

**Committee and Date**

Much Wenlock and Shipton
Local Joint Committee

17 July 2013

Item

6

Public

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUCH WENLOCK AND SHIPTON LOCAL
JOINT COMMITTEE HELD ON AT 7.00PM ON WEDNESDAY 14 NOVEMBER
2012 AT THE PRIORY HALL, MUCH WENLOCK.**

Responsible Officer Tim Ward
e-mail: Tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01743 252739

Committee Members Present:**Shropshire Council**

Jean Jones
Milner Whiteman

Much Wenlock Town Council

Eric Humphries
Tim Marsh

Easthope, Shipton and Stanton Long Parish Council

Bob Seaward
Philip Wadlow

Chris Edwards (Area Director (South)), PC Stuart Lippitt and 9 members of the public were present at the meeting.

ACTION**1 Chairman's Introductions**

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced each of the members of the committee.

2 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

- 2.1 There were no apologies for absence as all members were present

3. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- 3.1 Mr Whiteman Mr Marsh and Mr Humphries declared an interest on the grounds of bias in the funding application from Much Wenlock Town Council as members of the Council. They left the room during debate and voting on this application.

4. Note of Last Meeting

- 4.1 It was resolved that the note of the meeting held on 18 July 2012 be

signed by the Chairman as a true record

5. Current Policing Issues – Partners and Communities Together (PACT)

- 5.1 PC Stuart Lippitt advised the meeting that speeding traffic continued to be a PACT priority and that he had been carrying out speed check in the area assisted by the Special Constables. He then outlined crime figures for the area and urged the public to report any suspicious incident immediately.
- 5.2 PC Lippitt reminded the meeting that he was currently the only constable based at Much Wenlock police station and that he also covered the Broseley local policing area with the support of 2 Community Support Officers and 3 Special Constables. He went on to say that they were trying their best to cover all the area but that inevitably because of the larger area the police would be seen less.
- 5.3 PC Lippitt then took the meeting through recent crimes. He reminded those present that the area had a low crime rate. He urged members of the public to report suspicious incidents to the police as they were happening rather than leaving it to the next day
- 5.4 Mrs Durbin commented that she had concerns that with such a large area, police officers would not be seen as much in the community and that they would not be able to continue the work they had done with youth groups in the town. PC Lippitt commented that he would do his utmost to continue his work with groups in the town but that other groups may need to take up the slack. He went on to say that with the election of the new Police Commissioner the way local policing is carried out may change anyway.
- 5.5 The Chair thanked PC Lippitt for attending the meeting

6. Much Wenlock Youth Building

- 6.1 The Area Director (South) advised the meeting that the Unitary Council had been in discussion with Much Wenlock Town Council regarding the future provision of services. He went on to say that discussion had centred on the following: -
- Public Toilets – The current contract that Bridgnorth District Council had to run the toilets was coming to an end and discussion was on-going regarding the town council taking over the running of the toilets.
 - Car Parks – The Unitary Council was carrying out a strategic review of car parking. The Area Director agreed to feed the results back to the Town Council.

- Library – different models of running the library were being discussed. The Area Director commented that at Highley the library had moved into the Severn Centre and was run by Centre staff which had enabled opening hours to be extended and that this may be a model that could be followed.
- Much Wenlock Museum – work was being undertaken to increase footfall at the library. Consideration was being given to volunteers running the museum
- Public Open Space – Discussion had taken place regarding the public open space at Hunters Gate. He confirmed that there was a section 106 agreement that provided £2000 per year for 10 years for the upkeep of the area.
- Street Lighting – The Area Director commented that it was felt that Shropshire Council was best placed to manage street lighting and that it may take responsibility for running the town's street lights as part of an agreement for the devolution of other services.
- Youth Centre Building – The Area Director reminded the meeting that the Youth Centre Building had been provided for the use of the youth of Much Wenlock and that previously it had been run by a management committee. He went on to say that the County Youth Service wanted to use the Centre to extend their Sure start services but did not want to take over the management of the building although they would have a budget available to carry out improvements to the building. He went on to say that several options were being considered for the future running of the building.

6.2 Mrs Durbin asked what implications getting volunteers to run the museum and library would have on the existing staff. The Area Director commented that it depended on what arrangement was implemented.

7. IP&E

7.1 The Area Director (South) reminded those present that Shropshire Council was to become a "commissioning council" and had set up a company, into which council services would be moved where appropriate, which was wholly owned by the council and had a board of directors made up of councillors and officers and that a managing director had just been appointed. He then played a video which gave more details about the company.

7.2 The Area Director (South) informed the meeting that business cases were being drawn up for the transfer of services and it was

expected that shared services which consisted of IT, payroll, HR and finance, shire services, and some parts of legal services would be transferred.

7.3 The Area Director then took questions which included

Q What happens if the company makes a loss

That should not happen as a good business case will have to be made for services to transfer.

Q What salary was the managing director receiving

The Managing Director had been appointed on a salary of £80,000.00

Q What guarantees would staff that worked for the sections transferring to the new company

All staff would transfer to the new company under TUPE rules which would protect their terms and conditions.

7.4 The Chair thanked the Area Director for attending the meeting

8. Rural Broadband

8.1 The Chair drew the meeting's attention to the written update on the Rural Broadband Project which was attached to the papers for the meeting.

9. Applications for Funding from the LJC Budget

9.1 The Community Action Officer took the meeting through the applications for funding.

She advised the meeting that Local Joint Committees would be allowed to carry over any unspent budget to next year but that in order to do this funding priorities needed to be set.

9.2 It was resolved that the following grants be made: -

£400 to Easthope, Shipton and Stanton Long Memorial Hall for the replacement of the immersion heater in the kitchen of the hall

£1000 to Much Wenlock Town Council towards the cost of erecting and taking down the Christmas lights
(*Mr Whiteman Mr Marsh and Mr Humphries having declared an interest left the room and took no part in the discussion and voting on this application. Mr Wadlow took the Chair*)

£625 to High Causeway Coffee and Community Group towards the costs of putting on " Extend Exercise Classes"

It was also resolved the application from the Friends of William Brookes School be rejected on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence of community benefit.

It was also resolved that the LJC make it a priority to set aside any under spend from this financial year for a community chest to which local groups can apply.

- 9.3 The Chair urged any group that was seeking funding to contact the Community Action Officer as there was £2695.00 left in the budget for the current year which could be allocated by way of delegated decision.

10 Public Question Time/Identification of Future Agenda Items

- 10.1 A discussion took place regarding the low attendance at the meeting and ways of encouraging members of the public to attend.

- 10.2 Mr Weeden updated the meeting on flooding issues in Much Wenlock. Mr Turner paid tribute to the amount of work Mr Weeden had done on flooding issues.

11. Grant Application Information.

- 11.1 It was noted that a Local Joint Committee Application form and guidance is available on the Council's website www.shropshire.gov.uk or by contacting Kerry Rogers, Community Action Officer on 01746 713110.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.30pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: