



Committee and date:
Ludlow & Clee Area Local
Joint Committee

Thursday 28 February 2013
at 7.00pm

Item/Paper

3
Public

NOTES OF THE LUDLOW & CLEE AREA LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM ON THURSDAY 18 OCTOBER 2012 AT THE STUDIO, LUDLOW ASSEMBLY ROOMS, MILL STREET, LUDLOW SY8 1AZ

Responsible Officer: Jane Palmer
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Committee Members Present:

Councillor E Davies	Richards Castle Parish Council
Councillor R Huffer	Shropshire Council – Clee Ward
Councillor Mrs I Liddle	Ludford Parish Council
Councillor E MARRS [Substitute]	Ashford Carbonel Parish Council
Councillor G Perks [Substitute]	Ludlow Town Council
Inspector R Thomas	West Mercia Police
Councillor M Taylor-Smith	Shropshire Council – Ludlow South Ward
Councillor Mrs R Taylor-Smith	Shropshire Council – Ludlow North Ward
Councillor G Williams	Caynham Parish Council

Officers Present:

Jane Palmer	Committee Officer [CO]
Vicky Turner	Community Action Officer [CAO]

Also in attendance:

Sue Perry	South Shropshire Housing Association
Pat Helm	Healthy Friendships Shropshire

There were approximately 25 members of the public at the meeting.

LC/17 Welcome and apologies

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillor Henry Chance [Bitterley Parish Council], Councillor Bob Tilt [Ashford Carbonel Parish Council] – Substitute: Councillor E MARRS, Councillor Tony Pound [Ludlow Town Council] – Substitute: Councillor G Perks and Councillor Tracey Huffer [Shropshire Council, Ludlow East Division].

LC/18 Declarations of Interest

Councillor George Williams – member of British Red Cross [grant application being considered at the meeting]

Councillors Rosanna Taylor-Smith, Martin Taylor-Smith, Imogen Liddle – Friends of Ludlow Assembly Rooms [grant application being considered at the meeting]

LC/19 Notes of the meeting held on 21 June 2012

RESOLVED:

Subject to it being noted that Mr George Cummings is not a member of Pride of Place [Reference LC/9], the Notes of the meeting of the Ludlow & Clee Area Local Joint Committee held on 21 June 2012 were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

LC/20 Report from Police and Communities Together [PACT]

Inspector Thomas provided an update on local crime statistics and drew attention to the main issues, as follows:

- An overall 10% reduction in crime in the West Mercia force area since April 2012
- A rise in the number of house burglaries – locally there have been 27 burglaries predominantly in the Ludlow area since April 2012
- West Mercia has formed an ‘alliance’ with Warwickshire Police – need to save £30M in 5 years; to date have saved £10M through a reduction in support staff and by not replacing retiring Officers
- Police and Crime Commissioners [PCC] – a Government initiative that will replace the Police Authority. 42 Forces in England and Wales will be electing their PCC on 15 November 2012 [the Met Police will not have a PCC]. The PCC will act in accordance with the local community’s wishes to target local policing resources.
- Smartwater – the benefits of this invisible marker to personal property were noted. Kits available at the meeting for £20.
- Crime reduction advice available on the West Mercia Police website
- Increase in Officers on late duty during the Hallowe’en/Bonfire season
- Non-emergency Police contact number: 101 [Emergencies remain as 999]

LC/21 PCC Elections Update

The Chairman drew attention to the information available relating to the forthcoming PCC elections to be held on Thursday 15 November 2012.

It was noted that there would be a public meeting [open to all] at 7.00pm on Thursday 1 November 2012 at Ludlow College when there would be a chance to find out more about the Police Commissioners and meet the three West Mercia area candidates.

LC/22 South Shropshire Housing Association Update

Sue Perry from SSHA provided a housing update, as follows:

- Investment in existing property in Ludlow – From April 2013 to March 2018, £100K investment on kitchens, bathrooms and central heating systems – the improvements will bring the homes above decent homes standard.
- Community Lead Housing – Funding from the Homes and Communities Agency towards the Marches Community Led Programme aiming to provide community lead affordable housing. Three new schemes underway in Neenton, Church Stretton and Onibury
- Local lettings – 35 lettings in Ludlow town this year
- Nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour – multi agency working to deal with issues
- Rent arrears and financial hardship – emphasis on help and support, repossession as a final resort. Money Management Officer post being advertised to provide help and advice to residents
- New Housing Benefit changes – introduction of a ‘bedroom tax’. Universal credit from October 2013 [all benefits to be paid as one single payment] – challenging times ahead
- Support Service – Can assist and signpost to other agencies. Domestic violence service, home life service – aim to provide information, help and advice to residents
- Forthcoming events – Live for Less courses, Sandpits Estate Day, Rockspring Thursdays, The Foyer, community working to help people find work through the flexible support fund

The Chairman thanked Sue for her informative presentation and added that the initiatives detailed ought to be made know to the local press.

LC/23 Healthy Friendships Presentation

Pat Helm from Healthy Friendships Shropshire, a recent recipient of funding from the LJC, gave a presentation on the work of this charitable organisation that through Fit and Fun and Befriending aimed to encourage people who experience mental distress to live happier, healthier and more fulfilled lives. Leaflets detailing the work of the organisation were available at the meeting.

In thanking Pat for her presentation, the Chairman urged anyone who had any time to spare to consider volunteering as part of the work of the Group.

LC/24 Parish and Town Councils' Update

Parish/Town Council representatives from Ashford Carbonel, Caynham, Ludlow, Ludford and Richards Castle provided an update on their local issues/news.

Ashford Carbonel - Councillor Marrs, Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, provided an update. She stated that the new village school had been the main focus of activity in recent months and commented on the fantastic benefits of the school and the highway improvements that had been made in the vicinity. An application for affordable housing in the village had been supported by the Parish Council and building had started on site.

Caynham – Councillor Edwards, Chairman of the Parish Council, drew attention to a series of local concerns being considered by the Parish Council including potholes in local roads, speed activated signage, overgrown hedges. He reported that the Parish Council had taken on the maintenance of the public conveniences on Clee Hill – this was considered well worth the money in order to keep the facilities open.

Ludford – Councillor Liddle, Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, provided an update of local issues including the major planning issues in its area [for example the Eco park, the new hospital], Place Plans and the development of safe access along the A49 for residents of Rocks Green, consultation regarding the lights on Ludford Bridge [other related issues including a pedestrian crossing on the bridge, walkers from the new caravan site].

Richards Castle – Councillor Davies provided an update on the main issues being dealt with by the Parish Council; mainly speeding and hedge maintenance! He added that 3 affordable homes had been built on the Shropshire side of the parish, a fourth was on its way and the Parish Plan was ongoing and would be completed in 2013.

Ludlow – Councillor Perks provided a Powerpoint display of the main issues being dealt with by the Town Council including repairs to The Buttercross, Ludlow, the Boxing Club partnership project, Christmas lights, the Mayor's Christmas Charity dance, support for the Chamber of Trade Tinsel Tuesdays and compilation of the Calendar of Events 2013.

LC/25 Budget 2012/13 – Finance report and funding requests

The Community Action Officer reported the total funding allocation for the Committee for 2012/13 in the sum of £26,470 that included £1,970 for arts funding, to fund projects in the local community served by the Local Joint Committee for 2012/13.

The Committee considered 11 applications for funding.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the following applications for funding be **approved**:

Grassroots Playgroup – refurbishment of kitchen facilities - £2,800

Working Together – various items of equipment - £2,000

Ludlow Baptist Church – Area clean-up day finale - £250 towards the catering [not the fireworks as requested on the application]

Women’s Centre – new windows and rendering - £3,000

Red Cross Young Carers – activities and support for young carers - £1,205

Ludlow Swimming Club – training for volunteer coaches - £642 [half amount requested as half of Club members live outside area of the LJC]

Clee Hill Wardens – litter picking expenses - £250 [to exclude room hire and bin bags]

St Laurences school PTA – new bikes and lock up - £1,100

Ludlow Assembly Rooms – new microphones - £750

Ludlow in Bloom – new planters -£175

- ii) That the following application for funding be **refused**:

Teme Weirs Trust – decommissioning of canoe pass

LC/26 Market Towns Revitalisation Project [MTRP] and Community Action Update

The Community Action Officer provided an update on the MTRP. It was noted that 3 of the 5 schemes for Ludlow had been completed. Two projects remained; one being the Dinham Weir fish pass and restoration; it was noted that no work would be allowed on the river until the Spring.

The second project related to the Buttercross – Ludlow Town Council did not receive Heritage Lottery funding and the MTRP funding was to have been match funding for this. It was hoped that the project could proceed as a stand-alone and the Ludlow Town Council was currently working on revised costings for the project.

The Community Action Officer gave an update on community events that would be taking place in the near future [eg Gallows Bank fireworks, Rockspring Community Choir]. She also reported on successful projects that had been

funded through LJC grants, for example the Youth Festival and the Rockspring holiday club and it was noted that there would be a holiday scheme in the October half term holiday.

LC/27 Current Consultations

The following ongoing consultations were noted:

- ALMO (Arm's-length management organisation) - Consultation end date: 31 October 2012
- Shropshire Affordable Housing Allocation Policy and Scheme - Consultation end date: 1 November 2012
- Shropshire Alcohol Strategy 2013 – 2016 - Consultation end date: 23 November 2012
- Connecting Shropshire – Faster Broadband Project - Consultation end date: ongoing

LC/28 Date/time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Ludlow & Clee Area Local Joint Committee will be held at 7.00pm on Thursday 28 February 2013 at the Ludlow Mascall Centre, Lower Galdeford, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1RZ.

**The agenda planning meeting will be held at 5.00pm on Tuesday 12 February 2013 in the Stable Block, Stone House, Ludlow.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....