



**Committee and Date**  
The Severn Loop Local Joint  
Committee  
  
2 May 2012  
  
7.00 p.m.

**Item/Paper**  
  
**6**  
  
Public

## THE SEVERN LOOP LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

### NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 12 OCTOBER 2011 AT THE GUILDHALL, FRANKWELL QUAY, SHREWSBURY

**Responsible Officer:** Ken James  
e-mail: [ken.james@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:ken.james@shropshire.gov.uk)

#### **Committee Members Present:**

##### **Shropshire Council:**

Andrew Bannerman  
Mansel Williams

##### **Shrewsbury Town Council:**

Alan Townsend

##### **Others Present:**

##### **West Mercia Police:**

David Walton

There were approximately 18 members of the public present at the meeting.

#### **ACTION:**

#### **1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**

In the absence of Anne Chebsey, Mansel Williams the Vice Chairman took the Chair for the meeting and welcomed everyone to the Severn Loop Local Joint Committee.

#### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Anne Chebsey and Andrew Wagner.

#### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Andrew Bannerman - Personal Interests as a Trustee on the Board of The Hive and as a member of the Shrewsbury Town Centre Residents Association.

#### **4. NOTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was agreed that the notes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

## 5. UPDATES

The following updates on actions arising from the previous meeting were received:

- Grant Funding - Darwin Community Centre – Gwyn Bevan reported that the funding had been issued and the work to improve the disabled access and toilets had been completed. The building was a facility that all local could use.
- Alterations to the Smithfield Road and Raven Meadows Junction – A member of the public asked how the comments received during consultations had been dealt with before the works started. Councillor Mansell Williams undertook to check on the matter.
- Shrewsbury Castle - Gwyn Bevan and Councillor Andrew Bannerman reported that improvements to emergency exit provision to enable increased attendance for events were still awaited but were being pursued.
- St. Julian's Friars - Gwyn Bevan and Councillor Andrew Bannerman reported that work was continuing in the area but some difficulties had been experienced with the gyratory road although work was progressing. It was proposed that the traffic flow of the gyratory road through the development would be anti-clockwise with traffic entering from Town Walls and exiting at the English Bridge. Initially there would be no traffic lights at the English Bridge junction. The cabling would be installed in case it was found that traffic lights were required in the future, but at first trust would be placed in driver courtesy and judgement. Councillor Alan Townsend expressed concerns for pedestrian safety in the area and indicated that he would be keeping a close eye on the situation. Residents of St. Julian's Crescent stated that they would be affected by the decision taken about the traffic flow on the gyratory road but they had not been informed. Councillor Andrew Bannerman undertook to arrange for the residents of St. Julian's Crescent to meet with the Project Manager for the scheme.
- Bus Services – A member of the public enquired whether the Town Council had been able to provide any financial assistance to maintain some key bus services. Councillor Mansell Williams undertook to check with the Town Clerk to Shrewsbury Town Council.

**Councillor  
Mansell  
Williams**

**Gwyn  
Bevan**

**Councillor  
Andrew  
Bannerman**

**Councillor  
Mansell  
Williams**

## 6. LOCAL POLICING UPDATE

In the absence of PC Cheryl Hare, who was unable to be present at the meeting, PC David Walton provided a brief update on policing activities within the Coton Hill area, including priority matters and initiatives as follows:

- Partners and Communities Together (PACT) street briefings had been held.

- Complaints of nuisance around Corporation Lane had been received but the site in question was a public access and so had to remain open.
- The next surgery at the Greenfields Stores would be held on 24<sup>th</sup> October and everyone was welcome to attend.

PC David Walton then provided an update on policing activities within the Severn Loop area, including priority matters and initiatives as follows:

- There had been a number of incidents of cycling on Pride Hill. 13 warning notices had been issued and 49 leaflets issued since June.
- Littering around the Bus Station had been a problem and further litter enforcement had been requested.
- Incidents of Chugging (Charity Mugging) were still occurring on Pride Hill and representations had been made to the Council's Licensing Section about this activity which he viewed as a street collection.
- No entry signs and road markings had been provided at Belmont had helped to reduce incidents of non-compliance.
- Church Street continued to be a "rabbit run" with traffic also going against the one way restriction on Dogpole to access St. Mary's Place from Church Street. 21 drivers had been prosecuted for this offence. He considered that the problem could be designed out by reversing the direction of traffic around St. Mary's Church.
- The Police's view of mass non-compliance around the town in respect of 'A' Boards had been taken up with the Council.
- There was an issue of road sweeping vehicles driving along streets in the wrong direction, and although there were exemptions for this at certain times it did pose a danger and the matter had been taken up with the Council for working practices to be tightened up.
- Incidents of ID fraud being committed with false ID being used in an attempt to get into licensed premises was decreasing.
- 400 people had now been banned from licensed premises under the Pubwatch scheme and 28 people had been banned from shops. Any misbehaviour at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital would also be subject to Pubwatch/Shopwatch bans.

PC David Walton answered questions from members of the public present at the meeting, during which the following matters were raised:

- The Hot Dog and Ice Cream Sellers on and around Pride Hill - PC David Walton indicated that they had both obtained police pedlars certificates but he did not view them as pedlars as they were in the town centre from day to day and operating as street traders which was a Council Licensing matter.
- The amount of rubbish and mess, particularly litter from late night take-away establishments, left through the Town Centre after Late Night Entertainment which was cleared by 7.00 a.m. but affected many town centre residents before that time – Councillor Mansell Williams asked the member of the public raising the matter to write to him and he would take the issue forward at a strategic level within the Council.

**Councillor  
Mansell  
Williams**

- Cycling Contraventions – It was emphasised that cycling on pedestrian pavements was an offence and perpetrators would be prosecuted. In addition, Pride Hill, The Square and footbridges were highway and any cycling would be in contravention of the “No Cycling” notices.

Councillor Mansell Williams thanked PC David Walton for the updates and invited Mr Richard Goodchild, the Pubwatch Scheme Manager to address the meeting.

Mr Goodchild reported that two further premises had joined Pubwatch since the last meeting. 28 exclusion orders had been issued against retail offenders and there had been a 22% fall in retail crime in the town centre.

In addition, Mr Goodchild referred to the matter raised earlier in the meeting by a member of the public about the problem of polystyrene cartons from late night take-aways being discarded as litter and undertook to take up the issue with the establishments concerned.

**Richard  
Goodchild**

## **7. PAVEMENT OBSTRUCTIONS**

Dave Roberts, Environmental Enforcement Manager, addressed the meeting on the concerns that had been raised about the use of public pavements by cafes/bars, the use of A-boards outside shops and parking enforcement in the evenings.

He reported that co-ordinated action would be taken to address the matter, with Paul McGreary, the Group Manager for Public Protection and Enforcement, and Clive Wright, the Area Director Central, ensuring that all enforcement arms of the Council worked together.

The co-ordinated action would include a review of the existing pavement permits granted to cafes/bars and how those establishments were operating under those permits. Following that an Action Plan would be formed to deal with issues arising from the review of existing pavement permits and excess street clutter, including ‘A’ Boards, busking, begging and street trading. In addition, the Council would work closely with partners such as the Police and Pubwatch on the implementation of the Action Plan and also in dealing with nuisance from dog fouling and littering. The final stage of the action would be to review all the policies relating to street scene activities, particularly pavement permits, and then to appoint a designated person for the town as the point of contact for the public to raise concerns in the future.

With regard to parking enforcement , Dave Roberts stated that to assist motorists the availability of free parking in the Council’s car parks after 6.00pm was being promoted. In addition, further communications on what motorists were permitted to do and what they were not permitted to do in the town centre were being prepared.

In response to concern raised by a member of the public about car parking on designated cycle paths, Dave Roberts confirmed that it was offence if it was considered dangerous and undertook to speak with the person after the meeting to get particular details of where this was occurring.

**Dave Roberts**

A member of the public suggested that the charges for pavement permits should be reviewed to look at getting a return on the "leasing of highway space". In response, Dave Roberts indicated that this would be looked at.

**Dave Roberts**

A member of the public expressed concern at the development of the "Café Culture" in the town without input from the public and stakeholders. A further member of the public suggested that the Council staged an internet forum when the policy for pavement permits was reviewed before the introduction of any new policy. In response, Councillor Mansell Williams undertook to ask for this to be looked at through the Council's scrutiny process.

**Councillor Mansell Williams**

## **8. AMENDMENT TO LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION – SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

Councillor Mansel Williams indicated that the purpose of the delegated authority was to enable the LJC to act swiftly in dealing with matters, particularly grant funding issues, when no meeting was due.

It was Agreed:

That the delegated authority granted at the Council meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2011 to enable urgent and time sensitive LJC matters to be determined between meetings be exercised by this Committee, provided that all Members of this Committee are involved when a decision is taken.

**Gwyn Bevan/All Members**

## **9. APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING**

Gwyn Bevan, Community Action Officer, presented his report setting out details of two grant funding applications that had been received.

It was noted that the application from The Hive Music and Media Centre included a number of currently ongoing events at the venue.

### **RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the following application for funding from the 2011/2012 budget be approved:

<b>Application</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Shrewsbury Town Centre Residents Association – Production of information videos on Shrewsbury locations for QR code technology.	£1,900

**Gwyn Bevan**

- (b) That the following application be deferred for a revised submission omitting the ongoing programmes:

**Gwyn Bevan**

The Hive Music and Media Centre – Five programmes of events at the venue.

## 10. FUTURE SPENDING PRIORITIES

Gwyn Bevan, the Community Action Officer, indicated that the Council had asked all Local Joint Committees to identify priorities over the next 12 months to focus funding on areas that needed support.

Clive Wright, the Area Director – Central, referred to the positive activities programme for young people with the aim of targeting available funding on revenue projects. Future regular support for The Hive could be explored as part of the programme.

## 11. COMMUNITY ACTION UPDATE

Gwyn Bevan stated that he had undertaken a lot of work recently on the management and protection of open space and encouraged the public to contact him about any issues they had on the matter.

He reported that recent activities in the area included:

- Investigating concerns raised about pavement obstructions in Longden Coleham.
- Investigating concerns raised about nuisance from pigeon mess.
- Investigating concerns raised about traffic congestion and the need for flood defences in the Coton Hill area.
- Investigating issues raised relating to the West Mid Showground.

He indicated that he would stage a display at next meeting on the achievements of this LJC.

**Gwyn Bevan**

## 12. HAVE YOUR SAY – QUESTION TIME

Councillor Mansel Williams asked all those present to complete and return the feedback forms circulated before leaving.

He then invited questions/comments from local residents and the following points / questions were raised:

- Toilets in Butcher Row – when would the scheme start? Councillor Andrew Bannerman indicated that the planning application for the site would be considered by the Central Planning Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2011.
- The River and silting – Gwyn Bevan undertook to provide the contact details of the River Liaison Group to the residents from St. Julian's Crescent raising the matter.
- The Pig Trough at Coton Hill - overgrown foliage from a private garden and allotments and additional light along the path. Gwyn Bevan undertook to meet with the resident raising the matter to look at this.

**Gwyn Bevan**

**Gwyn Bevan**

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Ice Cream Van in The Quarry</u> – concern at the noisy operation of the ice cream van now that the coffee bar was working off the electric mains supply instead – Gwyn Bevan undertook to take this up with the Town Council.</li> </ul>  | <b>Gwyn Bevan</b>                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Pigeons</u> - request for “Do Not Feed The Pigeons” notices to be placed in the town, particularly around The Square and St. Alkmund’s Square – Gwyn Bevan indicated that the issue had been raised at Shropshire Council and was being looked into to resolve the problem. The matter had also been raised with several agencies. He undertook to check on progress on the matter.</li> </ul>                            | <b>Gwyn Bevan</b>                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Car Parking Charges</u> – Dave Roberts indicated that car parking charges for the town were being reviewed and proposals would be submitted to Members for consideration.</li> </ul>  | <b>Dave Roberts</b>               |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Longden Road Speed Camera</u> – were there any plans to remove the camera as the road markings had been removed? Councillor Mansel Williams indicated that the camera would remain in place and the road markings were to be reinstated.</li> </ul>   |                                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Funding Application Forms</u> – could the full versions of the application forms be made available to the public at the LJC meetings? A member of the public expressed the view that the summary of each application within the funding report was sufficient for the public and only Members of the Committee should see the full application. Councillor Mansel Williams undertook to check on the position.</li> </ul> | <b>Councillor Mansel Williams</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>The two Vehicle Activated Speed Signs funded from the LJC</u> – where were they in use? Gwyn Bevan undertook to check on the number and locations in use in the town.</li> </ul>  | <b>Gwyn Bevan</b>                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Town Awards</u> - request to publicise the achievements of the town, particularly Britain in Bloom awards, and events in the town in an appropriate place such as The Square. Councillor Mansel Williams indicated that enquiries would be made.</li> </ul>   | <b>Gwyn Bevan</b>                 |

**13. DATES FOR MEETINGS IN 2012/13**

Arrangements be made for meetings to be held in May and October 2012.

**Ken James**

**7.00 pm to 9.50 pm**

**Signed:** .....  
**Chairman**

**Date:** .....