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| <u>Committee and date:</u>               |
| Whitchurch & Prees Local Joint Committee |
| Thursday 13 October 2011                 |
| 7.00 p.m.                                |

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|-------------------|
| <u>Item/Paper</u> |
| <b>3</b>          |
| Public            |

**WHITCHURCH & PREES LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE**

**NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 9 JUNE 2011 AT ASH VILLAGE HALL, ASH, NEAR WHITCHURCH**

**Responsible Officer:** Karen Nixon  
 E-mail: karen.nixon@shropshire.gov.uk  
 Tel: 01743 252724

**Committee Members Present:**

| <u>Name</u>       | <u>Council</u>                             |
|-------------------|--|
| Mr Gerald Dakin   | Shropshire Council (Whitchurch South Ward) |
| Mrs Peggy Mullock | Shropshire Council (Whitchurch North Ward) |
| Mr Paul Wynn      | Shropshire Council (Prees Ward)            |
| Mrs Doris Ankers  | Whitchurch Town Council                    |
| Mr Ian Henderson  | Prees Parish Council                       |
| Mr Peter Thompson | Whitchurch Rural Town Council              |

**Officers Present:**

| <u>Name</u>    | <u>Role</u>                    |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| George Candler | Area Director, North           |
| Karen Nixon    | Committee Officer              |
| Nicki Young    | Community Action Officer [CAO] |

There were approximately 50 members of the public at the meeting.

|  | <b>ACTION</b>  |
|--|----------------|
| <p>1. <b><u>ANNUAL ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR</u></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Peggy Mullock, seconded by Doris Ankers and duly <b>RESOLVED</b>: that Gerald Dakin be elected as Chairman of the Whitchurch and Prees LJC for the ensuing year</p>       | <b>K Nixon</b> |
| <p>2. <b><u>APOLOGIES &amp; SUBSTITUTIONS</u></b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Jean Betteridge (Ightfield Parish Council) and Cllr Tom Biggins (Whitchurch North Ward).</p> <p>Mrs Sheila Cummings substituted for Mrs Jean Betteridge.</p>      | <b>K Nixon</b> |
| <p>3. <b><u>APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR</u></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Gerald Dakin, seconded by Ian Henderson and duly <b>RESOLVED</b>: that Paul Wynn be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Whitchurch and Prees LJC for the ensuing year.</p> | <b>K Nixon</b> |

#### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members declared personal interests as follows:

| <u>Member</u> | <u>Item</u>  |
|---------------|--|
| Ian Henderson | 2011/12 Funding requests for consideration<br>Item C 1 <sup>st</sup> Prees Scouts Group. |

K Nixon

#### 5. NOTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the notes of the previous meeting held on 9 February 2011, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. The Committee also noted the 'Comments, Questions and Suggestions Action Sheet.

K Nixon

#### 6. PACT MEETING INCLUDING NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Local Police Team gave an update on action taken regarding matters of concern raised at the previous meeting;

Parking concerns around Greenfields Rise continued to be monitored.

The public were urged to inform the police directly of details in respect of any speeding issues, so that these could be targeted effectively, especially during the warm sunny spell. Officers reported that the Camera Partnership van had had a positive effect when used locally – there had been a significant reduction in speeding motorbikes, which was welcomed.

The following matters/new issues were raised by local residents present at the meeting;

- Speeding issues along Whitchurch Bypass, Tarporley and Chester Road were cited as particular problem areas, plus motorbike speeding and cyclists. The Police assured the public that this was 'work in progress' and that they were constantly looking at how to reduce this. They were currently targeting this issue in various ways, including the West Mercia Safety Unit and
- Resources for villages themselves to reduce speeding were requested by Pam Dodds. The Chair made reference to Shropshire Council's Vehicle Activated Signs policy. It was noted that Prees Parish Council were currently looking to install one of these signs at Ash and Tilstock.
- Youths cycling dangerously around the town centre was cited as a problem particularly on market day. Officers were aware of a small group of youths that were responsible for this and they were working on improving their behaviour. It was suggested that a 'No Cycling' sign be erected in The Mall.
- There had been several 'near misses' at the traffic lights at the top

of Green End, by the Police Station recently and the question was asked could things be improved at this busy junction? Officers were aware of the problem and had raised this several times with the Highway Authority, but unfortunately there were not the resources available to install newer equipment to facilitate a delay on the southbound side of Brownlow Street to allow traffic to turn right there safely.

- Mr Gilling, Area Co-ordinator, gave a Neighbourhood Watch update. If anyone wanted any more information on this they were asked to see Mr Gilling after the meeting and he was happy to offer advice.
- A representative of the Prees Heath Campaign Group gave a detailed summary of what had happened recently on Prees Heath after Travellers occupied the site. Sadly a lot of damage had been sustained and large amounts of waste had been left behind too. This had now been cleared up by volunteers at considerable cost to the Group (over £4,500) and measures put in to ensure such an invasion cannot happen again. Disappointment was expressed at the Police's inability to stop this happening. The Police replied that had the entry gates not been vandalised initially then it would not have happened.

The Local Police Team undertook to look at the issues raised over the next four months and update the LJC on outcomes at their next meeting in October.

**Local  
Police  
Team**

## **7. FEEDBACK FROM 2010 GRANT FUNDING RECIPIENTS**

The Chairman welcomed the following presentations and updates from former grant funding recipients, who reported on what they had done with their funding and how it had made a difference to their organisation and its members;

- Whitchurch Better Welcome – given by Joanna Dakin
- Hollies Tennis Club – given by George Balcombe
- Whitchurch Community Services Association (now Beechtree Community Centre) – given by Kath Goodchild
- Fauls Parochial Church – given by Mrs Ridgway
- Brownlow Community Centre Trust – given by Jeff Still
- St Alkmunds Church – given by Rev Andrew Ridley
- Queensway Residential and Recreation Association. – given by Peter Wagstaffe
- Prees Parish Council – given by Karen Chambers
- Prees Recreation Club Angling Section – given by Howard Prince
- Whitchurch Walkers – given by Neil Moore.

## **8. DRAFT BUS STRATEGY FOR SHROPSHIRE 2011-2016 CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

A report updating on the Consultation response was noted. Specifically

for this LJC the following services would be affected from September 2012. These predominantly carry non-entitled school children and it is hoped that alternative mini-bus provision can be arranged;

Service 216 – Calverhall – Ash – New Woodhouse – Whitchurch  
Service 217 – Market Drayton – Calverhall – Whitchurch.

In addition to this it was also noted with regret that early morning concessions were being removed.

**9. CARS AND SPEEDING IN TILSTOCK VILLAGE**

The Chairman referred to Shropshire Council's Vehicle Activated Signs policy, (already discussed at Minute 6. second bullet point down). Specifically the cost to erect a single sign was £500 and then £30 each time to move it's location.

Officers were asked to investigate if costs could be shared between Parish Councils; e.g. between Whitchurch Rural Parish Council and Prees Parish Council who were keen to use this equipment in their area.

**N Young**

**10. 2011/12 LJC BUDGET REPORT AND FUNDING REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

A report setting out the devolved funding for this Local Joint Committee in 2011/12 and ten applications was considered by the Committee.

**RESOLVED:**

- a). That grant funding be awarded to the following organisations;
- I. Ash Village Hall £2,000 – Funding to be held until the end of January 2012, whilst Ash Village Hall completes urgent work on the roof, before a new boiler is installed.
  - II. North Shropshire Grasstrack Car Club Ltd £2,000 – Refurbishment and fencing upgrade of racetrack.
  - III. 1<sup>st</sup> Prees Scouts Group £819 – purchase of 1 patrol tent.
  - IV. Brownlow Community Centre £1,377 – Electrical light upgrade and energy reduction.
  - V. Shropshire Libraries £1,000 - Worldwide Family Literature Festival.
  - VI. Blackberry Fair £500 – Festival on 1 October 2011. Contribution towards acts.
  - VII. Manor Place Community Group £1,300 – Community Centre doors and windows.
  - VIII. Leisure Services, Shropshire Council £450 – Playday August 2011.
  - IX. North Salop Wheelers Ltd £2,000 – Vehicle refurbishment and

gas conversion.

X. Whitchurch Town Council – Footpath lights - *a decision on this item was deferred until the October 2011 meeting.*

b). That in view of the reduced funding available, a maximum level of funding be set for community groups and local projects. It was agreed that this be set at £2,000, but that the LJC would be able to waive this if it was felt there were exceptional circumstances.

c). That £540 be re-allocated to West Mercia Police for the diversionary activity of developing an auto grass car project. (Originally £540 was allocated to West Mercia Police for diversionary activity in 2010/11 to train x2 CSO’s as Level 1 Football coaches and for the hire of football pitches, but the funding was never spent, hence the re-allocation).

**11 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The following issues were raised;

- A resident of Higher Heath stated that Heathwood Road had been repaired recently and he knew of plans to repair Twemlows Avenue shortly too. Therefore he requested that Gorse Meadow also be looked at as 3 slabs were crumbling away. It was agreed that this matter be raised with officers at Shropshire Council and a report made back to the LJC.
- Paul Nash outlined a proposed project in Prees village, to provide a small ICT facility through Rural Challenge. Due to tight timescales it was proving difficult to consult fully with everyone and therefore he asked if the LJC were in support of this project in principle; estimates of £7,500 had been confirmed to move this forward. The LJC confirmed that yes they were supportive of the scheme in principle.

I Walshaw

N Young

**12 FEEDBACK FORMS**

Feedback forms were circulated at the meeting and those present were requested to complete and return, as their feedback was most important.

Public

**13 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Whitchurch & Prees LJC would be held at 7.00pm on Thursday 13 October 2011 at Higher Heath Village Hall, just off Twemlows Avenue, Higher Heath, near Whitchurch.

K Nixon

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Chairman: ..... Date: .....