



Committee and Date

Meole Column & Sutton
Local Joint Committee

20 January 2010

7 pm

Item

3

Public

MEOLE COLUMN & SUTTON LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2009 AT 7.00 PM IN THE MERESIDE SCHOOL, WENLOCK ROAD, SHREWSBURY

PRESENT:

Members of the Committee:

Mr Ted Clarke	Shropshire Council
Mr Mike Owen	Shropshire Council
Mrs Jackie Brennand	Shrewsbury Town Council
Mrs Kath Owen	Shrewsbury Town Council

Officers:

Graham Chidlow	Head of Finance (Treasury and Pensions) (Lead Officer)
Nicola Fisher	Community Regeneration Officer
Frances Phelps	Support Officer
Hugh Dannatt	Group Manager, Traffic & Highways Engineering
Tim Sneddon	Head of Environmental Maintenance (Central)
PC Jane Cowen	West Mercia Police
PC Tanya Grey	West Mercia Police
Michelle Evans	Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services (Notes)

There were approximately 64 members of the public at the meeting.

Mr Mike Owen chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chairman.

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Mrs Liz Parsons (Shropshire Council) and Mr Jon Tandy (Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council)

2. Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 No declarations were received.

3. Notes of Previous Meeting

- 3.1 **AGREED:** That the notes of the meeting held on 21 July 2009 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. Progress Report

- 4.1 The Committee received the report of the Lead Officer – copy attached to the signed minutes - which provided details of the progress made on the issues raised at the previous meeting.

Action

5. Feedback on Highways Issues

5.1 The Group Manager, Traffic and Highways Engineering explained his role within the Council and that of the teams within this section. He gave a verbal update on the highways issues raised at the previous meeting, as follows:

- Traffic Lights – Upper Road onto Roman Road

The Group Manager reported that this issue had been looked at previously but the costs were restrictive.

- Traffic Lights at Meole Brace Island

The Group Manager explained that these lights were currently being reviewed due to an increase in pedestrian and cyclist activity.

- Sutton Road

The Group Manager explained the results of the speed surveys and reported the results from the surveys done that month which showed that the mean speed was well below the legal limit.

Members of the public expressed surprise at the figures and were concerned that the measurements had been taken in the wrong places.

In response to a query the Group Manager explained that the mean speed was what the Government advised them to use however the 85 percentile was used for speeding enforcement, which could be 4 -5 mph higher than the mean speed.

In response to a query the Group Manager felt it unlikely that any traffic calming measures would be undertaken in Sutton Road.

The Group Manager explained that the limited highways budget had to be spent where most appropriate eg in area where there was a high accident rate.

The Group Manager agreed to provide further information on how speed limits were worked out.

- Parking Outside of Millmead Flats on Sutton Road

The Group Manager reported that parking in this area was contributing to controlling traffic speeds and yellow lines would not be introduced.

- No 8 bus

The Group Manager would report this item to Arriva.

- Meole Brace parking

The Group Manager confirmed that this was being looked into including the possibility of additional parking restrictions.

Action

HD

HD

		Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speeding <p>The Group Manager reported that police enforcement was appropriate.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycle Lane for London Road <p>The Group Manager confirmed that a cycle path was in next years programme.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kingston Drive <p>The Group Manager explained that waiting restrictions would not be introduced.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weight restrictions <p>The Group Manager explained that weight restrictions were enforced but more enforcement was requested.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steps on Primrose Drive underpass <p>The Group Manager confirmed that a feasibility study in relation to installing ramps was being undertaken but the budget implications were unclear.</p>	
5.2	<p>The Group Manager invited members of the public to raise any other highways issues. The following issues were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speeding on New College Road <p>The Group Manager would request the police to enforce speeding on this road. He would check whether any speed checks had been carried out.</p>	HD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed Limit Signs in Otley Road – no distance to slow down <p>The Group Manager confirmed that he would look into this.</p>	HD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking on zigzags and blocking road in Children's Way <p>The Group Manager confirmed that he would speak to the school about this.</p>	HD
5.3	<p>In response to a query the Group Manager explained the cost and effectiveness of speed activated signs.</p>	
5.4	<p>In response to a query the Group Manager explained why there was no grid box at the traffic lights on Claremont Bank/Welsh Bridge junction. He confirmed that consultants had been briefed in relation to the redevelopment of the road layout in this area.</p>	
6.	<p>Street Scene</p>	
6.1	<p>The Head of Environmental Maintenance (Central) introduced this item. He explained the areas for which he had responsibility, eg pot holes, street cleansing, ground maintenance and environmental enforcement including dog fouling.</p>	

		Action
6.1	<p>He reported that the need for more litter/dog mess bins had been identified as an issue at the previous meeting.</p> <p>Members of the public split into groups and were joined by a Councillor/and or Officer. They were requested to highlight on maps provided locations in their local area that would benefit from additional bins. The current locations of existing bins were identified on the maps.</p> <p>The Head of Environmental Maintenance would take this information back and, taking into account the on-going servicing of the bins, would consider the suggestions in determining where to position the additional bins and he would report back at the next meeting.</p>	TS
6.2	<p>The Head of Environmental Maintenance (Central) invited members of the public to ask questions. Issues raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pigeon droppings <p>The Head of Environmental Maintenance (Central) explained that this had been a problem in other areas and Environmental Health were currently developing a policy to deal with pigeons. He would pass the information on to the Environmental Health Manager and request that a pest control officer visit the area to give advice. It would however be for the owner/landlord to undertake any proofing methods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance of footpath from London Road to Wenlock Road by the Cricket Pitch <p>This issue would be taken back and a response obtained from the relevant officer.</p>	TS
7.	<p>West Mercia Police Partners and Communities Together Meeting (PACT)</p>	
7.1	<p>PCs Jane Cowen and Tanya Grey updated the meeting about what had been going on in the area to address issues raised at previous PACT meetings, which including the Shopwatch scheme and Street dancing for girls scheme, amongst others.</p> <p>Members of the public were then invited to raise any issues of concern in their local area which would be taken forward and feedback provided at the next meeting. The following issues were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speeding on New College Road Anti-Social Behaviour in Sutton Road Cycling on Pavements in Longden Road Drivers not in control of vehicles <p>The Chairman thanked the Officers for attending and answering questions.</p>	TS

Action

8. Local Budget Allocation

8.1 The Committee received the report of the Lead Officer – copy attached to the signed minutes. It was unanimously **AGREED** for the Meole Column & Sutton Local Joint Committee to allocate funding as follows :-

A. Up to £2,000 for the provision of additional waste bins across the locality

B. £2,000 contribution towards setting up a youth club at the Trinity Centre

C. £3,234 for the provision of a Friday Night Project at Belle Vue Youth Club

D. £800 contribution towards replacement furniture for Meole Brace Scout and Guide Group.

9. Public Question Time

9.1 The following questions had been received prior to the meeting:

- Anti-Social Behaviour – Radbrook Fields

It was confirmed that all agencies were committed to working together and proactively addressing anti-social behaviour.

- Can the seat to the picnic bench by the copse of trees be repaired.

It was reported that this request had been passed to the Countryside Unit and further feedback would be provided at the next meeting.

- Can plans be developed to encourage young people to take an active interest in life skills such as bee keeping.

The Local Joint Committee had received applications for funding for youth projects and West Mercia Police would continue to organise activities for young people.

- Road Safety and traffic issues in the narrow part of Sutton Road

These questions had been answered during the agenda item on feedback of highways issues.

- How will LJC's ensure that whilst dealing with local issues active debate and participation about wider cross-county issues were not discouraged

Whilst Local Joint Committees aim to deal with local issues any item could be raised at the LJC and then referred to the appropriate individual / organisation.

LJC's could also be used as a mechanism for consulting on wider issues such as the Shropshire Council Budget or Sustainable Community Strategy.

Action

9.2 The Chairman invited questions from members of the public and the following issues were raised:

- Approval of Planning Application for Chip Shop at Mereside

Mrs Brennand explained that the planning application had been refused by Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council's Development Control Committee however it had been granted on appeal so there was little that the Local Joint Committee could do. It was understood that its opening hours would be restricted to 8pm.

- Not enough bus shelters

Mr Dannatt explained that locations for bus shelters could be looked at as he was aware that following changes to bus routes some shelters may need relocating. He requested details of particular locations where bus shelters were required.

- Information has been removed from stands at Bus Station

Mr Clarke reassured the meeting that officers were liaising with Arriva but as Arriva were a private company running a commercial service there was not much that Shropshire Council could do however Arriva had agreed to a 3 month review.

It was confirmed that this comment would be passed on to Arriva.

- Route maps following changes to Arriva bus routes

Mrs Brennand reported that she had been to the bus station and was told that route maps for the whole town were currently being updated however route maps were available for the S8 bus.

- The X5 Telford to Shrewsbury bus would now stop at every bus stop and the last bus would be at 5.20pm

10. Date of Next Meeting

10.1 The next meeting would be held at 7pm on 20 January 2010, at Belle Vue Youth Club, Rocke Street, Shrewsbury SY3 7PY.

GC

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____