

WEM AND SHAWBURY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 JANUARY 2011 AT 7.00 P.M. IN THE HARMER HILL VILLAGE HALL, ELLESMERE ROAD, HARMER HILL, SY4 3EE.

Responsible Officer: Ann Almond
Email: ann.almond@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: (01743) 252803

Present:

Members of the Committee:

Pauline Dee	Shropshire Council – Wem (Chairman)
Brian Williams	Shropshire Council – The Meres
Karen Calder	Shropshire Council – Hodnet
Graham Godfrey-White	Clive Parish Council
Tom Wycherley	Grinshill Parish Council
Bryan Thomas	Hadnall Parish Council
Bob Parker	Loppington Parish Council
John James	Moreton Corbet and Lee Brockhurst Parish Council
Russell Purslow	Myddle and Broughton Parish Council (Vice-Chairman)
John Kennedy	Shawbury Parish Council
Len Staines	Wem Rural Parish Council
Edward Towers	Wem Town Council
John Edwards	Weston under Redcastle Parish Council
Sim Beer	Whixall Parish Council

Co-opted Members of the Committee:

Julian Hinds	West Mercia Constabulary – Wem
Lesley Mitchell	West Mercia Constabulary – Wem

Officers:

Janet Graham	Lead Officer (Assistant Director – Children and Young People's Services)
Kate Garner	Community Working Manager (North) – Support Officer
Sue Thomas	Community Action Officer
Ruth Mansfield	Community Action Officer
Ann Almond	Committee Officer

Also present:

George Candler	Assistant Director Culture and Leisure
Martin Withington	Head of Transportation
Ian Binks	BT

There were approximately 22 members of the public at the meeting.

34. Welcome and Introductions

- 34.1 The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.
- 34.2 George Candler introduced himself as the Officer responsible for the northern area of the County, and gave a brief summary of the activities he had been involved in.

35. Apologies for absence (Agenda Item 1)

- 35.1 Apologies for absence were received from:

Chris Mellings	Shropshire Council – Wem
Simon Jones	Shropshire Council – Shawbury
Jo Humphreys	Stanton upon Hine Heath Parish Council

36. Notes (Agenda Item 2)

- 36.1 **RESOLVED: that the Notes of the meeting of the Wem and Shawbury Local Joint Committee held on 18th October 2010 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.**

Pauline
Dee
Ann
Almond

37. Declarations of Interest (Agenda Item 3)

- 37.1 The following declarations of interest were made:

Councillor	Item	Interest	Reason
John James	Item 10 – Grant Applications Lee Brockhurst Village Hall Committee	Personal	Member of the Lee Brockhurst Village Hall Committee
Bob Parker	Item 10 – Grant Applications Burlton Vehicle Activated Sign	Personal	Member of Loppington Parish Council
Len Staines	Item 10 – Grant Applications Wem Rural Community Plan Group	Personal and Prejudicial	Member of Wem Rural Parish Council
Brian Williams	Item 10 – Grant Applications Grinshill Dog and Cat Rescue Centre	Personal	Supported Grinshill Dog and Cat Rescue Centre

38. Budget Update (Agenda Item 4)

- 38.1 Janet Graham gave a presentation to those present summarising the overall impact on Shropshire of the Comprehensive Spending Review and Draft Settlement. A copy of the presentation is attached.
- 38.2 The Chairman welcomed any questions or comments regarding the presentation by completion of the question sheets that were available throughout the meeting.

39. Potential Changes to your Fire and Rescue Service (Agenda Item 5)

39.1 Shropshire Fire and Rescue had provided a Briefing Note that gave an overview of future changes and priorities of Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service.

39.2 Further information about the changes can be found at:

www.shropshirefire.gov.uk/about-sfrs/business-consultation-2011

40. Shropshire Local Transport Plan (Agenda Item 6)

40.1 Martin Withington, Shropshire Council's Head of Transportation, gave a presentation to those present summarising transport objectives and challenges. A copy of the presentation is attached.

40.2 Martin Withington made the following comments in response to questions raised by members of the Committee and public:

- Majority of Shropshire Council vehicles run on diesel
- Shropshire Council were mindful of the option to explore the use of electric and hybrid vehicles, however findings had indicated there was a low level of electric vehicles users, therefore not currently having a demand for electrical charge points
- Hybrid vehicles would be more appropriate for Shropshire, largely being a rural County, which do not require electric charge points
- From the 7th February 2011, the frequency of the Shrewsbury Park and Ride service between 11.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. was being reduced, operating every 15 minutes, rather than 10 minutes. From 1 April 2011 concessionary fares would be removed from the P&R service. Patronage would be monitored to check the impact of all the changes.
- With regards the removal of pre 9.30 a.m. concessions, consideration was being given to an exemptions policy and a report would be prepared setting out specific circumstances where this might apply.
- Shropshire has some towns that have implemented car parking charges and some that do not, this needed to be level across the County, being mindful of the rates to be charged and looking into providing permits for residents who use car parks for overnight parking
- Shropshire Council was liable for the condition of the roads, having to mend pot holes within 24 hours of them being reported. There being so many following the heavy winter period, these were being temporarily filled until a team could be despatched to provide a more permanent filling

40.3 Martin Withington referred to an informal consultation taking place regarding the introduction of the 7.5 tonne weight restriction in and around Wem, two plans identifying the extent of the proposal were displayed, comments were made which needed to be passed to Dave Gradwell who was co-ordinating the consultation.

40.4 Any questions or comments could be emailed to:
transport@shropshire.gov.uk

For further information visit the website at:
www.shropshire.gov.uk

41. Broadband (Agenda Item 7)

42.1 Ian Binks, British Telecom (BT), gave a presentation to those present providing information on investments made by BT to modernise and roll out of advanced networks and infrastructure to serve its own direct end users and other communications providers, this also ensured that end users had a competitive market. A copy of the presentation is attached.

42.2 Ian Binks made the following comments in response to questions raised by members of the Committee and public:

- BT was the only organisation to make investment to improve rural broadband connectivity, looking at providing upto 8mb download speeds per second. However this could be lower dependant on how far away the property was from the local telephone exchange
- www.thinkbroadband.com was one of many websites that provided a speed checker, that would identify download and upload speeds that were being achieved at a property, he commented that tests should be carried out at different times of the day
- BT would be engaging with Shropshire Council to bring together a plan to implement Superfast Broadband in Baschurch which had been voted as needing an upgrade, and subsequently chosen as one of the most popular areas, it was envisaged that this would be enabled by 2012
- Oswestry had also been identified as a market town in need of an upgrade

42.3 Further information about British Telecom can be found at:
www.bt.com

42. Partners and Communities Working Together (Agenda Item 8)

42.1 To receive an update from West Mercia Police

Julian Hinds and Lesley Mitchell were in attendance for this item.

Concerns were raised regarding speeding traffic and Large Goods

Julian

Vehicles (LGV) travelling through Quina Brook and along Pepper Street. Julian Hinds agreed to raise the issue with the Police Officers responsible for the Whitchurch area. He also commented that concerns could be raised via their Parish Council.

Hinds

In response to concerns raised regarding speeding traffic on the A49 through Hadnall, Lesley Hinds advised that more data had been obtained via the Safer Roads Partnership which would be considered by the end of this month, and agreed to keep the Parish Council updated with progress.

Lesley
Mitchell

It was noted that Wem Police Station had been relocated from Barnard Street to Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem. It was also noted that there was no major or significant crime issues in Wem Town and Rural areas, it was thought that this was due to effective partnership working and the presence of Police Officers in the area and having a better relationship with youths.

In reference to comments made regarding the recent spate of lead theft, Julian Hinds advised that, through the partnership, ideas to tackle the issue had been identified.

42.2 LJC Issues Log

A copy of comments, questions and issues raised at previous meetings of this LJC was distributed to those present.

42.3 Current Shropshire Council consultations

A copy of the current consultation activities that Shropshire Council and their partners were involved in was distributed to those present. Attention was also drawn to the Ambulance Service Consultation leaflets, and proposed service changes to the Bus Strategy 2011 – 2016 leaflet.

43. **Lets Talk Time (Agenda Item 9)**

43.1 The Clerk to Loppington Parish Council, referred to a recent document in which Shropshire Council would be withdrawing its support of providing ink cartridges and paper to Town and Parish Councils'. He advised of the overall disappointment of the decision as Parish Councils' had not been consulted and had not had the opportunity to point out the effects this would have on the Parish Council and its precepts.

43.2 It was agreed that a letter be written to Neil Langford, Shropshire Council's ICT Operations Manager and copied to Councillor Martin Taylor-Smith the relevant Portfolio Holder, on behalf of this LJC, to express its disappointment and concerns that there had been an inadequate opportunity for the Parish Councils' to comment on this decision.

Pauline
Dee /
Ruth
Mansfield

44. Grant Applications (Agenda Item 10)

44.1 The Chairman welcomed applicants to present their funding bids to those present.

44.2 The Committee discussed each application and it was:

RESOLVED: that the following applications be approved:

<u>Application</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Shawbury Bowling Green Irrigation System	£2,000.00
Grinshill Dog and Cat Rescue Centre	£1,014.36
Lee Brockhurst Village Hall	£1788.00
Total	£4802.36
Remaining Budget from main fund	£422.39
Remaining Budget from Children and Young People	£1,200.00
Total carry forward	£1,622.39

44.3 **RESOLVED: that the following applications be refused:**

Wem Rural Community Plan (£2,000)
Burlton Vehicle Activated Sign (£500)

44.4 Those present wished to thank Sue Thomas for her help and support through the application process over the past years.

45. Future Agenda Items (Agenda Item 11)

45.1 Those present were advised to contact Ruth Mansfield, Community Action Officer, or Ann Almond, Committee Officer with their suggestions for potential agenda items for consideration at future meetings of this Committee.

46. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting (Agenda Item 12)

46.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Monday 13th June 2011 in the Council Chamber, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem at 7.00 p.m.

The Chairman thanked those present for attending.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

Signed(Chairman)

Dated