

NOTES OF THE MARKET DRAYTON AND RURAL AREAS LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 FEBRUARY 2011

7.00pm to 9.30pm

Responsible Officer Martin Stevens

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Present: Cllr Sue Beeston, Cllr Karen Calder (Chair), Cllr Stephen Clifford, Cllr Andrew Davies, Cllr Chris Dutton, Cllr Mike Hill, Cllr Roger Hughes, Cllr Ron Lucas, Cllr Trevor Mellor, Cllr Chris Sharp, Cllr Nigel Woods and Cllr Paul Wynn.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PEOPLE PRESENT AT MEETING: 60

1. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Brian Gillow, Cllr David Minnery, Cllr Janet Smith, Cllr Roy Tydeman, Cllr Richard Underwood and Cllr Richard Wright.

Cllr Nigel Woods substituted for Cllr Janet Smith.

2. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2010 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr K D Calder declared a personal interest on item 10 on the application for funding for the Hodnet Hall Communities School Project and on the application for funding for the Hodnet Brownies Guide Hut.

Cllr Mike Hill declared a personal interest on item 10 on the application for funding for new lighting for Cheswardine Village Hall as the Parish Council held meetings on the premise.

Cllr Ron Lucas declared a personal interest on item 10 on the application from Norton-in-Hales Parish Action Group for funding for tree planting.

Cllr Sue Beeston declared a personal interest on item 10 on the application from St Michael's church for funding for a water supply to the church as she knew one of the Church Wardens.

4. Public Questions

- 4.1 Cllr Ron Lucas commented on the lack of broadband in Norton-in-Hales and Adderley. He stated that one local farmer was struggling to conduct his

business because of the lack of a broadband connection. The Chair in response stated that she believed broadband to be a top priority and considered whether it was worth establishing a working party on the issue.

- 4.2 A Member of the public asked for an update on the proposed inner-ring road. In response Cllr Roger Hughes stated that there would be two public meetings on the 16 and 17 March respectively.

4.3 **Census**

Mr John Heagreaves stated that the census was a civic and legal responsibility to complete which had fundamental consequences for policy in the future. National funding was often based on census information making it essential that the response rate for the county was high. The census could be completed online or sent in hard copy via the pre-paid envelope provided. There was a fine of potentially £1000 for the non-return of the census.

5. Area Director Briefing

- 5.1 Mr George Candler stated that he had been recently appointed as an Area Director for Shropshire Council. Mr Candler outlined the transformation agenda of the Council. The national political agenda showed a move away from central governance to devolving powers to local communities this would be reflected in the new localism bill. He stated that Shropshire had a higher than average number of elderly people and more people in retirement. It was a County that was rich in volunteering. The County would be facing a number of challenges in the years to come including in the provision of social care. One of the drivers for change came in the form of information and technology. It was evident that an increasing number of people wanted access to broadband technology.
- 5.2 There would a total of three area directors covering the north/centre and south of the county. This role was new and had not been tried in other local authorities the official starting date for the role was the 1 April 2011. The future would be about the services people could access rather than who delivered the service.

6. Bus Strategy and Local Transportation Consultation

The Senior Public Transport Officer gave a presentation on the Bus Strategy and Local Transportation Consultation with specific references to potential changes to the local area.

7. Police Update

PC Mick Sturland stated that he was pleased Market Drayton had revitalised their pub watch scheme. The Shop Watch Scheme had also been launched which they were try to encourage shop owners in Market Drayton to join.

8. Shropshire Council Budget Presentation

A presentation was given on the current budget position of Shropshire Council.

9. West Midlands Ambulance Trust

The Chair referred to the booklets which had been tabled on the West Midlands Ambulance Trust and encouraged people to take them away and read.

10. Funding Requests Report

RESOLVED: That the Committee approve the following funding applications:-

A. Cheswardine Village Hall - Additional lighting for the main hall (£800)

B. Market Drayton Running Club - Leadership Course and Website (£1,000)

C. Market Drayton Town Plan - Phase two of Town Plan Creation (£2,494)

D. Hodnet School Community Gardening Project - Tool Shed and Potting Shed (£800)

E. PACT Post Boxes - Post Boxes in the Community for residents to anonymously report issues and concerns to the Police (£400)

F. Shrewsbury Bookfest - Book Award 2012, reading development project for junior school children in Shropshire (£1,000)

G. Market Drayton Sports and Leisure Club - Cavity Wall Insulation (£1,800)

H. Market Drayton Cricket Club - Coaching Pack (£591)

I. St Michael's Church Water Provision - Connection of Water to the Church (£1,909)

J. Hodnet Brownies and Guide Hut - New toilets with disability access (£4,500)

K. U3A photography Group - Projector and Screen (£350)

L. Norton-in-Hales Parish Plan Action Group - Tree Planting (£143.66)

11. Progress of Projects Funded Report

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

12. Future Agenda Items

The Chair referred to the proformas which had been circulated before the meeting which gave people the opportunity to submit any ideas for future agenda items.

Chair

Date