



Committee and Date
Loton and Tern Local Joint
Committee
13 March 2014 at 7.00 pm

Item
1
Public

**LOTON AND TERN
LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE**

**NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS STEMMING FROM THE MEETING HELD
ON 17TH OCTOBER 2013
7.00 PM – 8.45 PM
AT THE PUBLIC HALL, WITHINGTON**

Responsible Officer Mathew Mead

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Committee Members Present:
Shropshire Council

John Everall

Tern Electoral Ward (Chair)

Town/Parish Councils

Malcolm Colclough

Astley Parish Council

Elliott Blackmore

Bicton Parish Council

Barry Bennion

Upton Magna Parish Council

Pam Furber

Bomere Heath Parish Council

David Sandbach

Westbury Parish Council

Phil Heath

Withington Parish Council

Officers Present:

Mathew Mead

Community Action Officer

1. Welcome and introductions

John Everall welcomed councillors, officers and members of the public to the meeting and thanked Withington Parish Council for hosting the meeting and providing the refreshments.

2. Apologies for Absence

Lynne Padmore (Uffington Parish Council); David Nunn (Great Ness and Little Ness Parish Council); Tony Hill (Montford Parish Council); and David Roberts (Shropshire Councillor for Loton Ward).

3. Disposable Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

David Sandbach declared that he received a pension from the NHS.

4. Notes of Previous Meeting

The minutes were agreed as a correct record of the previous LJC on 4th July 2013.

5. Police and Fire Service update.

Details of reported crimes in the LJC area, together with details of local PACT meetings were presented to the Committee.

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service – Brian Welti Baschurch Station

Brian provided an update on possible changes to the Fire Services as highlighted at previous LJC meetings. Budget savings need to be made and there are currently twenty five cutback proposals, being risk assessed by senior officers and stakeholders at present. The outcome will be known in February. The service had already made many savings in its back office arrangements so it would now fall on stations as a means of meeting the new savings targets. At a local level these changes could mean closures of stations in Shrewsbury and Baschurch, and also in Telford. As the LJC covers a large area different parishes may be affected by the changes in different ways.

Letters from members of the public to the MP's had resulted in them arranging a meeting with the Fire Minister to discuss the budget cuts. A series of meetings are also planned in the coming weeks which will allow members of the public to ask Fire Authority Members details about the possible closures. Details will be circulated to the Community Action officer to share with the LJC members.

Fire prevention remains an important part of the services work and a chimney fire campaign will be taking place over the coming months. There was an increase in chimney fires in Shropshire last year and so the service are asking members of the public to make sure their chimneys are cleaned ahead of the winter.

6. Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Paul Tulley – “A Call to Action”

An overview was given on “A Call To Action” which is national discussion regarding the future delivery of health services, through the Clinical Commissioning Group. It was emphasised that this exercise was not about privatisation, charging or what services to cut, but is looking at the challenges of maintaining a high quality services when life expectancy is increasing; the range of services provided by the NHS is widening and people are living with permanent medical conditions. There are also wider pressures on public finances which if they remain unchanged would leave the NHS with a large debt in future years.

In Shropshire there will be a two month of consultation, and the results will be presented to a large conference in Telford on 25th November, with a 3 – 5 year Joint Services Strategy plan responding to the challenges to be published in January

It was acknowledged that there are health inequalities in rural areas and the statistics often hide the true extent of poverty and deprivation. In Shropshire one of the key challenges is balancing the need for high quality acute care, with the needs of the population to access services at two separate sites.

It was explained that clinical studies suggest a population of half million people is required to support a large acute general hospital. Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin have this level of population but the services are split over two sites which broadly try to provide the same level of services.

It was explained that A&E, ITU and Stoke Services are now to be consultant led services, but both hospitals are understaffed and unable to fill vacancies as the hospital provision in Shropshire does not provide an attractive prospect to newly qualified or training consultants due to the lack of a larger team to provide expertise

and new technology. Stroke care has also become more specialised and therefore only one unit can be supported within the county

Views are being sought and consultation forms were circulated with those present asked to complete and respond.

A number of questions and concerns were raised from the floor.

This included questions on whether more non-emergency care could be offered at locations across the county, thus taking pressure away from the A&E at Shrewsbury where parking was limited. The idea of a return of “cottage hospitals” for convalescent care was also raised.

Paul responded by saying that some services such as hearing tests were already delivered by businesses such as Specsavers; and there were clinics such as the one at Monkmoor which people could visit. The principal of local services was certainly one the review would look at, but again it was a case of balancing the quality of care delivered at these locations v their cost.

A question was also asked if the idea of building one new hospital site to serve Shrewsbury and Telford was still being considered. Paul said that while this would solve the issue of services being delivered on two sites, the cost of a new build would be in the region of £300-400 million and in the current financial climate this level of funding would be hard to justify.

Members of the Committee expressed concern that public knowledge of the “Call to Action” was limited, considering its importance in Shropshire, and asked how it had been promoted.

The CCG had been on Radio Shropshire and had articles in the local press, and attended public meetings such as LJC’s. The information had been shared with patient groups, although Paul acknowledged that promotion in hospital clinics may need to be addressed.

As well as acute care the committee asked what was being done to try to prevent long term health conditions such as diabetes, obesity etc.

Many aspects of public health had now transferred to the Local Authority but tackling long term health issues was certainly a major piece of work for the future. Initiatives such as screening programmes, help to quit smoking and to take more exercise were all part of this work and were certainly something that can help reduce hospital admissions in the future. The role of local doctor’s surgeries was also part of this process.

As a result of the importance of the Call to Action consultation and the need to keep local communities involved, Paul or another member of the CCG would attend future LJC meetings to keep people updated on what was happening. Members of the public can read more about the Call To Action and have their say at:

www.shropshireccg.nhs.uk

By emailing calltoaction@telfordccg.nhs.uk

Or by attending the conference at Telford on 25th November. Attendance is free and places can be reserved from 1st November

John Overall thanked Paul for attending the meeting.

7. Resolutions from Parish Councils

No resolutions were put forward for the LJC to consider.

8. Loton and Tern Local Joint Committee Funding report.

The Community Action Officer gave an overview of the funding for the LJC. There is £9,689 remaining to be allocated this financial year. Two types of grants were available a £350 small grant scheme where no match funding is required, and larger grants up to £2,000 where there is the need to provide 50% match funding.

Mr Nick Hall provided the Committee with an update on project 10.35 Astley Church Window repairs to help provide more details on this project for the Committee

The projects listed below were all approved by the Committee at the grant levels indicated.

	Project	Grant Requested	Grant approved
10.33	Upton Magna Village Hall - New Gazebos	£598.00	£598.00
10.34	Fitz Village Hall - New Porch	£350.00	£350.00
10.35	Astley Church Window repairs	£2,000.00	£1,000.00
10.36	Westbury Play Area repairs	£550.00	£550.00
10.37	Bicton VH new lights	£1,134.96	£1,134.96
10.38	Nesscliffe Youth Group - Support for trips	£350.00	£350.00

The Community Action officer reported that following these grant offers the LJC had £5,706.04 remaining in its 2013/14 budget with one meeting remaining in the financial year. The future of LJC's remained unclear at this time, but it was likely that the funding would need to be spent in this financial year. It would be helpful if the Committee representatives could go back to their parishes and circulate details of the grant so that applications can be made to the next meeting in March 2014.

9. Community Action Update

The Community Action officer reported that the Highways Agency had now consulted on the proposed alterations to the roundabouts on Shrewsbury bypass and details of the plans were displayed at the meeting. Works would start in November and carry on through to spring/summer 2014.

Elliott Blackmore proposed that the LJC write to the Highways Agency to ask them to consider installing part time traffic lights on the Preston Boats Island, this would allow smoother flow of traffic at none peak times and would be particularly beneficial to HGV's where stopping and starting uses up a lot of fuel. The Committee unanimously agreed with this proposal.

Action: Community Action Officer to write to Highways Agency on behalf of the LJC asking them to consider this proposal.

Funding for the review of existing parish plans, or new plans, was still available through Shropshire Council. The need to have an updated parish plan was as strong as ever thanks to the new Community Infrastructure Levy and Place Plans guiding infrastructure development in Shropshire. Any parish interested in applying for the funding should contact the Community Action Officer.

Shropshire Council had received funding to help reduce underage drinking. Posters and survey forms for communities affected by this issue were available at the meeting and it would be helpful to the project if as many members of the community as possible could complete these survey forms.

10. Have Your Say Question Time

No questions were made from members of the public

11. Date of next meeting

Full meeting - Thursday 13th March
Planning meeting - 13th February.

Ideas for other presentations to be sent through to the Community Action Officer for discussion at next planning meeting

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Chair: _____

Date: 13th March 2014