



Committee and Date
Much Wenlock and Shipton
Local Joint Committee
29 January 2014

Item
4
Public

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUCH WENLOCK AND SHIPTON LOCAL
JOINT COMMITTEE HELD ON AT 7.00PM ON WEDNESDAY 17 JULY 2013
AT SHIPTON VILLAGE HALL, SHIPTON, MUCH WENLOCK.**

Responsible Officer Tim Ward
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Committee Members Present:

Shropshire Council

Jean Jones
David Turner

Much Wenlock Town Council

Mary Hill
Yvonne Holyoak

Easthope, Shipton and Stanton Long Parish Council

Simon Brown
Bob Seaward

Also Present

Emma-Kate Lanyon, Team Leader (Collections and Curatorial Services) Shropshire Council
PC Stuart Lippitt, West Mercia Police
Kerry Rogers, Community Action Officer Shropshire Council
Chris Taylor, Connecting Shropshire Programme Manager
Tim Ward Committee Officer Shropshire Council

There were approximately 9 members of the public present at the meeting.

1 Election of Chairman

- 1.1 It was proposed, seconded and duly resolved that Mr David Turner be elected Chair of the Much Wenlock and Shipton Local Joint Committee for the forthcoming Municipal Year

2 Introductions and Welcomes

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the members of the committee

ACTION

3. Appointment of Vice Chairman

- 3.1 It was proposed seconded and duly resolved that Mr Bob Seaward be appointed vice chair of the Much Wenlock & Shipton LJC for the forthcoming municipal year

4. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

- 4.1 There were no apologies as all members were present

5. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Mrs Holyoak declared an interest on the grounds of bias in the funding application from The Wenlock Festival as she was a member of the Festival Committee. She took no part in the voting on this application.

6. Note of Last Meeting

- 6.1 It was resolved that the note of the meeting held on 14 November 2012 be signed by the Chairman as a true record

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

- 7.1 PC Lippitt informed the meeting that year on year the number of crimes in the LJC area for the relevant period was up slightly from 23 to 25. He went on to say that was caused by a number of incidents where cars on Sheinton Road have had their tyres slashed and except for this, the number of incidents had fallen.
- 7.2 PC Lippitt informed the meeting that he had been reassigned and that he would be leaving the Much Wenlock area and would be covering the Bridgnorth Town and Bridgnorth Rural East areas. He thanked all those people who had helped in during his 13 years policing the Much Wenlock area.
- 7.3 PC Lippitt informed the meeting that following a reorganisation, response officers would now be operating out of Shrewsbury and Malinsgate. He went on to say that shift times had been altered to give a longer handover period and that officer were being equipped with electronic devices which would mean that they could be updated without having to return to base.
- 7.4 The Chair thanked PC Lippitt for all the work he had done in the area. This sentiment was echoed by all those present.

8. 2012 Projects – 1 year on!

- 8.1 The Chair introduced Emma-Kate Lanyon from the Shropshire Museums Service
- 8.2 Ms Lanyon gave a presentation on Capitalising on Much Wenlock and Shropshire's Olympian Connection.
- 8.3 Ms Lanyon informed the meeting that grant funding had been obtained from the Rural Development Fund for England (RDPE) (£150,000) and from the Heritage Lottery Fund (£520,800) and that the aims of the project were to: -
- Increase in overall visitor numbers into the Much Wenlock area
 - Increase the number of visitors staying overnight in Shropshire.
 - Increase the visitor spend in Much Wenlock and the rural area.
 - Create greater support to the 90 businesses in the Much Wenlock-centred area
 - Increase domestic and overseas awareness of Much Wenlock as a visitor destination
 - Provide a high quality visitor attraction which is a fully integrated part of the tourism package in the local area providing a starting point for journey's of discovery.
- She went on to say that a lot of work had been done raising the profile of the area with more than 250 press visits to the area and more than 600 news articles and that other work done included the promotion of 51 businesses within a 26 mile radius of Much Wenlock, improved signage and interpretation on the Gaskell Fields, development of Town trails, improvement to interpretation at the Guildhall, and improvements at the Much Wenlock Museum.
- 8.4 Ms Lanyon informed the meeting that a survey had been undertaken and that
- 96% of businesses believe that public awareness of Much Wenlock has improved as a result of the town's connection with the modern Olympic movement.
 - Almost two-thirds of all respondents considered their business to have been positively impacted by the 2012 Olympics, and for more than a quarter of businesses this impact was significant.
 - Four-fifths of businesses felt that the Olympics would leave a long-term positive legacy on their town.

She added that the majority of customers at the Museum had responded favourably to the improvements but that there had been a small number of comments about the collection not being particularly available for blind and handicapped people and that the museum was currently addressing this

- 8.5 Ms Lanyon informed the meeting that further work was being done to promote Much Wenlock and the Heritage of the wider area through an Arts Council funded project with information being disseminated through the list of contacts made last year.

- 8.6 The Chair thanked Ms Lanyon for her presentation

9. **Broadband Project**

- 9.1 The Chair introduced Chris Taylor, Connecting Shropshire Programme Manager who updated the meeting on the countywide Broadband Project, reminding members of the aims of the project and progress made to date. He informed the meeting that due to problems around resolving the issue of "State Aid" the programme had slipped slightly. He stated that the aim was to have faster broadband to over 62,000 rural homes and businesses in Shropshire by end of March 2016 with 2Mbps or more to all homes and businesses and to have 24Mbps or more to the majority of homes and businesses. He then took the meeting through what work was currently being done and what was planned.

Mr Taylor then took questions,

- A speaker expressed concerns regarding a funding shortfall. Mr Taylor advised him that the subject of extra funding was constantly under review with new funding schemes being investigated. He added that there had been provision in the recent comprehensive spending review to fill the gap in the procurement shortfall.
- A speaker asked whether road closures would be required to install the new network and if so was consultation undertaken with colleagues in highways. Mr Taylor informed him that regular meetings were held with all stakeholders as part of the process.

The Chair thanked Mr Taylor for his update

10 **Applications for Funding from the LJC Budget**

- 10.1 The Community Action Officer advised the meeting that two more applications had been received after the report had been prepared and she distributed an updated list of applications. She took the meeting through the applications Representatives from the

organisations applying for grants were given the opportunity to address the committee regarding their application.

10.2 **RESOLVED:**

10.3

That the Committee: -

- a) Note the decision to award a grant of £900.00 under delegated powers to the Much Wenlock Poetry Festival
- b) Note that the grant of £1500 made to the Edge Arts Centre in the 2011/12 financial year had been returned to the LJC
- c) That the following grants be approved
 - £2000 to the Priory Hall Committee towards the costs of improvements to the hall
 - £1500 to the Much Wenlock Windmill Trust towards the costs of essential internal repairs
 - £1200 to the Wenlock Festival towards the cost of marquee hire
 - £1500 to the Much Wenlock Chamber of Trade towards the costs of the production of a new map and guide subject to the map covering the whole of the LJC area.
- d) That consideration of the application from the Perry Riding for the Disabled Group be deferred in order that additional information can be obtained
- e) Adopt the additional funding criteria as stated in paragraph 1.3 of the report

11. Public Question Time/Identification of Future Agenda Items

11.1 There were no questions from members of the public

12. Grant Application Information.

12.1 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.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The Chair advised those present that the next meeting of the LJC would be held on 29 January 2014 at The Priory Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.00pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: