

MEOLE, COLUMN AND SUTTON LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

**NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 23RD OCTOBER 2012 AT 7.00 P.M.
AT THE MERESIDE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHILDREN'S WAY, SHREWSBURY.**

Responsible Officer: Ann Almond
Email: ann.almond@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: (01743) 252363

Present:

Members of the Committee:

Ted Clarke	Shropshire Council
Liz Parsons	Shropshire Council
Jon Tandy	Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council (Chairman)
Jackie Brennand	Shrewsbury Town Council

Officers:

Lucy Roberts	Community Action Officer
Ann Almond	Committee Officer

Also present:

Gill Jones	Community Action Manager
Inspector James Dunn	West Mercia Police
CSO Rob Taylor	West Mercia Police

There were approximately 17 members of the public at the meeting.

12. Chairman's Welcome and Introductions

12.1 The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and each Member of the Committee introduced themselves to those present.

13. Apologies for absence

13.1 Apologies for absence were received from:

Mike Owen	Shropshire Council
Kath Owen	Shrewsbury Town Council

14. Notes and matters arising

14.1 RESOLVED:

That the Notes of the meeting of the Meole, Column and Sutton Local Joint Committee held on 22nd May 2012 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

**Action
Column**

14.2 The Community Action Officer provided the following update:

- a. Management of the Reabrook Valley would be undertaken by Shrewsbury Town Council;
- b. The Hollies had indicated they would happy to provide a venue for Planning Portal training, Shropshire Council's Area Planning Manager would undertake the training, those present were encourage to contact Lucy Roberts if they were interested in attending and subject to there being sufficient interest a training session would be organised;
- c. A comprehensive response had been provided by the Transport section to Shrewsbury College Student Council;
- d. An update regarding the Community Led Plan would be provided to the next meeting of this Committee; and
- e. The Shrewsbury South Master plan now included a further transport objective regarding the introduction of a co-ordinated programme of measures to mitigate the impacts of additional traffic on the local road network, including Sutton Road, and existing junctions.

14.3 The Chairman advised that he had received a letter from Mr Downton, a local resident, who was present at this meeting and who wished to read out the content of his letter. Mr Downton thanked the Chairman for allowing him the opportunity to read out his letter. The matters arising were as follows and the responses are stated thereafter.

14.3.1 Q – Proposed BMX Track

A – The location had been identified by young people in conjunction with the Town Council, and consultation with local residents had taken place; the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) had undertaken relevant health and safety checks and determined the original unofficial BMX site to be unsafe and could not be made safe; a response letter would be provided to Mr Downton from Shrewsbury Town Council regarding the collection of litter, furthermore families should be responsible for their own litter.

14.3.2 Q – Proposed New Football Pitch adjacent to Mereside, and in front of numbers 80 to 100 Mereside or thereabouts.

A – Shrewsbury had been fortunate to receive financial support from Sport England to improve the existing football pitch, it was acknowledged that the site had not be regularly used but this was due to the pitch level being uneven, the funding would enable the pitch to be levelled. The concern expressed regarding the potential parking issues was acknowledged and the Town Council would welcome any suggested improvements. People were also encouraged to use the Community Centre car park.

14.3.3 Q – Springfield Mere's.

A – Previously this had been controlled by Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council, Shrewsbury Town Council now had responsibility and had prepared a programme of work to be put in place for around

the Mere's, some of the comments contained within Mr Downton's letter would be considered for inclusion within the work programme.

15. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

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

16. Partners and Communities Working Together

16.1 To receive an update from the Community Action Officer

16.1.1 The Community Action Officer advised those present of the following:

- a. The Head teacher, Mrs Holmes, had wanted to attend this meeting however was unable to do so due to other commitments;
- b. Reminded those present of the open sessions at Mereside Primary School being the 24th October from 9.30 a.m. and 15th November from 4.30 p.m.;
- c. The Police and Fire Service would be working closely together on Bonfire night to ensure any unofficial, or uncontrollable bonfires would be extinguished;
- d. Shropshire Council would be recycling more plastics including plastic pots, tubs and trays, except black plastics;
- e. The sixth form college had uploaded a video onto YouTube in relation to the Hate Crime Initiative;
- f. A list of useful website addresses was available at the meeting;
- g. 'Kick It Out Cup' would be held at Shrewsbury Sports Village on Thursday 1st November 2012 between 6.00 and 9.00 p.m. teams would need to comprise of 8 players, contact Steve Cunningham for further information or to register a team; and
- h. Stay and play sessions for under 5 year olds were available at Mereside CE Primary School.

- 16.1.2 In response to question regarding cardboard recycling, the Community Action Officer was not aware of any initiatives to re-introduce this; however there were groups and organisations that were organising their own recycling initiatives, she would contact the person directly to provide further information.

Lucy
Roberts

16.2 To receive an update from West Mercia Police

- 16.2.1 Inspector James Dunn and CSO Rob Taylor were present for this item. CSO Rob Taylor provided a brief update, advising that crime levels were low in comparison to other areas within the West Mercia region, the major issue currently being domestic burglaries. West Mercia considered this a priority issue and was raising public awareness. Two significant arrests had recently been made and who were currently out on bail but with a curfew. Those present were encouraged to contact the police if they noticed any suspicious activities. The works along London Road to reduce speeding traffic had been completed, the next phase being Wenlock Road.

16.2.2 Inspector James Dunn thanked the Committee for inviting him to this meeting and provided a brief update regarding the changes to local policing in the area, during which the following points were noted:

- a. He had asked some police officers to cover more than one area, however these were temporary arrangements until the Police and Crime Commissioner Election in November;
- b. The future of the police force had a £30 million funding gap, West Mercia having 80% of its funding associated with staffing costs;
- c. Work was being undertaken with the safer and stronger communities board, bronze level tasking, with a small budget to cover monitoring of bonfire night; and
- d. There would be high visibility patrols focusing on known hotspot areas and there had been a number of media messages, and urged anyone to contact the police if they noticed any suspicious activities.

16.2.3 Questions were raised by those present with Inspector James Dunn providing the following responses:

- a. Understood there would be a link between Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) statistics and property prices, the system mapped crime statistics based upon calls made to the police that informed national statistical information, but did not provide specific details;
- b. An Anti Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) was an order made against a person, ASB covered a range of issues from serious violence and harassment to more everyday incidents and situations;
- c. A person would need to be 16 years of age to purchase fireworks, a number of talks had been made at schools making children aware of the dangers associated with fireworks, furthermore talks had taken place with Severnside Housing and with local shopkeepers;
- d. West Mercia were currently not recruiting; and
- e. Telephone 03003 333000 to contact the Police Public Service Desk, members of the public will then be put through to the relevant Local policing team. Direct contact telephone numbers were not provided, the 101 number was also available to use for non-emergencies.

17. Speed Awareness

17.1 The Chairman advised that a representative from the Safer Roads Partnership was unable to attend this meeting, however would be able to attend and provide an update at the next meeting that will be held during January 2013.

17.2 In response to a question regarding speeding traffic and the proposed Ambulance Hub along Longden Road, Councillor Parsons advised that this had been discussed by the Central Planning Committee, although there had previously been some confusion, the purpose of the depot would be a hub for ambulances, to make them

ready for use ensuring all necessary stock was on board, the ambulances would then be picked up from the depot and taken to the ambulance station, therefore local residents should not see any speeding ambulances along this road, unless called to a scene.

17.3 Shropshire Council appeared to be sluggish with regards implementing 20mph speed zones particularly near schools, the Chairman commented that this question had previously been raised and the response given was that it would not be possible to enforce due to Shropshire being a large, sparse area, and the associated implementation costs. It was suggested that the problem of cyclists on pavements could be due to not feeling safe to cycle on the roads due to speeding traffic.

17.4 In response to comments regarding the new crossing being implemented on London Road and not Wenlock Road, the Chairman confirmed that the funding for the works was utilised was from the cycle trust. The Community Action Officer suggested that, as this appeared to be a high priority; she could prepare a report for consideration at the next meeting that would suggest this LJC prioritise funding for speed awareness projects, e.g. purchasing signage. Councillor Clarke advised that stickers displaying the speed limit can be bought to stick on wheeled bins. It was also suggested that the report should include the costs associated with notifying satnav companies.

Lucy
Roberts

18. Community Right to Bid

16.1 Gill Jones, the Community Action Manager gave an overview of the Community Right to Bid and provided a flowchart of the process, during which the following points were noted:

- a. Nominations could only be made by specified bodies e.g. a neighbourhood forum, a Parish Council, a body made up of 21 individuals, a charity and a company limited by guarantee;
- b. The Asset of Community Value had to satisfy the qualifying criteria;
- c. The use of the land or building should currently, or in the recent past, further the social interest or well being of the community;
- d. The Authority had 8 weeks to accept nominations;
- e. An owner can appeal a nomination initially to the Local Authority and if unsuccessful to a First Tier Tribunal;
- f. The Authority has to maintain a list of successful and unsuccessful nominations for 5 years;
- g. There were a series of sales which were exempted; and
- h. Statutory undertakers land is exempted as were properties used primarily as a residency including a caravan park.

19. LJC Meetings and Areas

19.1 The Community Action Officer advised that this had been raised at the previous meeting when it was considered that two meetings per

annum did not provide continuity, it had been suggested that this LJC meet three times per annum, the next meeting should take place during January 2013. She also advised that there was a Shrewsbury Wide LJC that meets twice a year that looks at wider issues affecting the town, the next meeting was scheduled to take place on Thursday 29th November 2012 at 7.00 p.m. in the Guildhall, Frankwell, Shrewsbury.

20. SAMDev /South Shrewsbury Sustainable Urban extension

20.1 The Chairman provided an update regarding SUE Sustainable Urban extension development on Oteley Road referring to a plan on display, during which the following points were noted:

- a. The public Rights of Way would not be affected by the development and it was hoped that more recreational facilities would be built into the project;
- b. Shropshire Council had projected over the coming 5 years, that there would be sufficient school spaces available from the existing schools;
- c. Highways had considered the roadway network would cope with the increased traffic associated from the new development; and
- d. The development would be built in stages and would include road improvements.

Councillor Brennand left the meeting during this item.

21. Lets Talk Time

21.1 The following questions were raised, and responses are stated thereafter:

21.1.1 Q – Encourage youth participation at these meetings.

A – The last meeting took place at Shrewsbury College of Arts and Technology and had representatives from the Student Council who raised a number of questions which had been responded to appropriately, the Community Action Officer liaises with a number of schools within this LJC area to encourage participation.

21.1.2 Q – A number of trees along Rowton Road were dead and needed to be removed and replaced.

A – The Chairman agreed to raise the matter with the appropriate Shropshire Council Officer.

21.1.3 Q – Concerns were expressed regarding the amount of dog mess along Kenton Road and the alley way by Sutton Way and the street lights were being left on and burning out along the alley way by Sutton Way;

A – The Committee would be considering a report at a future meeting to allocate funding for dual purpose litter bins the Community Action Officer agreed to contact the relevant Shropshire Council Officer to check the lights.

Jon
Tandy

Lucy
Roberts

21.1.4 Q – Disappointment was expressed regarding grass cuttings being left on footpaths, understood there had been a wet summer, but the tarmac areas ought to be swept after the mowing.

A – This had been reported to Shrewsbury Town Council and it was acknowledged that some grass cuttings had been left on footpaths, however this was due to the wet summer and the mowing of the lawns had to be completed within a shorter time period.

22. LJC Budget and Funding Applications

22.1 The Community Action Officer presented her report, requesting Members consideration of ring fencing up to £5,000 for the Meole, Column and Sutton LJC area to repaint street lighting columns in areas that have highlighted a need. Furthermore, following agreement from those present a report would be prepared for consideration at the next meeting, regarding mixed use bins for litter and dog mess, including prices, potential sitings and how the year on year revenue costs could be met.

Lucy
Roberts

22.2 Those present noted that £200 had been funded towards a 'Ducksfoot clamp' to house a mobile CCTV camera on the Meole estate, following delegated approval, in accordance with the LJC Constitution.

22.3 **RESOLVED: That £5,000 be ring fenced to repaint street lighting columns within the Meole, Column and Sutton LJC area that have highlighted a need.**

23. Future Agenda Items

23.1 Possible Agenda Item:

- Speed awareness;
- Mixed use bins; and
- SAMDev update.

24. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meetings (Agenda Item 11)

24.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday 23rd January 2013 at 7.00 p.m. in the Shrewsbury and Oswestry Rooms, Shirehall.

The Chairman thanked those present for attending.

The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.

Signed(Chairman)

Dated