

LOTON AND TERN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

**NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 MARCH 2012
AT 7.00 PM IN UPTON MAGNA VILLAGE HALL, UPTON MAGNA**

Responsible Officer: Liz Sidaway
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Committee Members Present:

John Overall	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
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:

Mathew Mead, Community Action Officer
Liz Sidaway, Committee Officer
George Candler, Assistant Director (North)
Alison Brock, ICT Client Support Manager
Stuart Thomas, Area Manager Development Management

There were approximately 10 members of the public present at the meeting.

43. Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

44. Apologies for Absence and notification of Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received the Local Policing Team.

45. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Malcolm Colclough declared a personal interest in the Funding Applications Report (Minute Number 38) in respect of the application for a Weather Proofing Astley Village Hall as he was a frequent user of the hall.

46. Notes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That the notes of the meeting held on 24 November 2011 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

ACTION

47. Local Policing Update

A written submission was considered by the Committee in the absence of the Local Policing Team. No other issues were raised.

48. Resolutions from Parish Councils

None received.

49. Update on Countywide Broadband Project

Alison Brock, ICT Client Support Manager gave a presentation on the Connecting Shropshire Broadband project and explained that the Council had secured £6.2 million from central government (via Broadband Delivery UK) to be spent on improving broadband coverage for households and businesses. As part of the project, the Council will be working with communities and businesses to formulate a business plan to identify how the funding should be spent. It was anticipated that by 2015, all Shropshire business and households will have access to an affordable, efficient and fast broadband service. The project's objectives were summarised as follows:

- 100% of Shropshire to have access to broadband by December 2015
- 10% increase in demand for broadband across Shropshire within a year of the project being completed
- 100% of Shropshire to access broadband in all market towns and key settlements by December 2015
- 10% of Shropshire businesses to adopt superfast broadband within 12 months of it being made available

Alison Brock answered questions from those present and confirmed that full details about the project could be found at www.connectingshropshire.co.uk and confirmed that paper copies were available to be sent to those without internet access.

The Chairman thanked Alison Brock for the informative presentation.

50. Area Director's Update

The Chairman welcomed George Candler Area Director (North) to the meeting. George Candler outlined the work associated with the role of Area Director and explained how each of the three Area Directors were operating within their localities.

He indicated that each of the three area directors led on a specific project and he was responsible for the review of leisure.

A number of points were raised and questions asked in relation to the future management and outsourcing of the Council's leisure services, Mr Candler reported that the buildings would remain council assets but that the new running arrangements should result in better public services and improved customer satisfaction. He confirmed that consultation had taken place with stakeholders and other interested parties and that a final decision would be taken later in the year.

Mr Candler was thanked for this attendance and input into the meeting.

51. Planning Policy Update

Stuart Thomas, Area Manager Development Management was

welcomed to the meeting. Mr Thomas indicated that the planning department as the second only to Birmingham in the West Midlands area dealing with 4,000 planning applications annually.

Mr Thomas updated the meeting on the current Shropshire Council planning policy on wind turbines and on affordable housing. He also urged all interested parties to make comment on the SAMDev which was currently out for consultation.

In response to a question about the installation of wind turbines, he indicated that the national guidance contained in the PPS22 was adhered to and more locally, policy CS8 of the Core Strategy. He reported that the new SAMDev was likely to have more specific planning policies and would consider landscape and visual impacts together with the impact on noise and biodiversity. He also confirmed that every application was considered on an individual basis and that a loss of amenity, such as a view, was not considered to be a planning issue.

Mr Thomas outlined the Council's affordable housing strategy and threshold for delivery. He indicated that the local policy was contained in the Core Strategy and also outlined the exception sites criteria. He confirmed that Shropshire Council adopted a proactive role for affordable housing.

The Chairman thanked Mr Thomas for his informative update.

38. Loton and Tern Local Joint Committee Funding Applications

The Community Action Officer presented his report setting out details of the funding bids received since the previous meeting on the 24 November 2011.

RESOLVED:

That the following funding applications **be approved:**

- Bicton PCC - Pointing of Bicton Churchyard Boundary Wall - application for funding towards the repair and repointing of Bicton Churchyard Boundary Wall - £2,000.00
- Astley Village Hall - Weatherproofing of the Hall - application for the cost of weatherproofing the village hall - £2,000.00
- Montford Bridge Millennium Green - application for replacement fencing - £350.00
- Westbury Senior Citizens Fitness Group - application to help in meeting the costs of running the fitness sessions - £576.00
- Withington Parish Council Jubilee Celebrations - application for a contribution towards the costs of the jubilee celebrations - £350.00
- Bomere Heath Village Hall - application for a contribution towards the upgrading of the current facilities in the hall - £2,000.00
- Yockleton Village hall - application for a contribution towards the renovation of the kitchen - £2,000 subject to the submission of appropriate quotes to the Community Action Officer.

- Uffington Village Hall - application for improvements to the pedestrian access to the hall and for a new cooker - £2,000.00 be granted subject to sufficient match funding being secured.
- Upton Magna Parish Council Jubilee Celebrations - application for a contribution towards the costs of the jubilee celebrations - £350.00
- Jubilee Celebrations - it was agreed by all members of the Committee that sufficient funding from next year's budget be ringfenced to enable each Parish Council within the Loton and Tern Local Joint Committee area to submit an application towards funding for their Jubilee Celebrations (with the exception of Withington and Upton Magna who's applications had been approved during this meeting) - that £2,800. 00 be ringfenced from next year's budget

39. Community Action Update

Parish Council representatives were asked to remind their respective areas that bus passes were due for renewal shortly.
The Olympic Flame route would be passing through it area and a detailed route could be found on the website.

40. 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 included:

- Cycling and new contraflow on Roushill
Post meeting officer update: The road marking work for the new cyclist contra-flow on Roushill was carried out on Sunday 19th February. The contractor first installed the new direction arrows, however, upon installation of the corresponding pre-formed cycle symbols they found their remaining stock of these were broken and therefore unusable. The site was left in an unsatisfactory state where the road layout was confusing to the public. Shropshire Council's engineering officers discussed this situation with the contractor and engineering consultant to ensure this does not occur again. The correct cycle markings have now been installed next to the arrows on site so the new layout is clear]

41. Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Thursday 21 June 2012 at Bomere Heath Village Hall.

ALL

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....