



<u>Committee and Date</u>
Oswestry Local Joint Committee
22 September 2009
7 pm

<u>Item/Paper</u>
4
Public

OSWESTRY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 JULY 2009 AT 7.00 PM IN THE MARCHES SCHOOL & TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE, MORDA ROAD, OSWESTRY

PRESENT:

Members of the Committee:

Mr Martin Bennett	Shropshire Council
Mr Bill Benyon	Shropshire Council
Mr Vince Hunt	Shropshire Council
Mrs Elaine Channon	Oswestry Town Council
Miss Betty Gull	Oswestry Town Council
Mr Gareth Jones	Oswestry Town Council

Officers:

George Candler	Assistant Director, Learning and Culture, (Lead Officer)
Arren Roberts	Corporate Performance Improvement Officer (Support Officer)
Nicki Young	Community Regeneration Officer
PC Royston Alderwick	West Mercia Police
CSO Chetwynd	West Mercia Police
Steve Mellor	West Mercia Police
Michelle Evans	Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services (Notes)

There were approximately 21 members of the public at the meeting.

ACTION

Welcome by the Lead Officer

The Lead Officer welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the first thing the Committee needed to do was to elect a Chairman.

1. Election of Chairman

1.1 The Lead Officer requested nominations for Chairman. It was proposed by Councillor Bill Benyon, seconded by Councillor Miss Betty Gull and

AGREED: That Councillor Martin Bennett be elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

2.1 The Chairman requested nominations for Vice-Chairman. It was proposed by Councillor Bill Benyon, seconded by Councillor Vince Hunt and

AGREED: That Councillor Mrs Elaine Channon be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

3. Apologies for Absence

- 3.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Keith Barrow (Shropshire Council) and Councillor John Evans (Oswestry Town Council).

4. Declarations of Interest

- 4.1 No declarations were received.

5. Chairman's Statement Purpose and Powers of the Meeting

- 5.1 The Chairman explained that a welcome sheet had been circulated which explained the purpose and powers of the meeting. He informed the meeting that any issues raised at these Local Joint Committee meetings could then be fed into the committee structure at Shropshire Council.

The Chairman went on to explain the format of the meeting and some of the items on the agenda, which included an opportunity to raise issues in their local area with local police. He reported that the Committee had a budget of £54,000 and a decision report recommending how some of this should be spent would be considered later in the meeting. A funding update had been circulated giving examples of projects that had been funded during last year's pilot.

The Chairman wished to ensure that the public had an opportunity to raise any local issues of concern which the Committee would attempt to resolve.

The Chairman explained that PC Royston Alderwick had been delayed and it was therefore agreed to take agenda items 8 and 9 next.

6. Local Joint Committee Budget

- 6.1 The Committee received the report of the Lead Officer – copy attached to the signed minutes – which considered the devolved funding to the Oswestry Local Joint Committee for 2009/10.

The Chairman introduced the Support Officer who explained the content of the report and financial procedure notes and answered a number of queries about the budget and Community Chest.

The Chairman read out the recommendations contained in the report. It was moved by Councillor Vince Hunt, seconded by Councillor Mrs Elaine Channon and **AGREED** that:

- A. A Community Chest be created with a value of £16,000.
- B. That applications to the Community Chest be considered by Members at Local Joint Committee Meetings, subject to the Financial Procedure Notes governing Local Joint Committees and the ground rules as specified in the report.

7. Key Issues for Oswestry Local Joint Committee

- 7.1 The Chairman explained that members of the public were being asked to identify areas for future agenda items.

Members of the public broke into three groups and were joined by one or two Councillors and an officer. Each group were asked to identify what was good or not so good about Oswestry and this was then fed back to the meeting.

The Support Officer explained that he would collate all the responses and this information would then be used to prioritise items for the work plan.

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8. Partners and Communities Together Meeting (PACT)

- 8.1 The Chairman introduced Local Police Officer Alderwick and CSO Chetwynd from West Mercia Police who invited members of the public to raise any issues of concern.

Issues raised during the PACT meeting included:

- Speeding;

PC Alderwick explained that West Mercia Police had held a two week initiative in and around Oswestry issuing tickets and raising awareness of speeding and safety issues. He confirmed that he would continue with this initiative when he could.

- Coach park being used for 'drag racing';

PC Alderwick reported that recently a number of cars had been seized as a result of activity on this car park being recorded by CCTV but he would pass on these concerns.

- Youths in Cae Glas Park;

PC Alderwick explained that the park was on the CSOs 'anti social behaviour' route but they only worked until 10pm. He felt that the problems in the park could not be dealt with until the park was completely secure.

- Cyclists on pavements.

PC Alderwick explained that dangerous cycling was an offence and there was a zero tolerance policy in the town centre.

- 'For Sale' Vehicles in disabled spaces;
- Drug dealing by the Fire Station.

PC Alderwick would look into these issues and report back to the Committee.

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The Chairman thanked the officers for attending.

9. Public Question Time

9.1 The Chairman invited questions from members of the public and explained that question cards and feedback forms were available and would be collected at the end of the meeting.

Questions were raised about the following issues:

- Replacement seats in Bailey Street; and
- Various questions relating to the refurbishment of Powis Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the meeting.

10. Date of Next Meeting

10.1 The next meeting will be held at 7pm on 22 September 2009 in the Memorial Hall.

The meeting ended at 9.00pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____