



Committee and date:
 Whitchurch and Prees Local
 Joint Committee
 2 December 2009
 7.00 p.m.

Item
4

NOTE OF MEETING HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 7.00 P.M. AT ADDERLEY VILLAGE HALL

Responsible Officer: Karen Nixon
 e-mail: karen.nixon@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: (01743) 252724 Fax: (01743) 252713

Committee Members Present:

- Councillor Doris Ankers (Whitchurch Town Council)
- Councillor Susan Bower (Ightfield Parish Council)
- Councillor Gerald Dakin (Shropshire Council, Whitchurch South ward)
- Councillor Christopher Dutton (Moreton Say Parish Council)
- Councillor Peggy Mullock (Whitchurch North ward)
- Councillor John Patrick (Prees Parish Council)
- Councillor Peter Thompson (Whitchurch Rural Town Council)
- Councillor Roy Tydeman (Adderley Parish Council)
- Councillor Paul Wynn (Shropshire Council, Prees ward)

Shropshire Council Officers Present:

- Hugh Dannatt, Group Manager Traffic Highway Engineering Manager
- Bob Ellis, Head of Environmental Maintenance (Highways)
- Tom McCabe, LJC Lead Officer and Director of Community Services
- Bobby Mulheir, Head of Customer Services
- Neil Willcox, LJC Support Lead Officer and Head of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation
- Julie Ruler, Community Regeneration Officer
- Karen Nixon, Committee Officer (notes)

West Mercia Police:

- PC Antony Jones
- PC Chris Peel

There were approximately 40 members of the public in attendance.

		<u>ACTION</u>
1.	Apologies	
1.1	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tom Biggins (Shropshire Council, Whitchurch North ward), PC Frank and Mr I Henderson.	KN
2.	Declarations of Interest	
2.1	No declarations of interest were made.	KN

3.	Chairman's Welcome	<u>ACTION</u>
3.1	The Chairman introduced the Committee and gave a brief explanation and background about the purpose and powers of the meeting.	
4.	Note of Meeting	
4.1	<p>RESOLVED: That the note of the previous meeting held on 29 June 2009, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</p> <p>Arising thereon;</p> <p>The Chair of Moreton Saye Parish Council wished it to be recorded that at the June meeting he had expressed his extreme dissatisfaction about the parishes of Moreton Saye and Adderley being put into this particular LJC. They had previously been under the Market Drayton LJC pilot and it was to Market Drayton that they looked to for their services, shopping and as their local community. They had no affinity with Whitchurch and did not want to be associated with this LJC at all. This was duly noted.</p>	GD
5.	Public Question Time	
5.1	<p>The following questions/issues were raised;</p> <p>a) Concerns were raised about Pepper Street, Whitchurch. There was no access onto the High Street and it was dangerous. Officers undertook to look at this and report back.</p> <p>b) The backlog of property searches across the county was raised. The Director of Community Services assured that searches were now being turned around and processed within four weeks, this was the maximum period of time currently and officers were working to reduce this further.</p> <p>c) The link on the website for Land Registry entries did not appear to be working. Officers undertook to check this out.</p> <p>d) The issue of outcomes and measuring the success of grants awarded by the LJC was raised.</p> <p><i>also see Action Sheet attached.</i></p>	<p>Hugh Dannatt</p> <p>Tom McCabe</p> <p>Tom McCabe</p> <p>Julie Ruler</p>
6.	PACT: Partners and Community Together	
6.1	<p>The Chairman handed over to PC Antony Jones who explained the format of the PACT meeting. Local police officer PC Frank was unable to attend the meeting due to personal commitments. Louise Fowler however was present to note any specific local issues of concern for the Adderley, Moreton Say and Ightfield areas. PC Jones and Peel would deal with issues for the rest of the LJC area.</p> <p>Residents were asked to raise any issues of concern. A question was asked about why the proposed new police station due to be built in Market Drayton, did not have any holding cells. Officers explained that for several legal reasons this was not an issue and that holding cells were not essential.</p>	
6.2	PC Jones updated on the issues raised at the previous meeting;	

6.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boy racers – officers had been out with their radar gun and problems had abated. This would continue to be monitored. • Parking at Housemakers on the kerb – owners had assured the police that when the car park was adopted, demarcation lines would be put down in due course. • Brades Road – problems now resolved • Claypit Street – parking problems now resolved <p>Other items to note;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed guns purchased by the LJC and currently with the police were requested to be returned to Hugh Dannatt. Although they were legally no use for community speedwatch, they could still be used by officers at the Council for other things. • A petition was being drawn up for CCTV outside Whitchurch Swimming pool. 	PC Jones
7.	Customer Service Provision in the LJC Area	
7.1	<p>Bobby Mulheir, Head of Customer Services, gave a presentation on Customer Service Centres across the county and particularly those within the LJC area. The most popular method of making contact was via the telephone. The Customer Service Team was based in Shrewsbury; there was a 60-seater call centre, handling over 50,000 calls per month. There were also 15 call centre staffed Access Points providing services such as 'Telly Talk'; a video conferencing facility with links to many organisations such as CAB, Age Concern etc.,</p>	
7.2	<p>Other methods of communication included the Council's website where you could access services, pay bills and fill in forms on-line. There were also 35 broadplaces currently across the county. Locally, these were located at the Chapel Centre, Whitchurch, and Coton Oaks Garage. Looking ahead, it was hoped to establish new broadplaces at Hodnet and Prees in 2010.</p>	
7.3	<p>Work was well underway towards opening the new Customer Service Point at the Whitchurch Heritage Centre. It was anticipated that this would open in the early part of 2010, despite several problems encountered along the way. Public present expressed their frustration and concern at some of the recent delays and urged officers to move this forward and make it a priority.</p>	
7.4	<p>A comment was made about using the 251000 telephone number; when put 'on hold' there was just silence and sometimes it appeared that you had been cut-off. Mrs Mulheir assured the public that this matter had now been rectified and music was now played to callers on hold.</p>	
7.5	<p>A member of the public urged officers to look at improving their on-line tendering process to make it more pro-active, such as was offered by Staffordshire. This would also help local businesses. The Director of Development Services confirmed that the Business Board were looking at improving this and updating.</p>	
	<p>RESOLVED: That the presentation report be noted.</p>	

8.	Shropshire Core Strategy Consultation (Local Development Framework LDF)	
8.1	<p>The Chair introduced and amplified this item. The following documents were circulated at the meeting;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary on the consultation on the 'Policy Directions' document • Shropshire Core Strategy: Policy Directions, Executive Summary • Local Development Framework Frequently Asked Questions • Copy of a PowerPoint presentation on the Shropshire LDF • Response Forms - to be returned <p>At page 3, item (vi), a comment was made that it referred to 11 strategic objectives, but they were not contained within the summary document, so how could anyone comment? A full copy of this document was requested by Mrs Lewis. She highlighted that her local community of Prees had particular concerns and wished to be taken through the process by officers at a local meeting to involve the Parish Council aswell. Officers undertook to contact Mrs Lewis after the meeting to discuss.</p> <p>Mr Dodson also requested a similar meeting for the Whitchurch Heritage Centre, which was noted and would be passed onto the relevant officers.</p> <p>The contentious issue of Gypsy site provision was generally discussed including the need for new pitches across Shropshire. This was currently being managed by the Council. A member of the public asked for specific information about the number of gypsy pitches presently provided across the county. Officers undertook to supply this following the meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That subject to the foregoing the consultation be noted.</p>	<p>Edward West</p> <p>Edward West</p> <p>Tom McCabe</p>
9.	Highway Maintenance	
9.1	<p>Bob Ellis, Head of Environmental Maintenance (Highways), introduced a report updating the Committee on the Highway maintenance programme of works recently undertaken and proposed in the LJC area, and answered questions as they arose.</p> <p>A member of the public highlighted that drainage on the road at Tilstock was poor due to a grid blockage. Officers agreed to investigate this.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about Kingsway, Whitchurch and Smallbrook Road, Whitchurch, which were not included in the report. Officers would look at this again.</p> <p>Officers were requested to look at the Prees to Calverhall Road, where the camber of the road forced cars into the middle of the road and also at a patch of road in Adderley where the road had been patched and the tarmac needed feathering out.</p> <p>Finally, thanks were expressed to officers for bringing forward work on the Longslow road, which was appreciated.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That subject to the foregoing, the report be welcomed and duly noted.</p>	<p>BE</p> <p>BE</p> <p>BE</p>

12.	Future Agenda Items	
12.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre North East and Whitchurch Chapel Centre Group - funding application to come forward. • Lack of Broadband Coverage – Adderley area 	KN
13.	Date of Next Meeting	
13.1	<p>It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Whitchurch and Prees Local Joint Committee would be held on;</p> <p>Wednesday 2 December 2009, at 7.00 p.m, at Tilstock Village Hall.</p>	KN

The meeting finished at 9.00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE: