

ST OSWALD AND LLANYMYNECH LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4TH OCTOBER 2011 AT 7.00PM, KNOCKIN ASSEMBLY ROOMS, KNOCKIN, OSWESTRY

PRESENT:

Members of the Committee:

Councillor Arthur Walpole	Shropshire Council – Llanymynech
Councillor Mrs Joyce Barrow	Shropshire Council – St Oswald
Councillor R. Argyle	Llanyblodwel Parish Council
Councillor Pam Broomby	Oswestry Rural Parish Council
Councillor Mrs Shelia Bruce	Kinnerley Parish Council
Councillor Dilys Gaskill	Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council
Councillor D. Roberts	Knockin Parish Council

Officers:

Corrie Davies	Community Action Officer
Emily Marshall	Committee Officer (Notes)
George Candler	Area Director (North)

There were approximately 20 members of the public at the meeting.

16. Welcome and Introduction from the Chairman

Councillor Walpole welcomed those present to the meeting and asked Members of the Committee to introduce themselves. George Candler, Area Director – North was present and introduced himself to those present.

17. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Trevor Davies (Shropshire Council) and Councillor David Lloyd (Shropshire Council).

18. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Walpole declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 12, Funding Request B8, The Oswestry Learndirect facility. Councillor Walpole stated that as a Governor at Walford and North Shropshire College he would take no part in the vote or the debate.

Councillor Broomby declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 12, Funding Request B2 as she was a Member of Oswestry Rural Parish Council.

19. Notes of the Previous Meeting

AGREED: That the notes of the meeting held on 14th June 2011 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

20. Partners and Communities Together Meeting (PACT)

PC Pete Dale attended the meeting to give an update on local policing issues.

PC Dale circulated copies of the Oswestry Rural Watch Newsletter and updated on the following issues:

- The arrest of a burglar responsible for a series of robberies across the West Mercia area and the recovery of numerous stolen goods.
- Scrap metal offences were on the increase. The steps that could be taken to ensure that scrap metal was only given to those with the necessary permits in place was outlined.
- In response to a question, PC Dale stated that the GHB testing kits available in pubs were working well, the number of arrests had increased and the number of reported incidents reduced. Councillor Barrow added that a Shropshire Council Task and Finish Group had been set up to examine GHB issues in the area. Councillor Barrow updated on the issues that the Group has looked at, which included issues surrounding rent arrears and the affect that this had on drug usage.
- West Felton Parish Council had expressed concerns about the size and loads that tractors were carrying in their area and PC Dale asked those present to let him know if they had similar concerns within their area.

The Chairman thanked PC Dale for his attendance and informative update.

21. Rural Broadband

The Chairman welcomed Ian Binks, Regional Partnership Director, BT and Alison Brock, ICT Client Support Manager, Shropshire Council.

Ian Binks began by giving a short presentation, setting the scene from an industry perspective, detailing current and future broadband projects.

Alison Brock gave a presentation detailing the future of Broadband within Shropshire. Alison explained that Shropshire Council, along with Telford and Wrekin Council had been awarded £8.2 million by central government to help improve broadband speeds and coverage within Shropshire. The steps that individuals could take to help the plan were outlined. Those present were urged to write to BDUK, expressing their views and support for the plans. Individuals could also visit www.connectingshropshire.co.uk and complete a short survey. Anyone without internet access could obtain paper copies of the survey by contacting Alison Brock directly.

Questions were invited. A group of residents from Molverley were present and explained their concerns to Ian Binks and Alison Brock. A member of the public felt concerned that it seemed as though the bulk of BT investment seemed to be in areas where there was already broadband and that BT should concentrate on the areas within Shropshire that did not have any broadband. In response, Ian Binks explained that the scarcity of the populations in these

areas meant that it was difficult to invest and make a sound business case for investment in rural areas. BT were driven by market forces.

Ian Binks explained that demonstrating that there was a demand for the service in areas was critical and urged those present to contact Alison Brock and work closely with her to put their areas forward as a priority. The Chairman made a special plea for Melverley to be included as a priority area.

Those present were informed that a paper would be presented to Cabinet in November and an update on the outcome of the bid would be reported back to Local Joint Committee's and Parish Council's.

22. Health Issues

An update on the Oswestry Cluster LJC, Health Issues meeting had been placed on tables.

Leaflets on Health Services in Shropshire were available to take away.

23. Sat Nav

Councillor Ron Argyle gave an update on the research he had undertaken into Sat Nav issues. Councillor Argyle reported that there were two main providers for Sat Nav, Tom-Tom and NavTech. The Parish Clerk had contacted Tom-Tom via the internet and identified lanes on a map, however recent correspondence from them stated that they would not be pursuing.

The response from Nav Tech was that if there was a sign at the end of a road then they would input these onto their system. Councillor Argyle therefore urged people to contact their Parish Council if there were specific problems in their area.

24. Feedback on Special Highways LJC held on 28th January 2011

A list of issues/questions raised at the meeting on 28th January, with feedback was circulated.

Concern was expressed that the Department for Transport no longer assessed projects on a regional or local level, as it was felt that local needs would not be addressed. The Chairman commented that centrally it was also felt that local issues had gone out of visibility.

Concern was expressed at the increased number of lorries using Long Lane, going towards Crickheath as it was felt that at some point in the future there may be a fatality. In response, Councillors Barrow and Broomby confirmed that they would take this point back to Highways and the Parish Council.

25. Feedback on Issues Raised at Previous Meeting

A list of issues/questions raised at the meeting held on 1st February with feedback was circulated.

Mr Chilvers questioned what was being done to improve Shropshire Council's website in particular the ability to search the website using key words and the availability of Minutes on the web. The Area Director (North) explained the improvements that were underway in the area of ICT, adding that he would

take the points made back to IT Services.

Mr Chilvers also thanked Steve Oakley, Highways Manager for locating a salt bin at the end of his road.

26. Public Question Time

See Minute 25, above.

27. St Oswald and Llanymynech Community Fund

27 (a) Community Fund Requests

The Committee received the report of the Community Action Officer, which detailed the bids received for the second round of funding to be considered by the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee.

AGREED: That St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee awards funding to those organisations and their projects as listed below.

- A) Llanymynech Youth Club - £400
- B) Trefonen Jubilee Club - £1,000
- C) Shropshire Union Canal - £1000
- D) Morda Village Pre-School - £300
- E) Dyffryn Tanat & Region Development Trust - £500
- F) Porthywaen Silver Band - £500
- G) Morda CE Primary School - £1000
- H) The Oswestry Learndirect Facility - £1000 (Councillor Walpole took no part in consideration of or voting on this application).
- I) Oswestry Dial-a-Ride – Deferred until next application round

27 (b) St Oswald and Llanymynech Community Fund Delegation to Oswestry and District Sports Council

The Committee received the report of the Community Action Officer, which outlined the rationale for delegating 5% of the 2011/12 budget St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee had received to Oswestry and District Sports Council.

AGREED: That £725 (5% of the 2011/2012 budget) be delegated to Oswestry and District Sports Council who will utilise it to run a small grants programme supporting sport development on behalf of the LJC.

28. Community Action Update

The Community Action Officer gave an update on her work within the community and details of grant/funding schemes that were available.

The deadline for applications for the next round of the Local Joint Committee Community Fund was stated as 19th December 2011.

Members of the public were urged to complete the feedback forms.

29. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 7th February 2012 at Llanymynech Village Hall.

Agenda items for this meeting would include an update on Shropshire Council's Budget, neighbourhood plans, planning issues.

The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____