

WEM AND SHAWBURY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 FEBRUARY 2012 AT 7.00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, EDINBURGH HOUSE, NEW STREET, WEM.

Responsible Officer: Ann Almond

Email: ann.almond@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: (01743) 252363

Present:

Members of the Committee:

Pauline Dee	Shropshire Council – Wem (Chairman)
Chris Mellings	Shropshire Council – Wem
Simon Jones	Shropshire Council – Shawbury
Jon Jinks	Clive Parish Council
Tom Wycherley	Grinshill Parish Council
Don Wild	Hadnall 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

Officers:

Sue Thomas	Community Action Officer
Ann Almond	Committee Officer

Also present:

Ron Buzzacott	Highways and Transportation Manager
Jonathan Hayes	Principal Transport Officer
Samantha Tharme	Principal Transport Planner
Craig Richmond	Fire Service

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

22. Welcome and Introductions

22.1 The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

23. Apologies for absence (Agenda Item 1)

23.1 Apologies for absence were received from:

Karen Calder	Shropshire Council – Hodnet
Brian Williams	Shropshire Council – The Meres
Bob Parker	Loppington Parish Council
Julian Hinds	West Mercia Constabulary – Wem

24. Notes (Agenda Item 2)

24.1 The Chairman referred to minute number 16.4 and advised that she had spoken with Councillor Charmley, Shropshire Council's Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing, who subsequently liaised with the Road Safety Education Team, and a press release was issued on 27th January 2012. It was noted that the Highway Code clearly stated that cyclists should not ride on any pavement, and that this had been illegal since 1835.

24.2 **RESOLVED:**
That the Notes of the meeting of the Wem and Shawbury Local Joint Committee held on 10th October 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

Pauline
Dee
Ann
Almond

25. Declarations of Interest (Agenda Item 3)

25.1 The following declaration of interest was made:

Councillor	Item	Interest	Reason
Pauline Dee	Item 8 – Funding Applications Summary Wem Youth Club	Personal and Prejudicial	She was the Vice-Chairman

26. Partners and Communities Working Together (Agenda Item 4)

26.1 To receive an update from the Community Action Officer

The Community Action Officer advised those present of the following:

- Work was being undertaken with Wem Youth Club, Wem Swimming Group, Wem Town Hall and Broughton Parish Council;
- A Rural Toolkit event had taken place in Whixall, which had been very informative;
- Wem and Wem Rural Jubilee Group would be holding a meeting on 20th February at 7.30 p.m. in Wem Town Hall;
- Bus Pass eligibility forms were available, it was noted that applications to renew would need to be submitted two months

- prior to their renewal date;
- Business Start Up information leaflets were available;
- North Shropshire Wheelers had prepared 2012 guide, copies were available; and
- SAMDev consultation would be taking place between March and May.

For further information and / or advice, contact Sue Thomas.

26.2 To receive an update from West Mercia Police

The Chairman confirmed that Julian Hinds had submitted his apologies due to operational commitments, she then advised he had nothing further to report from the last meeting and if anyone had any issues, comments or questions, to complete a question sheet including contact details and pass them to the Committee Clerk to forward onto Julian Hinds.

26.3 To receive an update from the Fire Service

Craig Richmond was in attendance and advised that the responses to the recent consultation would be available by the end of February / early March.

27. Review of Car Parking Charges (Agenda Item 5)

27.1 Councillor Jones, Shropshire Council's Portfolio Holder for Education and Skills, including responsibility for car parking, gave an introduction clarifying that a full review of car parking charges across the County would be undertaken by Shropshire Council from April 2012 and encouraged those present to provide feedback on the current arrangements that may be considered as part of the review. He then confirmed that car parking charges were would not be removed as part of this review..

27.2 Jonathan Hayes and Ron Buzzacott were in attendance for this item.

27.3 Jonathan Hayes gave a presentation after which the following comments were noted:

- Local Champions – Shropshire Council were looking for local volunteers to assist with the implementation of residents parking policy, any person wishing to undertake this role should contact Jonathan Hayes or Ron Buzzacott. Those present were advised that there was no specific training available, however Officers' would be able to offer support and advice;
- Permits – rule had changed in line with that operated in Bridgnorth, this being only one permit per household for a maximum of two vehicles. Numerous comments had been received regarding this matter and would be considered as part of the review;
- Part-time workers and volunteers were being penalised by

having to pay for a full days parking despite only working part of the day - it was confirmed that this would be considered during the review, with the possibility of implementing pricing bands;

- A number of shops were under serious threat due to car parking charges, Wem had seen loss of trade to Shrewsbury;
- Request for free parking on Sundays;
- Some other towns offered free parking – it was confirmed that development sites had been utilising areas as temporary car parks for traders use only, whilst awaiting development work to take place;
- Shropshire Council had offered Wem Town Council to subsidise free parking, at a cost of £50,000 which was not feasible;
- Edinburgh House parking was currently free, however this would be considered as part of the review;
- Enforcement Officer costs were split over various departments due to the varying nature of their role;
- Parking machines were future proof in respect of being able to accept new coins;
- Car parks were subject to Central Government Business Rates and had to be paid irrelevant to whether or not car parking charges were applied;
- Wem had been recognised by Advantage West Midlands as a Tier 1 Market Town and had achieved funding to improve the town, Wem relied upon free parking to encourage people to the area; and
- Carers transporting persons who had educational needs were not staying at classes as long as they potentially could due to car parking charges.

27.4 Any questions or comments could be emailed to:
jon.hayes@shropshire.gov.uk

28. Lets Talk Time (Agenda Item 6)

28.1 There were no public questions or comments raised.

29. Funding Applications Summary (Agenda Item 7)

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

29.2 The Committee discussed each application and it was:

RESOLVED: that the following applications be approved:

<u>Application</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wem Town Hall Community Trust Ltd	£2,000.00
Clive Village hall	£2,000.00
Wem Youth Club*	£2,000.00
Squeezing Shropshire	£500.00

Wem Transition Town / Wem Economic Forum	£309.00
Wem Town Hall	£2,000.00
Total	£8,809.00
Remaining Budget	£1,948.99

*Having declared and personal and prejudicial interest, Councillor Dee left the room and took no part in the consideration of, or voting on this grant application.

- 29.3 The Community Action Officer confirmed that advice from her Manager was that any under spend would not be carried forward into the new financial year, unless it was allocated or ring fenced to specific projects. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED:

- **That the remaining budget of £1,948.99 be ring fenced for Diamond Jubilee celebrations across the Wem and Shawbury LJC area; and**
- **That delegated authority be given to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to consider and approve grant applications received.**

- 29.4 The Community Action Officer confirmed that each Town and Parish Clerk and any other known local group, within the Wem and Shawbury LJC area, would be written to advising of this available funding, and that applications would need to be submitted by 29th February. Following this closing date, and approval from the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the funding amount would be allocated based upon the population figures of that town / parish.

30. Future Agenda Items (Agenda Item 8)

- 30.1 Suggested Agenda item:

- Broadband update.

- 30.2 Contact Sue Thomas, Community Action Officer, or Ann Almond, Committee Officer with any other suggestions for potential agenda items for consideration at future meetings of this Committee.

31. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting (Agenda Item 9)

- 31.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday 20th June 2012 in Whixall Social Centre at 7.00 p.m.

The Chairman thanked those present for attending.

The meeting ended at 8.30 p.m.

Signed(Chairman)

Dated