



Committee and Date  
Whitchurch and Prees Local  
Joint Committee

14 July 2010

7.00 pm

Item

**4**

Public

**NOTE OF THE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2010 AT  
CALVERHALL VILLAGE HALL**

7.00 pm to 8.40 pm

**Responsible Officer** Karen Nixon

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Telephone: 01743 252724

**Present**

**Committee Members**

Tom Biggins  
Susan Bower  
Gerald Dakin (Chair)  
Christopher Dutton  
Peggy Mullock  
Peter Thompson  
Roy Tydeman  
Paul Wynn (Vice-Chair)

**Shropshire Council Officers**

Tom McCabe, Lead Officer  
Karen Nixon, Committee Officer  
Julie Ruler, Community Regeneration Officer  
Dave Wallace, Communities and Housing Policy Team Leader  
Neil Willcox Support Officer

**West Mercia Police**

PC Karena Evans  
CSO Hannah Bishop

*There were approx 40 members of the public present.*

**Election of Chairman**

1. It was proposed by Peggy Mullock, seconded by Paul Wynn and duly **RESOLVED:** that Gerald Dakin be elected as Chairman of the LJC for the ensuing year. There were no other nominations.

**Apologies & Substitutions**

2. Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Doris Ankers and John Patrick. There were no substitutions.

### **Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

3. It was proposed by Roy Tydeman, seconded by Christopher Dutton and duly

**RESOLVED:** that Paul Wynn be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the LJC for the ensuing year. There were no other nominations.

### **Declarations of Interest**

4. Cllr Gerald Dakin declared an interest in the funding request for Whitchurch Cricket Club.

Cllrs Tom Biggins, Peggy Mullock and Paul Wynn each declared an interest in the funding request for Better Welcome Whitchurch.

### **Note of Meeting**

5. The note of the previous meeting held on 1 March 2010 was approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the note of the previous meeting, held on 1 March 2010, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **PACT Meeting – Partners and Communities Together**

6. PC Karena Evans (Whitchurch Town) introduced herself to the meeting and conveyed apologies from PC Tony Jones (Whitchurch Rural) who was unable to attend due to a clash of commitments. She also introduced everyone to CSO Hannah Bishop, who was new to the area and would be replacing CSO Kurt Mabe, who was now based over at Oswestry.

PC Evans updated everyone on current issues in the town. Shoplifting incidents were of note; there had been 5 incidents in the previous week but she assured the committee that the matter was in hand and that a number of arrests had been made. PC Evans asked if anyone had any new issues they wanted to raise. The following matters of concern were raised by residents;

- Motorcyclists speeding along the A41, the A49 (bypass) along A525 Wrexham Road, and along all roads into and out of Whitchurch
- Parking opposite Greenfields Way, going into Greenfields Rise and by the bus stop, thereby creating problems.

PC Evans undertook to look at the issues raised over the next three months and update the Local Joint Committee on outcomes at the next PACT meeting in July 2010.

In conclusion PC Evans advised that the local policing teams for the area were based at Whitchurch Police Station, Station Road, Whitchurch and Market Drayton. She reminded everyone that if they had any issues or concerns they should contact their appropriate local police team directly via **telephone no 0300 333 3000**. Other contact details people may find useful were email [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk) or Crimestoppers 0800 555 111.

## Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev)

7. Mr David Wallace, Communities and Housing Policy Team Leader introduced and amplified the Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) 'Issues and Options' document with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and handouts (copy attached to signed note of meeting).

The consultation document relating to the Whitchurch and Prees Local Joint Committee area was circulated at the meeting and response questionnaires were made available for completion and return at the end of the meeting.

This was the second document in Shropshire's Local Development Framework, following on from the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy and the SAMDev will be used to guide where new development takes place and assess planning applications. The presentation briefly this covered;

- o The role of SAMDev
- o The SAMDev Consultation Document
- o Engaging in the Process
- o Part A: Market Towns and Key Centres
- o Questions asked for Part A
- o Part B: Plan of Whitchurch – potential directions; options; no decisions yet; evidence base will be key
- o Rural Areas – Core Strategy Approach
- o Development & Priorities in this Area – your views please
- o Part C: Managing Development and Creating Sustainable Communities
- o The Next Steps

Dave Wallace reiterated that a 'drop-in' consultation event had already been held at the Festival Hall, Market Drayton on 19 April and that a further consultation event was arranged at the Whitchurch Civic Hall on Wednesday 26 May from 4.00 pm to 7.30 pm. This would provide opportunities for the public to get actively involved in this process.

Consultation responses were welcomed up to 25 June 2010. Further consultations were to be made during 2010/2011 to identify preferred sites and the Final Plan would be adopted in 2012

For more information go to [www.shropshire.gov.uk/planning.nsf](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/planning.nsf)

A response forms can be downloaded on this page and sent to us by the e-mail. Alternatively, completed response forms can be sent by post to the following address:

**Planning Policy Team**

Shropshire Council  
Shirehall  
Abbey Foregate  
Shrewsbury  
SY2 6ND

**RESOLVED:** That the consultation be welcomed and noted.

**Whitebrook Meadow, Prees**

8. A brief paper setting out the history of a new housing development in Whitebrook Meadow, Prees was noted by the Committee.

Ian Henderson spoke on behalf of local residents in Prees who were particularly concerned at recent changes made by the developer which were contrary to the original planning permissions approved. He requested an urgent review of the housing association concerned, which appeared to be renegeing on what was originally agreed. He said the process as a whole was also unsatisfactory. He understood the original application for the housing development at Whitebrook Meadow was for mixed housing; 10 social houses, 10 of mixed tenure and 5 houses for sale privately. However it now transpired that the housing association concerned, was currently advertising 20 houses for rent/social housing, none of which would be for private ownership. Mr Henderson strongly believed that the matter should be investigated thoroughly by Shropshire Council, to examine what had happened with this application, see what had gone wrong and how the same thing could be averted in future. The residents of Prees felt let down by the whole process and believed it was important for other similar areas in Shropshire to be safeguarded as far as possible to ensure this did not happen again elsewhere.

Lead Officer Tom McCabe noted Mr Henderson's comments and concerns and suggested a positive way forward would be to arrange an initial meeting between Mr Henderson representing the villagers of Prees and Cllr Malcolm Price, Portfolio Holder for Housing as soon as possible. There were avenues the Council could use to let Registered Social Landlords' (RSL's) know of their displeasure.

Furthermore he suggested that a clear message be sent out to all Registered Social Landlords' stressing the need for them to work with local communities in partnership at all times.

**RESOLVED:** That a meeting between Mr Henderson and the Housing Portfolio Holder be arranged as soon as possible.

**Funding Requests**

9. The Committee received a report setting out five new funding applications for 2010/11.

Cllr Peggy Mullock, Paul Wynn and Tom Biggins declared an interest in the Better Welcome DVD project and Cllr Gerald Dakin declared a personal interest in the Whitchurch Cricket Club item. Accordingly no member took part in any debate or voting for each of these items.

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 2010/11. There was also an unspent balance of £379 carried forward from 2009/10, making a total budget available to the LJC for allocation in 2010/11 of £50,379.

b. The Committee approved the following grants;	£
Whitchurch Better Welcome DVD Project	1,100
Whitchurch Cricket Club Electronic Scoreboard	3,000
Police Diversionary Project	540
Shropshire Youth, Whitchurch	7,000

(An application from the Hospital Chapel Centre, for folding chairs was withdrawn due to the Centre sourcing alternative funding for the full amount (£318.66) from the Community Council of Shropshire via Julie Ruler Community Regeneration Officer).

**Public Question Time and Identification of Future Agenda Items**

- 10. The Chair invited public questions from the floor. The following were received;
  - o Can we have an update on Local Joint Committee's – feedback from the recent summit and the future of LJC's
  - o Can nameplates be used on the top table at future meetings please

**Dates of Future Meetings**

- 11. The following future meeting dates were noted. All would start at 7.00 pm at local venues to be confirmed nearer the time;
  - Wednesday 14 July 2010 – provisionally to be held at Prees Village Hall
  - Wednesday 6 October 2010 – venue to be confirmed
  - Wednesday 9 February 2011 – venue to be confirmed

**CHAIRMAN** .....

**DATE** .....