

COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS from 6 October 2010 meeting

Local Joint Committee for Whitchurch and Prees

Comments/Questions/Suggestions	From	Response Requested From	Response/Action
Why are there no young people on the Committee?	Ian Hollingsworth and Sue Jones Centre North East (CNE)	Sam Hine	The Constitution sets out that the elected members of the Committee are made up from Shropshire Council members (x4) and Town and Parish Council representatives (x4). The Constitution allows for co-optees which is something the LJC might like to consider. In the interim, Julie Ruler has contacted Sir John Talbots College to promote and encourage young people to come along to future meetings.
Public Rights of Way (Footpaths) in Whitchurch Parish (Whitchurch Urban) are amongst the worst in England.	Dr G I Moss	Neil Wilcox	There is no doubt that there is a lot of work required in the parishes of Whitchurch Urban and Rural. This is why both parishes are earmarked for a total overhaul in the forthcoming year of 2011/12. This is part of our Parish Access Project which goes into selected parishes and concentrates efforts in those parishes to improve the situation. All routes will be surveyed and works completed with only a few exceptions where legal issues may remain to be sorted out. In the meantime there is an active Parish Paths Partnership group in Whitchurch which is helping us to maintain the routes in and around the town and promote their use. This group follows on from the years of hard work that Keith Jones (now sadly no longer with us) carried out in the parishes as a volunteer and with the help of the probation service. There has therefore been lots of work carried out in the parishes over the years by volunteers and staff alike, but the Parish Access Project should complete the remaining work to bring the parishes up to the standard we would all hope them to be in.
Waste of energy by floodlights on White Lion Car Park – they are on during daylight hours.	Dr G I Moss	Zoe Mortimer	The lights referred to are the responsibility of Tesco under lease arrangements with Shropshire Council. These comments have been forwarded to them for their action.

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Queensway - the state of road was poor and problems with public transport using the road were highlighted.	Mr Squires	Bob Ellis/ Ian Walshaw	Grasscrete provision for the Queensway area has been ordered and should be complete by the end of this financial year. The deterioration referred to has already been identified by Shropshire Council. It is being monitored and any safety related defects are being attended to. Ride quality could be improved by resurfacing but, due to budgetary constraints, this is not likely to take place for some time.
An update on the latest budget position and what it meant for public services in Whitchurch was requested.	Member of the public	James Walton	See agenda item 7: Shropshire Council's Budget Update.
From previous meetings;			
Problems of parking on and nearby the roundabout by St Alkmunds Church, Whitchurch	Doris Ankers	Police and Shropshire Council	The Police report that the garage owner has been spoken to and has undertaken to move vehicles if problems arise. Parking restrictions were advertised by Shropshire Council on 4 October 2010 at the following locations for Whitchurch; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junction of Belton Rd/Wrexham Rd • Junction of Claypit St/London Rd • Junction of The Wharfage/Mill St • Junction of Bark Hill/Watergate • Yardington Some objections were received to the proposals which officers are currently attempting to resolve.
The Public Toilets in Whitchurch are poor. Can they be improved please?	Public	Steve Brown, Head of Environmental Maintenance	A review of Public Conveniences for Shropshire has been undertaken, following a consultation exercise with Town and Parish Councils. One of the key issues is the poor quality of some of the public toilets across the county and the future arrangements for operation.

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			<p>Options from the initial consultation have been considered, and proposals are being sent out to Town and Parish councils for consideration. Once these are concluded future operating arrangements, and or closure of some facilities could be considered. There will be no improvement of existing facilities (other than health and safety requirements) until negotiations have been finalised. It is hoped that this exercise will be completed in the next few months.</p> <p>The Environmental Maintenance team will discuss potential options with Whitchurch Town Council.</p>
<p>On the exit from the Waymills Industrial Estate site onto the main road, there are various signs advertising local services. They impede the view from the right-hand side as you exit the estate.</p>	<p>Cllr Dakin on behalf of a member of the public</p>	<p>Frank Whitley Principal Planning Enforcement Officer (Area North)</p>	<p>The entrance to Waymills Industrial Estate was cleared of all signs on 30 June. Although Shropshire Council has the power to remove unauthorised advertisements, it would likely be unlawful to dispose of the signs themselves. Accordingly, the removed signs were returned and an undertaking was given by the owners not to re-erect the signs. However it appears that some signs have re-appeared.</p> <p>The advertisers now claim that the site has been used continually for advertising for the last 10 years. If this is turns out to be the case, the signs would be permitted by virtue of Class 13 of the Advertisement Regulations.</p> <p>Legal advice is currently being sought and in the interim the owner is being approached to discuss the possibility of erecting a noticeboard to tidy up the area.</p>