

MEOLE COLUMN & SUTTON LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE – 20 JANUARY 2010

QUESTIONS & RESPONSE

Question, Comment or Suggestion	Response
<p>1) Parking along Laundry Lane</p>	<p>Shropshire Council are currently looking to re-locate the Learning & Training Team located at the Hollies. It is envisaged that this will happen in the Summer Holidays and that the Council's use of the building will significantly reduce and the related parking issues on Laundry Lane diminish. The issue has been passed to the Highways Section to consider whether any traffic calming measures could be introduced once The Hollies has been vacated.</p> <p>In the meantime a meeting involving local residents and councillors has been held with representatives of the Learning & Training Team to identify actions that can be undertaken to alleviate the parking problems in the near term.</p>
<p>2) Reabrook</p> <p>Memorial bench – Concern has been raised previously about vandalism of a bench in Reabrook. At the LJC meeting a member of the public supplied the Committee with information about who had originally paid for the Memorial Bench.</p> <p>Life buoys were requested for the Reabrook Valley due to rising river levels.</p>	<p>Following the January LJC meeting and with the assistance of a member of the public it was identified that the bench was a memorial to Di Moss who died in 1985 and who actively supported wildlife causes during her life. The Countryside Team subsequently contacted the next of kin with a view to gaining agreement to relocate the bench to a more appropriate position.</p> <p>It has been agreed to remove the current bench and replace it with a solid Oak bench, located nearer to the brook edge. The bench to be installed has been installed at other sites and are difficult to vandalise. The installation was completed in early March with the help of local volunteers and service users from the Hartley's Day Centre.</p> <p>If any member of the public would like to volunteer to assist with conservation work at the Central Shropshire sites (including Reabrook) please contact Matt Wilcoxon on 01743 257610.</p> <p>The Countryside Unit are looking into the practicalities of such a proposal.</p>

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<p>3) Concerns about pigeons</p> <p>Following advice from Environmental Health, residents had been attempting to disturb the pigeons' roosting patterns however this had simply moved them from one property to the next, and further assistance was requested.</p>	<p>These comments were noted but the Council had no legal obligation to control pigeons. Further information on environmental health matters can be obtained from Shropshire Council on 0345 678 9000.</p>
<p>4) Cycle path</p> <p>The cycle path between Bayston Hill and Meole Brace island was not being swept every six weeks and was littered with glass and other debris.</p>	<p>Shropshire Council are not responsible for the A49. This road is maintained by the Highways Agency and issues should be referred to the Highways Agency on 0845 955 6575.</p>
<p>5) Springfield Recreation Ground</p> <p>Excessive cut timbers and prunings strewn around the mere and surrounding area.</p>	<p>Cllr Brennand visited the Mere and spoke to Shrewsbury Town Council to find out the position. The Town Council has full responsibility for the Mere area and the tree team will be visiting to remove appropriate prunings. When the Countryside Unit were in charge it was their policy to leave all prunings, large and small, in piles to encourage wildlife, but this also encourages the local youngsters to throw it all about. Therefore in future, the Town Council's policy in this area will be to remove any prunings they generate to prevent this, though they won't be taking away all the loose wood that's already there.</p>
<p>6) Youth Shelter</p> <p>Concern was raised that public money had been used to erect the Mereside Youth Shelter which had been vandalised</p>	<p>The Community Regeneration Officer clarified that the funding for the Youth Shelter had come from a successful lottery fund bid, which local young people had worked on and they were also upset about the vandalism.</p> <p>Two PIER meetings involving the Youth Service and West Mercia Police have considered the issue of anti-social behaviour at the Youth Shelter.</p> <p>During the last two months officers have been photographing the Youth Shelter at regular intervals to assess the extent of the issue. The Youth Service and other agencies are actively working with young people in the area to address the issues. There would be costs involved with the</p>

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	removal of the youth shelter and this will only be considered as a last resort.
7) Litter on the grass verges around Shrewsbury Town Football Club ground and on the old railway line.	This has been highlighted to the Street Cleaning Team and will be addressed as part of the cleaning schedule.
8) The road outside the terraced houses, opposite Prestfelde Preparatory School, on London Road had not been swept for two years.	Parked cars on this section of road make road sweeping difficult. However, this comment has been passed on to Street Scene to address when conducting future road sweeping in the area.
9) Speeding on London Road in the early hours of the weekend.	This issue has been passed to West Mercia Police.
10) No 20 bus route. Concern was raised that this bus service had been reduced and that there was a lack of information as to when the next bus was due?	The Chairman confirmed that Arriva were currently conducting a review of its bus services. The Team Leader Community Regeneration (Central) explained that the Manager of Arriva had attended another Local Joint Committee meeting and they were keen to receive comments, which would be taken on board. If anyone wished to raise any questions these would be passed on to Arriva.
11) More grit bins required	Shropshire Council provide salt bins in appropriate locations. If a salt bin is required it is necessary to apply to the Senior Highways Engineer, Longden Depot, Shrewsbury. An officer will go out to assess the risk and the provision of salt bins will be prioritised according to risk.

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<p>12) Traffic / parking issues in Meole Village</p>	<p>A request for consideration for waiting restrictions on Alexandra Avenue at its junction with Station Road, and on the bend by the shops where the road meets Washford Road was made at the October LJC.</p> <p>Junction of Station Road and Alexandra Avenue - Concerns over parking in this location have been raised a number of times in the last few years. Consequently, a proposal has been circulated informally as part of the recent review of waiting restrictions in the area. We hope to take the proposals to statutory consultation in the next few months.</p> <p>Bend by shops - This is a fairly new request, and will be given further consideration at the next review of parking restrictions in the area, this review should normally occur annually. However, the road is quite wide at this point and any restrictions will impact on the local shop.</p> <p>Regarding the concern about parking opposite the junction with Pendle Way on Washford Road - the road is quite wide at this point, although if it is felt appropriate we could give the matter further consideration at the next review of parking restrictions.</p>
<p>13) Meole, Column and Sutton Area</p> <p>It was felt that combining Meole with Column and Sutton was not an appropriate fit and that Meole had more in common with Radbrook.</p>	<p>Twenty-eight Local Joint Committees were set up across Shropshire following the establishment of the unitary council.</p> <p>The success of LJC's is currently being reviewed by the Council's Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a view to making recommendations which would be implemented from April 2011. LJC boundary changes are being considered as part of this process.</p>

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14) Buses using Sutton Road	<p>The addition of a sign 'no buses' would go against the specific list of vehicles that are exempt the 7.5t environmental weight limit on Sutton Road - the order contains a specific exclusion for PSVs. Further it is not a prescribed sign within the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.</p> <p>Having an environmental weight restriction with differing exclusions within or immediately adjacent to another environmental weight restriction is only likely to cause confusion to motorists and lead to enforcement difficulties. Recent traffic flow data indicates that the number of buses or coaches using this length of road is minimal in comparison to other vehicle types - i.e. for approximately every 1,200 vehicle movements detected on the road only one was a bus or coach. Trading standards have been requested, subject to availability of resources, to give consideration to carrying out enforcement of the weight restriction.</p>
15) Clarification was sought on the level of Council Tax imposed on second homes	Council Tax on second homes is charged at 90% of the full council tax rate.