minute 6 below).

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign

Arrangements had been made for the Head of Technical Services and the Team Leader Traffic Management and Regulation to address this meeting on the policy and criteria for the provision of Vehicle Activated Speed Signs (see Minute 6 below).

5. Local Policing Update

PC Colin Barrett was unable to attend.

6. Rural Roads in the LJC Area

Kevin Aitken, the Team Leader – Traffic Management and Regulation, and Ron Buzzacott, Head of Technical Services addressed the meeting on the action being taken on the following road safety issues causing concern in the area:

B5062 – Newport Road

Funding had recently been secured through the payment of a commuted sum tied to a planning consent for Haughmond Hill Quarry to assist in the provision of a new speed limit from Sundorne Roundabout up to at least the timber merchants on the B5062 and possibly to the boundary with Telford and Wrekin Council. A 50mph speed limit would be sought supported by a Vehicle Activated Sign. In addition, it was proposed that the give way road markings at junctions would be re-lined and damaged signs replaced. Discussions were being held with Telford and Wrekin Council to improve the road markings on their side of the crossroads at the boundary. It was expected that the speed limit would be introduced and the works undertaken in the new year. The Head of Technical Services indicated that the Council would be speaking with the Police about increasing the proactive enforcement of speed limits.

Cycle Facilities to Haughmond Hill

The Team Leader – Traffic Management and Regulation stated that the old canal route was an established cycling and walking route for access from Shrewsbury to Haughmond Hill. The old canal route took cyclists as far as Uffington without having to ride on the B5062 and it was

**Ron
Buzzacott**

considered that Haughmond Hill could be reached by bicycle along the track leading from the village. Further discussions would take place with Cycle Shrewsbury and the Forestry Commission on improving signage and measures for safer cycling access.

Vehicle Activated Signs

The Team Leader – Traffic Management and Regulation and the Head of Technical Services gave a brief summary of the policy and the criteria required to be met for the provision of a Vehicle Activated Sign. They indicated that the provision of a Vehicle Activated Sign in Yockleton was being looked into as part of the Village Speed Limit Scheme. Daytime speed checks had been undertaken in Alberbury and average traffic speeds of 41mph in the direction of Crew Green and 39mph in the direction of Ford had been found which complied with the 40mph speed limit and did not meet the criteria for the provision of a Vehicle Activated Sign. The Team Leader – Traffic Management and Regulation undertook to provide Betty Carlyle with details of the dates, times and locations at which the speed checks had been made.

**Kevin
Aitken**

Impact on local roads from Traffic associated with Wind Farms and Chicken Farms in Powys

The Head of Technical Services indicated that Highways Development Control at the Shirehall dealt with the traffic issues on these matters and he undertook to check on the position with them and report to the next meeting.

**Ron
Buzzacott**

Question raised by Mr Smith about whether the residents along the B4393 in Alberbury could be provided with mirrors opposite their driveways to aid their view of the road when pulling out?

The Head of Technical Services stated that the Council had to approve the installation of mirrors on the highway but did not fund their provision.

7. Resolutions from Parish Councils

The following resolution from Montford Parish Council, which had been deferred from the last meeting for parish representatives to seek the views of their respective parish councils, was considered:

SAMDev Definition of Open Countryside

Montford Parish Council asks the Local Joint Committee to support its request for Shropshire Council to expand the SAMDev definition of Open Countryside to include: "some strictly limited sensible and appropriate development of private housing and commercial premises as determined on a site by site basis providing it benefits the wider local community and that any site is supported by the local parish council." Note: At present "Open Countryside" such as Montford Parish allows no private housing, only affordable housing, replacement housing, workers homes and gypsy sites; and over the decades such a restrictive policy would inevitably lead to a gradual decline of our smaller settlements.

It was **Agreed** that the proposal be supported.

**Ken
James**

8. Community Working Update

Mathew Mead reported to the meeting as follows:

Olympian Festival June 2011

To mark Shropshire's connection to the modern Olympic movement, a series of events would be held in the county in the build up to the 2012 Olympics in London. These include the Shropshire Olympian Festival which would be held in the Quarry in Shrewsbury on 17-19th June 2011.

The organisers of the event would very much like all parts of the county to participate in the fun and games and to fly the flag for your important part of the county. There were various ways in which this could happen. The programme was still being drawn up, but the outline of the Festival was as follows:

Friday June 17 was a Schools Day, when schools from all over the county would compete in some of the athletic events held in 1864 and some others just for fun. There would also be exhibitions and competitions in poetry, painting, dancing and story-telling, as well as Victorian entertainment.

On Saturday June 18, the Council would collaborate with the Shrewsbury Carnival, which brings thousands of people into the town centre. We would also be holding sports and games, exhibitions and competitions for adults. It would be great if there was a team from each part of Shropshire competing. There would be an opportunity to march in the Grand Procession through the town with a banner and much else to enjoy through the day and into the evening. After Old Time Music Hall at Theatre Severn, the Quarry would be brilliantly illuminated.

On Sunday June 19, there would be mounted games and a regatta, music and a Grand Victorian Picnic, more entertainment, prize-giving and a Grand Finale.

In order to generate interest in the Festival a series workshops would be held around the county to encourage community groups to get involved and take part in the events. Details of the workshops were as set out below and the public were asked to pass on the details of these to any community groups they worked with and encourage them to attend:

All sessions start at 7.30pm and will last about an hour.

1 st Nov 2010	Shirehall, Shrewsbury
2 nd Nov 2010	Pontesbury Public Hall
8 th Nov 2010	Bridgnorth Library
9 th Nov 2010	The Qube, Oswestry
16 th Nov 2010	Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms
23 rd Nov 2010	Festival Drayton, Market Drayton

The organisers are particularly keen to meet representatives from Young Farmers, Choirs, W.I, Arts & Crafts Groups (including knitting and embroidery), Church Groups, Senior Citizens and other Community Groups, but anybody was welcome to attend.

There would be opportunities to represent your local town, village, club, group in Sports (like tug of war, three legged races) and Arts (i.e painting, embroidery, choral singing), to help decorate the Quarry, to join

in the Shrewsbury Carnival and to enjoy the Victorian entertainment and spectacle. Professional sports and arts specialists will advise and assist.

The person to contact for further information and to register to attend a workshop was –

Sarah Rollason on 01743 252305 sarah.rollason@shropshire.gov.uk

Community Games 2011 and 2012

The Community Games project aimed to bring the inspiration of the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics to the West Midlands through a series of "Community Games". Across the West Midlands they aimed to run 500 events and involve 100,000 people. The project in Shropshire was being run by Energise Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.

The aim in Shropshire was to hold 88 events across the county, and involve 21,000 participants in a wide range of activities. These could be linked to sports clubs, but also the organisers were keen to get communities across Shropshire to think about what "community games" they can run in 2012 to mark the Olympic games. The only real stipulation for a group to take part was that they must hold an opening and closing ceremony. Some ideas for events were:

- Taster sessions run by existing sports or arts groups to offer people a chance to try new sports or activities.
- Photography or arts competitions within a sheltered housing scheme
- "Its a Knockout" style events on a village green.
- "Battle of the Bands" involving youth groups
- Events celebrating local food such as a cake baking competition and

They were particularly keen to involve groups who don't normally take part in these events, and to work with community groups and community facilities, to bring long term benefits as a result of the games.

Local Joint Committee Web Pages

Shropshire Council was in the process of updating the Local Joint Committee pages on its website. The new pages were designed to be more attractive and interactive for members of the public visiting the site. The new pages would include links to committee papers; information about projects funded by the LJC; news about the area and pages where members of the public could report issues within their LJC area.

The new pages also allowed us to do features on projects and events taking place in each area, so if any interesting events were planned then please contact the community working officer so they can be featured on the website. It was also intended to use photographs from the area on the new pages and the public were asked to send copies of any good photographs they had of the area onto the Community Working officer for them to be featured on the website.

There would also be links to all of the parish council websites, as we hoped to encourage people who had attended the LJC to also attend their local parish council meetings as well.

Community Fund 2010

The projects that were successful in applying to the Shropshire Council Community Fund had been announced in September. Nineteen projects had been awarded grants of between £5,000 and £40,000 to create and improve arts, community and sports facilities in the local community. A total of £322,000 was awarded in total.

In this LJC area Bicton Village Hall received a grant of £6,000 but unfortunately Bomere Heath Village Hall was unsuccessful with their application. Those projects that were unsuccessful with their applications were being offered advice on alternative funding sources, such as the lottery based Awards for All scheme.

It was hoped that the National Lottery Community Buildings Grant, which provided grants of between £50,000 and £250,000 would be re-launched in 2011. Should the fund be made available it would be a further possible source of funding for community venues to apply to for larger redevelopments or upgrades of their facilities.

9. Funding Applications

- (a) The Committee considered the report of the Lead Officer setting out details of the funding bids received since the previous meeting on 15th July 2010.

It was **Resolved**:

That the following funding applications be approved:

- Withington Village Green Committee – New Equipment for Village Green Events - £2,264.86
- Alberbury Village Hall – Improvements to Toilet Facilities - £2,572
- Westbury Ladies Rounders Club – Purchase of New Equipment and League Fees - £400
- Bicton Village Hall – Refurbishment of Entrance Hall - £5,000
- Shropshire Angling Federation – Oxon Nature and Fishing Reserve - £5,000
- Nesscliffe Village Hall – New Stage Lighting - £2,000
- Bowbrook Archers – New Archery Targets - £600

- (b) Purchase of Vehicle Activated Speed Sign

It was **Agreed** that, following indications of interest from Alberbury and Montford in the shared VAS, consideration of a final decision be deferred to the next meeting for further speed checks in Alberbury and Montford to see if those areas met the criteria for the provision of a VAS by Shropshire Council; and to explore the sharing of costs with the Longden, Ford and Rea Valley LJC.

**Stephen
Chandler**

**Kevin
Aitken
and Mat
Mead**

10. Feedback on Funded Projects

- (a) The following letter from the Parish Clerk of Bicton Parish Council was submitted to the meeting:

“Bicton Parish Council has asked me to thank the Loton and Tern LJC for the grant to restore the Old Pool in Bicton.

This pool is adjacent to what would have been the 'A5' before Telford bypassed it.

It, and many others like it, would have been vital for watering animals.

Over the years it had silted up and attracted rubbish.

It is now restored and instead of being a dump it is a valuable wildlife resource that enhances the whole area.

A wildlife expert visited the site and it was a real thrill to hear her squeals of delight as she found rare flora and fauna that can only exist in such an environment.

The value of the grant that the LJC awarded for this project was magnified to many times its actual amount by the natural efficiency that a parish council can bring to such an enterprise. A parish council has detailed knowledge of the locale, its resources, the local people and is able to attract volunteers.”

- (b) Barry Bennion of Upton Magna Parish Council gave a presentation to the meeting on the Upton Magna Village Fete 2010 which was supported by grant funding from the LJC. He thanked the LJC for its support for an event that brought the local community together and made a major impact in the area for a small amount of money.

11. Future Agenda Items and Questions from the Public

Members of the public were invited to raise any issues of concern and highlight any matters for the Committee to consider at its future meetings.

Issues raised at the meeting included:

- A question was raised on the new Government's approach to planning and the involvement of local communities in decision making and how that would apply to parish councils. In response the Chairman undertook to look into the matter.
- A question was raised about the Council's budget for Local Joint Committees in 2011/12. In response the Chairman indicated that he understood that LJC budgets should remain the same for 2011/12.

The following items would be raised at the meeting on 3rd February 2011:

- Update on the Council's Budget position.
- Health Provision in the Rural Area – A representative from the Shropshire Primary Care Trust would be invited to speak.

**David
Roberts**

**Ken
James**

12. Feedback on the Meeting

All those present were asked to complete and return the feedback forms circulated before leaving.

13. Next Meeting

It was **Noted** that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Thursday 3rd February 2011 at Astley Village Hall.

ALL

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....