



Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Date: Tuesday, 15 May 2018

Committee:
Loton, Longden, Ford and Rea Valley Local Joint Committee

Date: Wednesday, 23 May 2018
Time: 7.00 pm
Venue: The Function Room - Cock Inn Hanwood

You are requested to attend the above meeting.
The Agenda is attached

Claire Porter
Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)

Members of Loton, Longden, Ford and Rea Valley Local Joint Committee

Roger Evans	Neil Evans
Nick Hignett	John Fox
Ed Potter	Tony Hill
Phillip Brooks	Robert Kynaston
Geoffrey Brown	John Pritchard
Bill Clyne	David Sandbach

Your Committee Officer is:

Mathew Mead Community Enablement Officer
Tel: 01743 252534
Email: mathew.mead@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

2 Welcomes & Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence from members of the Committee

3 Substitutions

To receive notification of any substitutions

4 Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

5 Notes of Last Meeting (Pages 1 - 6)

The draft notes of the meeting held on 29th November 2017 are attached for Councillors reference (Item 1)

6 Youth Commissioning In Shropshire and the Implications for the LJC (Pages 7 - 10)

Update from Community Enablement Officer on the funding allocated to the LJC in 2018/19. (Item 2)

To be followed by discussion and vote by the Committee on the allocation of funding.

7 Update on Future Fit Shropshire

Verbal update from the Community Enablement Officer and Councillors on the proposals for public consultation on Future Fit

8 Date of Public Meeting and Agenda Items

Committee to put forward items to be included on the next public meeting agenda

9 Updates from Committee Members on Local Issues

To receive any news updates or issues from the LJC representatives on the Committee

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Committee and Date

Loton, Longden, Ford and Rea Valley LJC

Wednesday 23rd May, The Function Room, Cock Inn Hanwood

Item

1

Public

LOTON LONGDEN FORD AND REA VALLEY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS STEMMING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2017

AT THE FUNCTION ROOM, COCK INN, HANWOOD

Responsible Officers Mathew Mead

e-mail: mathew.mead@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 252534

Committee Members Present:

Shropshire Council

Roger Evans	Longden Ward
Nick Hignett	Pontesbury and Minsterley Ward
Ed Potter	Loton Ward

Town/Parish Councils

Duncan Fletcher	Pontesbury Parish Council
Geoff Brown	Minsterley Parish Council
Phil Brooks	Great Ness and Little Ness Parish Council
Neil Evans	Longden Parish Council
Bill Clyne	Ford Parish Council
Jonathan Percival	Great Hanwood Parish Council

Officers Present:

Mathew Mead	Community Enablement Officer
Richard Parkes	Shropshire Youth Association

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chair

As this was the first meeting of LJC during the Council year votes for chair and vice chair for the coming year were taken. Ed Potter was elected as Chairman with Roger Evans and Nick Hignett as joint vice chairs

2. Welcomes and Apologies for Absence

Ed Potter welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending particularly Councillor Nick Bardsley Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People at Shropshire Council and Richard Parkes from the Shropshire Youth Association.

Apologies were given from Tony Hill (Montford Parish Council), John Fox (Great Hanwood Parish Council) and David Sandbatch (Westbury Parish Council)

3. Substitutions

Jonathan Percival attended the meeting on behalf of Great Hanwood Parish Council

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made

5. Notes of the last meeting

The notes of the meetings held on 16th February 2017 were accepted as an accurate record of that meeting.

6. Police Report

The Local Police Team were unable to attend the meeting but a copy of their Newsletter was circulated. They also asked that special care was take over the Christmas period against leaving valuables on show in cars or homes, as these could provide opportunities for criminals to steal belongings and high value items

7. Presentation – Youth Commissioning Consultation Councillor Nick Bardsley Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People at Shropshire Council. Richard Parkes Shropshire Youth Association

Ed Potter introduced this section of the meeting, and outlined that Shropshire Council was consulting on the future funding criteria for Youth Commissioning in Shropshire. This was of interest to the LJC as 5 clubs were supported by the funding, and their future maybe in doubt if the funding was removed. Ed than asked Nick Bardsley to give a short presentation on the subject.

Nick thanked the Committee for their invitation to the meeting. He started by explaining that the Youth Commissioning Consultation was open, and ran until January and stressed that no decisions had been taken. The proposals set out

in the consultation were just proposals and might change depending on the responses. It was really important people responded to the consultation especially those young people themselves.

Nick explained that Shropshire Council's overall budget was reducing due to less funding coming directly from Central Government and some statutory services like Adult Social Care costing the Council more each year. So, savings were needed across all departments. The consultation proposed to allocate the £134,000 available for youth commissioning to the 6 major market towns. This was because there was a higher percentage of young people in these towns and concentrating the services there would be beneficial.

However, these were just proposals and feedback from rural areas had already expressed concern about this approach. The Council were keen to learn about the benefits that youth commissioning funding had brought to different areas, and to hear alternative proposals for allocating the funding. Nick did stress that the overall budget for youth commissioning was unlikely to change, but that the way it was allocated was not set in stone.

Richard Parkes then talked about the role of the Shropshire Youth Association (SYA) They are independent from Shropshire Council, but do receive funding directly from the Council to act as a support body for volunteer led youth clubs in Shropshire. Volunteer youth clubs get support for training, data checks etc. SYA are also a partner organisation in some clubs, where they provide professional staff to help run youth clubs. In many cases, such as at Minsterley and Westbury, these clubs are funded through youth commission grants

Ed Potter then asked representatives from the different youth clubs in the LJC to give a brief update on their clubs activities.

Ford – This club had run for a number of years at the local village hall, initially as a volunteer led club. However there have been some challenging behaviours at the club, so a few years ago the Parish Council partnered up with SYA to employ a professional youth worker to support the club. The grant from the LJC helps meet the cost of this worker. The club also attracts youngsters from outside the village of Ford.

There have been issues of anti-social behaviour involving young people in the village and there is no public transport into Shrewsbury in the evening, so the club is important as it gives young people something to do. The cost of employing the youth worker is around £3,500 and the total precept of the Parish Council is £14,000, so it would be very difficult for the Parish Council to fund the club using their own funds.

Hanwood – This club started as a volunteer led club 6 years ago, initially at the Cock Inn but later it moved to the village hall. The club was popular with young people but finding volunteers proved difficult so the Shropshire Council funding has helped employ a professional SYA youth worker, who supports the volunteers and young people at the club. Having an independent worker who

isn't from the village helps young people discuss issues with them that they might not be able to with a local volunteer.

In addition to the weekly activities the club runs, which aims to deal with a range of issues, the club also does one off trips and events. 55 young people are on the books of the club and 39 attend regularly. The club had a float at this year's Shrewsbury Carnival and won their category.

Great Hanwood Parish Council are very supportive of the club, but their total annual precept is £24,000 they would have to increase the precept to cover the costs of the youth worker.

Nesscliffe – This club has similar issues to those at Ford and Hanwood, where a volunteer led club was started, but the involvement of a professional SYA youth worker has really benefitted the club and the young people who attend and helped support the volunteers. Due to its location the Nesscliffe club has a lot of children from outside the parish attend, so it would be difficult for the Parish Council to justify funding the full cost of the club.

The club has 45 members and on average around 32 attend each week. As well as the sessions the club does regular trips to local attractions including the pantomime. Nesscliffe is due to get more housing over the next 5 years so expects to get more young people wanting to attend the club over that period. The Parish Council is also being asked to contribute to other Shropshire Council services, such as Nesscliffe Country Park which also puts pressure on their budgets.

Westbury – This club was started 18 months ago and is fully funded by the LJC grant. SYA are employed to staff the club. Initially the club was restricted to year 5-6 children, but this age range has been expanded to allow more children to attend. Around 25 children attend regularly.

Westbury Primary School closed recently, and the youth club has been helpful in allowing Westbury children to meet together and socialise, which also helps them integrate into their new schools. Rural isolation is a significant issue for young people and clubs help support children who might be experiencing mental health issues. There have also been some anti-social behaviour issues in the village and the club has helped reduce these. Like other parish councils Westbury has a small precept and funding the club

Minsterley – Like Westbury this club is funded by the LJC and was established using an SYA youth worker after previous volunteer led clubs had folded. The club started slowly, and initially didn't attract many young people, but the day of the club clashed with training for the local football club so when the days we altered attendances started to rise. Finding parents to volunteer at the club has been difficult but some older children have now taken leader training and are helping out at the club.

Questions from the Committee to Nick Bardsley were then taken.

Nick Hignett made the point that larger urban areas, who were proposed to get the funding, were probably better placed to raise income to run clubs as they have a bigger population. He hoped funding for rural areas would be looked at but not spread so thinly that it wouldn't be effective.

Roger Evans made the point that the Council budget had not yet been signed off so the Council could still decide to maintain or increase youth funding, and cuts would not be needed. Nick responded by saying that all Council budgets were being looked at, and existing services like adult social care were costing more to run each year. So tough decisions had to be taken. However, the consultation on youth funding was a genuine one.

Duncan Fletcher pointed out that the Shropshire Council Economic Strategy was designed to attract more young people to Shropshire, so it seemed counter-productive to develop a youth strategy which penalised young people already living here. Shropshire should be investing in its young people.

Roger Evans pointed out that the scrutiny panel looking at youth activities had recommended that funding was allocated on a geographical basis, but this isn't reflected in the strategy out for consultation. Nick said that the consultation was based on officer recommendations and these had not yet been approved by Cabinet. Policies may change as a result of the consultation

Jonathan Percival said that from past experience of other consultations Shropshire Council didn't always listen and asked for reassurances that this time it would be a genuine consultation. Members of the public agreed with this statement.

Bill Longmore, part of the group who now own and manage the Cock Inn, argued that community groups and social enterprises were needed to meet the gaps created by Shropshire Council services being withdrawn. He hoped that the Cock Inn would be successful and in the long term be able to support young people in the village. However, some transition funding to keep existing services going was still needed.

Ed Potter thanked Nick for attending the meeting. He encouraged all those at the meeting to take part in the consultation and said that the LJC would need to review their policies on youth funding in the area once decisions had been taken by Shropshire Council

8. Local Plan Review

Mathew Mead gave a brief update on the review. The plan is being revised to make sure Shropshire's development plans are up to date and meet national policies. The current consultation is about the number of properties to be built over the 20 year plan period, and where they should be located. Shropshire

Council is proposing to build around 28,000 homes in that period which is a slight increase on current plan levels. Another change is that the new plan aims to put slightly more development in Shrewsbury and the larger towns rather than the countryside. Those rural areas wanting to accommodate some development will need to be listed as hubs or clusters, and a new scoring system through which hubs will be designated has been drawn up.

The new policies will mean some changes for communities within the LJC, such as Ford, who will become a hub. It is important for Parish Councils and members of the public to take part in the consultation which runs until 22nd December.

9. Public Question Time

Roger Evans said that the new year would see a review of Local Joint Committee's by Shropshire Council and members of this LJC should give their views on it and what the role of the LJC's should be in the future.

10. Future agenda items and dates of next meeting

Suggested items for the meeting included a presentation on how Shropshire Council and the Police tackle speeding. An update on Future Fit and the future of Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals would also be important once details of the proposals are available.

A provisional date of 22nd March 2018 was set for the next meeting.

Chair: _____

Date: _____



Committee and date
Loton, Longden Ford and
Rea Valley LJC Meeting
Cock Inn /function Room,
Wednesday 23rd May 7.00
pm

Item

2

Public

YOUTH COMMISSIONING FOR THE LOTON, LONGDEN, FORD AND REA VALLEY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE AREA.

**Wednesday 23rd May 2018
Cock Inn Function Room, Hanwood**

Responsible Officer

Email: mathew.mead@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 252534

1. Summary

This report provides an update on youth commissioning funding Shropshire Council within the Loton, Longden, Ford and Rea Valley Local Joint Committee, for the 2018/2019 financial year.

Recommendations

- A That the Committee note that the youth budget of £12,000 for 2018/19 has now been agreed by Shropshire Council; with an additional £3,000 available through a central Rural Funding pot
- B That the Committee note that Minsterley Parish Council and Westbury Parish Council are willing to contribute an additional £1,600 and £1,000 respectively to this year's budget
- C That the LJC note that 2018/19 is likely to be the last year funding is available through the LJC framework.

REPORT

2. Background

From 2015/16 Shropshire Council changed the way in which it delivered youth services in Shropshire. This saw a move from Shropshire Council delivering front line services and employing staff directly, to a commissioning model. This saw funding devolved to Local Joint Committee's (LJC's) who then identified local needs and allocated their funding accordingly. Each LJC had different levels of funding based on identified local needs and the Loton, Longden, Ford and Rea Valley LJC received £10,950 in 2015/16 (part-year) and £16,630 in 2016/17 and 2017/18 (full year).

The LJC took the decision to use this funding to establish two new Youth Clubs in Minsterley and Westbury, and commissioned the Shropshire Youth Association to run these

clubs one evening a week during term time. This was because these areas had been highlighted as having more indicators of deprivation than other parishes in the LJC.

In addition grants of £699.53 in 15/16 were awarded to Great Ness and Little Ness Parish Council; Ford Parish Council and Hanwood Parish Council to provide additional financial support to youth clubs already in existence in Nesscliffe, Ford and Hanwood. In 2016/17 these grants were again distributed to the sum of £1,199.19. Parish Councils commissioned these clubs and contract staff from the Shropshire Youth Association to run them on their behalf, matched funding for the clubs comes from the Parish precepts, local fundraising and subscriptions paid by those attending the clubs.

In 2017/18 the LJC was allocated £16,630 from Shropshire Council and also received a further £1,600 from Minsterley Parish Council as a contribution to the running costs of Minsterley Youth Club. The funding was allocated as shown in the table below and was again based on the indicators of deprivation which saw Minsterley and Westbury received more funding.

	Income	Expenditure
2017/18 LLFRV budget	£16,630.00	
Contribution from Minsterley PC	£1,600.00	
Commission SYA to run Youth Clubs at Westbury and Minsterley		£13,096.59
Grant to Great Hanwood PC		£1,700.98
Grant to Great Ness and Little Ness PC		£1,700.98
Grant to Ford PC		£1,700.98
Total	£18,230.00	£18,199.53

3. Considerations for the Loton, Longden, Ford and Rea Valley Local Joint Committee for 2018/19 funding

There has been considerable debate and alterations to the funding this LJC was to be allocated but the Local Joint Committee has now been confirmed it has the following funding available to be allocated for 2018/19

LJC funding	12000
Minsterley PC contribution	1600
Westbury PC contribution	1000
Rural grant*	3000
Total budget	17600

In making these recommendations for the LJC the aim is to try and continue provision at our 5 youth clubs throughout 2018/19 and to use the remainder of the financial year to look at the long term sustainability of these clubs. The allocation of

funding is therefore based on the previous strategy agreed by the LJC in 16/17 and 17/18

Additionally due to the delay in Shropshire Council funding being allocated an agreement is in place that the contracts for the first term of 2018/19 – up to the 19th July should be honoured. This only applies to contracts with SYA (Minsterley and Westbury), but it would be equitable to extend this to the 3 youth clubs at Hanwood, Ford and Nesscliffe. Based on the 2017/18 funding criteria the funding awarded for the first term of 2018/19 are:

18/19 allocation	Summer Term to 15th July
Minsterley and Westbury SYA contract	£4,221.72
Hanwood grant	£548.32
Nesscliffe grant	£548.32
Ford grant	£548.53
	£5,866.88

This would leave the Loton, Londgen Ford and Rea Valley LJC with a budget of £11,733.12

It is totally up to the LJC on how they allocate the remaining funding, but based on the short time scales for decision making, and the fact the funding ends in March 2019 the LJC could simply maintain its existing criteria for the remainder of the financial year. So, the £11,733.12 would be allocated as follows

Funding allocated	Remaining budget	Total funding 18/19
Minsterley and Westbury SYA contract	£8,443.44	£12,665.16
Hanwood grant*	£1,096	£1,644.95
Nesscliffe grant*	£1,096	£1,644.95
Ford grant*	£1,096	£1,645.60
	£11,731.44	£17,600.65

However, we also need to consider that the rurality funding for 2018/19 is not directly controlled by the LJC, but has to be bid into by individual Parish Councils so I have advised the Great Hanwood, Great Ness and Little Ness and Ford Parish Councils to

apply for this funding ahead of 20th May deadline, and that they should bid for £1000 each. So rather than received a grant from the LJC of £1096 they would receive an additional £96 from the LJC and £1,000 from the rurality funding

Assuming they are successful with these applications the amount of funding allocated to each youth club would be similar to 2017/18 and should be sufficient to sustain all these clubs through the financial year, alongside some support from their Parish Councils and local community

We do however have the opportunity to discuss alternative funding arrangements, and must also start to consider the sustainability of these clubs beyond March 2019

4. Financial Implications

In total the LJC will have £17,600 available to support Youth Groups in 2018/19 and The total costs of these proposals are £17,600.65

5. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

In determining these recommendations the LJC has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.

The proposals under consideration will improve the levels of community based and community driven youth activity in the LJC area.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) Nick Bardsley
Local Member Ed Potter, Roger Evans, Nick Hignett
Appendices