

## STRETTONDALE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

**NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS STEMMING FROM THE MEETING  
HELD ON 29 September 2009 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm  
at  
Rushbury Village Hall**

### **Committee Members Present:**

#### Shropshire Council

David Evans	Church Stretton and Craven Arms Electoral Division
James Gibson	Church Stretton and Craven Arms Electoral Division
Cecilia Motley	Corvedale

#### Town/Parish Councils

Peter Relph	Church Stretton Town Council
Tony Madeley	Eaton-Upon-Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council (substituting for Lynne Gray)
Mel McFarland	Rushbury Parish Council

### **Shropshire Council Officers present:**

Liz Nicholson, Lead Officer  
Miranda McLaven, Support Officer  
Peter Dunhill, Community Regeneration Officer  
Ron Buzzacott, Head of Technical Services  
Amanda Holyoak, Committee Officer

There were approximately 35 members of the public present at the meeting.

### ACTION

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair thanked those present for attending the meeting and members of the Committee introduced themselves.

#### **2. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions**

Apologies for absence were received from Lynne Gray, Eaton-Under-Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council. Tony Madeley attended as her substitute.

#### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Mel McFarland declared a personal interest in item 7 on flooding and sewage as he was in contact with Severn Trent on issues including sewage running onto his own land. James Gibson and Peter Relph declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Community Chest applications SD6 and SD7 as they were both members of the Church Stretton Partnership. They left the room when these applications were discussed.

#### **4. Note of Last Meeting**

The note of the meeting held on 9 July 2009 was confirmed as a correct record.

#### **5. Quality Parish Award**

5.1 Madge Shingleton, Shropshire Association of Local Councils presented Mel McFarland, Chairman and Members and Clerk of Rushbury Parish Council with its Quality Parish Award, commenting on the very high quality of the application. She urged all Parishes to work towards the award.

5.2 Mel McFarland thanked Parish Councillors and the Clerk for their commitment and hard work in achieving the award.

#### **6. Co-option to the Committee**

6.1 The Chairman reported that Acton Scott Parish meeting were interested in being co-opted to the Committee and a representative hoped to attend the next meeting.

#### **7. Flooding and Sewage**

7.1 Ian Hodgkiss, Project Leader from Severn Trent, provided an explanation of Severn Trent's operations programme. He explained the role and responsibilities of Severn Trent but explained that he was not able to speak about specific schemes.

7.2 Members of the public and committee raised questions and issues in relation to problems experienced in Wall Under Heywood, Rushbury, Longville, Marshbrook and Church Stretton amongst other locations and Mr Hodgkiss was asked to highlight these problems with the relevant Severn Trent officers.

7.3 Problems included sewage running on to farmers fields, sewage entering waterstreams and people's properties and gardens, overflowing septic tanks and discharge into streams. Concerns were also expressed about the increase of building on flood plains, and the old sewage and drainage system in Church Stretton.

7.4 Mr Hodgkiss explained the responsibilities of Severn Trent, its five year programme and the likely impact of new legislation. He explained what Severn Trent were and were not able to help with.

7.5 Concern was expressed that there had not been a representative from Severn Trent at the recent Flood Forum meeting held in Church Stretton. Mr Hodgkiss agreed that joined up thinking was essential both within Severn Trent and across organisations.

- 7.6 Other questions related Severn Trent's role in commenting on planning applications. It was felt that Severn Trent needed to be more proactive in the planning process in identifying where problems might occur.
- 7.7 Mr Hodgkiss agreed to take these concerns and messages back to Severn Trent and reported on a current reorganisation. He encouraged members of the public to report any problem or discharge to Severn Trent
- 7.8 Mr Hodgkiss was thanked for attending the meeting and answering questions.

Ian  
Hodgkiss

### **Flood Forum**

- 7.9 Ron Buzzacott, Head of Technical Services for Shropshire Council, reported on the first meeting of the Craven Arms and Church Stretton Flood Forum, held on 9 September 2009. He reported that although Severn Trent had not attended this meeting, they had attended a subsequent meeting with officers.
- 7.10 He reported that the borough and district council responsibilities under the Land Drainage Act had now passed to Shropshire Council. A key recommendation of the Pitt Review undertaken after the 2007 floods was that Local Authorities should take the lead and new legislation would require Local Authorities to do this.
- 7.11 A proactive approach would now be taken by Shropshire Council and it would take the lead in co-ordinating solutions to problems. The Council was developing an Asset Management Plan and would use Flood Forums as a means of bringing all relevant parties together to air issues in one place.
- 7.12 Committee members expressed support for the Flood Forum but were concerned about previous shifting of problems and responsibilities from one organisation to another. Mr Buzzacott emphasised that Shropshire Council was clear about its leadership role in co-ordinating all the parties involved and in ensuring the co-operation of all stakeholders. It was hoped the Flood Forum would enable the community to identify problems and enable up to date monitoring.
- 7.13 Members of the public emphasised the need for an overall objective to be agreed by the Flood Forum and drew attention to good practice in other parts of the county and country.
- 7.14 In response to concerns about Development Control, Mr Buzzacott explained that the Asset Management Plan could be shared with Shropshire Council's Development Control Officers.

7.15 In response to a question about the impact of climate change in the local area he reported that the Environment Agency had produced hydraulic models with impacts of climate change built in over the whole country. The Shropshire Asset Management Plan would incorporate this data.

Mr Buzzacott was thanked for attending the meeting.

7.16 At this point in the meeting the Chairman reported on the Church Stretton Traffic Management Plan which was currently in abeyance. Discussions were on going and he reported that traffic management officers intended to hold an all day meeting in Church Stretton to gather views on the issues.

7.17 The Chairman also felt that the Local Joint Committee should give some thought to merging with West Mercia Police Partners and Communities Together meetings. He invited Inspector McKale to speak on this who reported that PACT meetings gave the public the opportunity to raise issues of concern and he would be happy to attend Local Joint Committee meetings to receive any concerns. It was confirmed that this work could link in with the work of neighbourhood watch schemes.

## 8. Community Chest

8.1 The Committee approved the guidelines for consideration of grant applications to the Community Chest.

8.2 The Committee also considered applications made for funds to the Community Chest and approved the following applications. (Mr Gibson and Mr Relph left the meeting during the consideration of applications made by the Church Stretton Partnership).

Community  
Regeneration  
Officer

LJC Lead  
Officer

PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	AMOUNT AGREED £
Rushbury VH Planning for the Future	Professional review of refurbishment/extension/alteration options + QS and Costings	500
Developing the sustainability of Church Stretton Sunday Football Club	Contribution to registration, insurance, changing facilities while committee develop a funding strategy in lieu of current sponsorship deficit	480
Renovation of Outdoor Play. Little Acorns of Rushbury	New equipment for outdoor/indoor play cookery equipment	500
Mayfair Youth Club	Training sessions for youth worker for Friday evenings + room hire	500
Church Stretton Area Partnership	Room hire and administrative costs to enable participation of a wide range of	400

	partnership members	
Church Stretton Carers Support Group	Provision of respite for carers to allow time for themselves and mutual support while the person they care for is looked after. Costs of day care and a meeting room	500
Emergency Planning. Church Stretton Health and Social Care Partnership	Preparation and co-ordination of local resources and appropriate training (eg groups, volunteers, paid staff and facilities) in the event of an emergency, disaster or pandemic	200

It was noted that an application from South Shropshire Women's Refuge had been withdrawn.

- 8.3 The Committee also agreed to top up the Community Chest back to £5,000 following the making of the above grants.

LJC Lead Officer

**9. Priorities for StrettonDale Local Joint Committee**

- 9.1 Those present were invited to participate in an exercise designed to help inform the establishment of priorities for StrettonDale Local Joint Committee.

**10. Date of Future Meetings**

Wednesday 6 January 2009 at 7pm at Church Stretton School

Thursday 18 March 2010 at 7pm at Ticklerton Village Hall