



<u>Committee and Date</u> Whitchurch and Prees Local Joint Committee 17 May 2010 7.00 pm
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<u>Item</u> 5 Public

Note of the meeting held on 1 March 2010 at Moreton Saye Village Hall
7.00 pm to 8.45 pm

Responsible Officer Karen Nixon
Email: karen.nixon@shropshire.gov.uk Telephone: 01743 252724

Present

Committee Members

Doris Ankers
Susan Bower
Christopher Dutton
Peggy Mullock
Peter Thompson
Roy Tydeman
Paul Wynn (Chair for the meeting).

Shropshire Council Officers

Tom McCabe, Lead Officer
Karen Nixon, Committee Officer
Julie Ruler, Community Regeneration Officer
Corrie Davies, Community Regeneration Officer
Neil Willcox Support Officer
Gill Porter Community Building Development Officer, Community Council Shropshire

West Mercia Police

PC Antony Jones
PC Karena Evans
Sgt Kirsty Hill

There were approx 35 members of the public present.

Apologies & Substitutions

1. Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Tom Biggins, Gerald Dakin and John Patrick. There were no substitutions.

Election of Chairman for the Meeting

2. It was proposed by Peggy Mullock, seconded by Doris Ankers and duly **RESOLVED:** That Paul Wynn be elected as Chairman for the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

3. There were no declarations of interest.

Note of Meeting

4. The note of the previous meeting held on 9 September 2009 was approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

It was noted that no progress on providing broadband at Adderley had been made to date. The Lead Officer undertook to investigate.

The Committee also noted the 'Comments, Questions and Suggestions Action Sheet'; see attached.

RESOLVED: That the note of the previous meeting, held on 2 December 2009, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

PACT Meeting – Partners and Communities Together

5. PC Tony Jones introduced two new officers that had recently started with the Whitchurch Local Police Team, following PC Peel's departure to a new post with West Mercia. They were Sgt Kirsty Hill and PC Karena Evans.

The following matters raised the previous meeting were updated by PC Jones;

- Queensway Park/problems with youths – Officers were working in partnership with Queensway Fields Residents Association and Council Officers. It was reported that things had improved and crime levels were now down to an acceptable level. This would be a priority area.
- Vandalism at Hatton Way Walk; mosaic destroyed. Officers had investigated this and reported that it appeared an isolated incident.
- Speeding at Station Road, in both directions; little progress made due to work pressures (two murders locally to deal with).
- Speeding at Alkington Road, between the turning into Saddlers Walk and the bridge under the by-pass. Officers reported that due to practical considerations (speed guns operating in 2/10's of a mile) it was difficult to stop people speeding in this area. However there was good news to report in respect of speeding in built up areas; the Safer Roads Partnership were going to be dealing with speeding in urban areas.

One new issue was raised by the public; Concern was expressed that there was no CCTV camera at Whitchurch Railway Station. PC Jones reported that there were problems of ownership at that particular site. This, plus the fact that the level of crime there was not particularly high had led officers to consider that CCTV was not necessary at the time, nor cost effective.

Whitchurch Town Plan Group (WTPGp)

6. Mr Tony Clay, member of the Whitchurch Town and Parish Plan Group gave a full presentation to the LJC on progress of the Whitchurch Town and Parish Plan, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and handouts (copy attached to signed note of meeting). Other WTPGp members Sue McKeon and Sue Simper were also present. The presentation briefly covered;
- What was a Parish Plan?
 - A Map of the Parish itself
 - Details re. formation of the committee and background of the group
 - How they worked
 - Work done to date
 - Raising funds and Funding sources
 - Main costs
 - Consultations
 - Developing the Survey
 - The Whitchurch Community 'Have Your Say'
 - The Next Steps
 - Thanks
 - Question and Answer Session

It was noted that the final cost, originally estimated to be in the region of £13,500, would be exceeded and therefore more funds would have to be raised by the Group.

A question was asked if Shropshire's 'Core Strategy' would be taken into account in the plan. It was explained that the main content would come from the local community in their expressed needs and aspirations for Whitchurch.

Cllr Mullock expressed her sincere thanks to the Group for their excellent work to date which in turn helped councillor's in their role in representing the people of Whitchurch.

RESOLVED: That the excellent progress on the Whitchurch Town and Parish Plan be welcomed and noted.

Village Halls

7. Gill Porter, Community Building Officer for the Community Council of Shropshire, gave a brief presentation and explanation of her role in Shropshire which was to help and support community run buildings across the county.

The Community Council of Shropshire (CCS) was an independent organisation established in the early 1960's. CCS is one of 38 Rural Community Councils operating throughout England and is funded by the Government, Shropshire Council and membership subscription. Additional support for project work comes from Shropshire Council, Charitable Trusts and donations. CCS is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee.

In 2005/06 CCS's income exceeded £1 million. Almost 35 paid staff are employed and more than 40 volunteers deliver a wide range of services and projects. A Board of Directors is responsible for the strategic management of the organisation. Members are elected at the AGM and the Board meets quarterly. There are a number of sub-committees with responsibilities for matters such as:

- Finance
- Quality
- Health and Safety
- Human Resources

The three core values of CCS of Partnership, Reliability and Innovation enable the vision of supporting people and achieving change in Shropshire to be achieved.

Ms Porter stressed that she and her team were there to offer and provide funding advice and support, including training, on funding for village halls and other community buildings. They were local, but could also tap into national resources via the other 37 rural community councils across the UK.

If you think your organisation might benefit from financial help, please contact; Gill Porter, Community Buildings Development Officer on **01743 237878**
Or e-mail: gill.porter@shropshire-rcc.org.uk

You will need to provide information about the amount of money you need and why it is needed.

Funding Requests

8. The Committee received a progress report setting out funding applications approved to date and a new request for funding from Whitchurch Chamber of Trade and Commerce, for the 'Wonders of Whitchurch Festival' for £1,500.00, which was introduced and amplified by Tom McCabe Lead Officer. Cllr Doris Ankers declared a personal interest in this item.

It was confirmed that all committee members had received copies of each application, along with supporting documents where provided prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- a. The Committee noted that a devolved budget of £50,000 had been allocated to the Local Joint Committee for 2009/10 based on its electorate. There was a balance of £1,879.00 available for allocation.
- b. *The Committee approved a grant of £1,500 to the Whitchurch Chamber of Trade and Commerce for the 'Wonders of Whitchurch Festival' on 5 June 2010.

*Mr Tydeman abstained from voting on this particular item.

Feedback from Grant Recipients

- 9. Community Support Officer, Julie Ruler, gave a verbal update on feedback received from various grant recipients during 2009/10.

The Committee were especially pleased to note that following an initial grant of £500 in 2008 and £900 in 2009 from the LJC, the Whitchurch Allotment Society had obtained further grants from other sources; namely the Muller Community Fund had contributed £1,500 and Grassroots funding had given a further £1,499 to the project. The group support their success on Facebook.

Mobile Skate and Bike days for youths had proven successful during the school holidays and as long as volunteers were willing, this would continue.

The Whitchurch Chapel Centre used a local provider to purchase new chairs for the counselling area and thereby add better value to the project.

The Blackberry Fair, a community engagement/interest group continued to flourish and were planning their third festival. They have received requests to use their displays across Shropshire and are now working with other groups in Whitchurch and sharing resources.

A grant given to the Whitchurch Little Theatre Group had enabled the purchase of a raised stage, costumes and special effects for use in performances. The Group have agreed that they would be happy to loan the stage to any other community groups within the area.

RESOLVED: That the positive feedback be welcomed and noted.

Local Joint Committee (LJC) Evaluation Forms

- 10. All present were encouraged to complete and return the evaluation forms that were circulated at the meeting.

Public Question Time

- 11. See Comments Questions and Suggestions Sheet attached.

Date of Next Meeting

- 12. It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Local Joint Committee would be held at Calverhall Village Hall on Monday 17 May 2010 at 7.00 pm.

CHAIRMAN

DATE