

NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE GOBOWEN, SELATTYN, ST MARTINS & WESTON RHYN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4TH FEBRUARY 2015 AT 6.00 PM AT ST MARTINS SCHOOL, MOORS BANK, ST MARTINS,

7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.

Responsible Officer: Corrie Davies
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Present:

Members of the Committee: Cllr Robert Macey, Cllr David G Lloyd, Cllr Steve Davenport, Cllr Angela Bright.

Officers: Corrie Davies

There were approximately 10 members of the public and 7 young people.

1. Welcome and Introduction from the Chairman

Cllr Davenport, Cllr Lloyd, Cllr Bright and Cllr Macey.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr John Stephens and Cllr Sue Crow

3. Disclosure Pecuniary Interests

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.

4. Notes of the Previous Meeting

AGREED : That the notes of the meeting held on 25th February 2015
Confirmed: Cllr David Lloyd Seconded: Cllr Davenport

**5. Youth Commissioning
Overview of youth commissioning for the LJC area**

Cllr Robert Macey introduced youth commissioning and the background to date. The Gobowen, St Martins and Weston Rhyn LJC area had been confirmed as an area that would be receiving money for youth commissioning, based on a specific set of needs that had been identified. The Committee had met in January to start looking at available information. Cllr Macey explained that the

ACTION

committee had been able to look at the results from a youth questionnaire that had been distributed through the schools, including the three local primaries and the secondary. The committee had information across the wider area, including two neighbouring LJC areas who were in receipt of funding and had also completed school questionnaires. Cllr Macey asked if Corrie could hand out the summary with the statistical information. This included data from children on the activities that they were currently participating in during the week, what activities that they would like to do and additional anecdotal comments. This included some initial feedback from young people using the Centre on the Monday rural night.

Corrie utilised the flip chart paper to share with the committee the specific indicators around need which included obesity, anti-social behaviour, numbers of reported incidents, school attendance, number of children living in a deprived area and referrals to social care. The LJC area had scored 6th across Shropshire on the specific indicators. Some LJC areas had not scored on the indicators and as a result had no funding or a small amount based on rurality. Cllr Davenport explained Ellesmere LJC had a small amount of £3000.

Cllr Macey asked representatives what they felt about the draft outcomes that included 'more young people participating in physical activity, reducing obesity and promoting healthy lifestyles, increased learning around outdoor and rural skills, supporting young people to develop and achieve personally and academically, provide better availability of information to young people and families, ensure provision and safe environments in rural localities'. Cllr Macey asked for feedback on the outcomes outlined.

AGREED: There was an agreement around the table and with representatives that the outcomes were relevant and appropriate to the area based.

Gill Jones, from TNS Football Foundation, explained that they had been holding sessions at the Marches that had been well received and very successful. This had been secured via a funding bid to the Police Commissioners Grant. This project included 'multi-sport' coaching and activities engaging young people. There was opportunity within that project to run a satellite project within this LJC area. Gill noted they had been carrying out survey work at the Marches through their project there which had picked up similar evidence around young people wanting to take part in a variety of activities. They were putting this package together as part of their project and the feedback provided good evidence of this work being effective. Gill highlighted the need for 'character education' within the outcomes which can make a real difference to confidence and young people attributes.

Cllr Lloyd felt that it would be great to run a taste session with young people. Nick and Sue Heard noted that they were looking to hold a second Big Local event around May time building on an earlier Big Get Together. Sue Lovecy Head at St Martins School explained that they were going to hold a summer event in June called the Jolly Jamboree. This would include enterprise activities and completing

apprentice style activities. Both events would be an opportunity to test activities. Corrie explained that the timescales were quite tight in terms of tendering and procuring activities for April/May in line with the current positive activities team activities.

Sue Schofield said that she did not believe the low activity on a Sunday as it tended to be a family day. It was also incredibly difficult to get volunteers for weekend activities which could impact on potential opportunities around weekends. Sue Lovecy explained that they were taking on more activities at the sports hall and plan to put on a series of weekend activities. This was part of their wider business plan to ensure that the school played a central part in the community and taking on the Sports Hall.

Cllr Lloyd highlighted the need to work with partners such as the NFU and Young Farmers to develop learning opportunities and skills related activities to countryside and outdoor skills. He referenced the difficulty with farming at the moment. Cllr Lloyd noted that we need to ensure that we nurture young people's learning and experiences.

Sue Lovecy explained that Duke of Edinburgh and building sports leaders and coaching skills is at the moment being developed in the school and the coaches would then be leading the primary aged 10 year olds in physical activities.

Cllr Bright said there was nothing available in Weston Rhyn. The parish had no youth club available and very limited club activities. Cllr Bright felt that there was a lack of local contribution from facilities like Moreton School and Quinta into the local community. The group discussed linked areas for young people such as the Pavilion in Weston Rhyn. Cllr Bright noted that there are no clubs like the scouts in Weston Rhyn and generally a lack of activity for young people which needed to be addressed.

The Big Local highlighted issues for young people and parents included transport. Group discussed community mini bus and utilising what was available within the community.

Sue Schofield explained that the biggest problem was information available and local people knowing what was out there and then encouraging young people through the door.

Corrie asked Steve Evans about links at the Derwen and noted that the College had been interested in taking the young people to Paddlesport's. Steve said he would speak to the young people at Derwen and ask them their thoughts on activities.

Sue Schofield explained that at the Moors, St Martins, Gareth Thomas was really keen to build up a local canoeing offer but they had struggled. Corrie asked Sue Schofield for a contact. There was an element of building our local and sustainable offer as well as considering where the gaps are in provision and making link with existing offer. Sue Schofield highlighted that we need to break down issues around health and safety and volunteering in general to make it easier for those with an interest and dissolve issues. Cllr Macey highlighted that there would be an Infrastructure Support Partner in

place to provide this type of support to those clubs that would like to set up.

Young People Session

Cllr Macey invited the young people who had been working in the breakout room to talk to the committee and members of the public

Andy Rimmer, Youth and community worker for the Big Local, introduced himself and the young people (7 children involved, 4 female and 3 male and 1 parent present with three having had to leave early for dance club). The young people were from St Martins and Weston Rhyn. Participants were from a variety of ages, 1 year 2, 1 year 5, 3 year 9 and 2 year 11.

The children had been provided with the draft outcomes with a set of key questions underneath to guide conversation. This would act as a testing point to establish if the outcomes were correct and to gain feedback from young people on the types of local activities they would like to have access too.

A number key areas and issues were explored which were identified from the youth questionnaire consultation. Andy Rimmer provided feedback from the young people which included the following points:

These where:

1. Diversionary Activities.
2. Gaps in Provision.
3. Reducing Obesity and Promoting Healthy Lifestyles.
4. Providing Better Availability of Information.
5. Ensure Provision and Safe Environments.
6. More Young People Participating in Physical Activity.
7. Increased Learning.
8. Places to go
9. Getting involved
10. Access

Andy had asked participants to consider:

- a. How can we help ensure opportunities and positive experiences?
- b. Overall, what do you think of the activities where you live?
- c. If you would like to take part in activities but if you don't-why not?
- d. Where do you feel safe?
- e. Where do you like to relax?

The children were also asked if they (or someone they knew) took part or would like to take part in the following activities (identified in previous consultation).

They indicated the following:

Tennis- 4, Dance-300 (3 of the participants were part of the Border School of Dance), Music-11, Youth Clubs-110 (St Martins, Green Room and The Centre Oswestry), Football-50, Drama-20, Swimming-9 and Martial Arts-50

Finally the young people were asked to consider anything that we might not have covered. The group felt that diversionary activities

could offer both new experiences and capitalise on existing interests. Offering programmes of taster activities could encourage young people into activities they hadn't previously experienced, while building on things they already did might encourage engagement and broaden tastes. Examples provided included:

Motor projects: - building and maintaining cars, motorcycles, karts
Skills courses- motocross, karting, trials riding etc.
Events focussed on video gaming, possibly competitions.
Activities refocussing video games into physical activity, (Live Action Role Play, Paintball, Extreme Sports).
Theme Park visits (possibly as rewards for community engagement).

The group all agreed that they would talk to a teacher or in school mentor if they needed advice-they all felt that they wouldn't know anyone else to talk to and none of them could identify specialist services for young people e.g. Sexual Health or Young People's Substance Misuse Team. There was a general feeling that more Information about Information and Support Services was needed.

The group were surprised at the low turnout for the consultation and agreed that this was a problem generally with getting involved. It was suggested that we should make events more personal-by mentioning specific issues being covered (none of the participants new what the LJC was for example).Promotion was a big issue, they felt that often people had no idea that such things were happening-or of their right to be involved. All involved thought that a forum for young people to explore ideas and maybe inform others would be good.

The group agreed that learning was easier if it was fun and or positive and that the teacher's attitude was key to this. Some young people pointed out that they learnt better by doing things-rather than by being told about them and that wherever possible physical activity should be included, as this helped with their learning. Some discussion followed about barriers to learning and the group identified that outside (of school) influences where a big factor, in particular Lifestyle and Parental support and encouragement. The group felt that some parents might not be supportive because of their own negative experiences, while that others might even be "jealous" of their child- having access to better opportunities. The youngest member of the group suggested that in her class, the children who misbehave are usually very loud and find it hard to listen. The others thought helping with listening and communication skills would help.

The whole group stated that there was nowhere to go in their community, when pushed they identified Park Hall, but pointed out that anywhere else was at least as far away as Oswestry. The Parent in the group shared that it had cost her £7 for a single fare to Oswestry from Stan's, for herself and two daughters- it worked out almost the same to buy a rover ticket and travel to Wrexham for the day, so they did. The nearest cinema is in Wrexham, next closest is Shrewsbury, the nearest Ice Rink is either Telford or Queensferry and rail travel involves a bus ride if living in St Martins or Gobowen.

The young person from Weston Rhyn remarked that walking anywhere was almost impossible due to the A5. The group identified a number of places they would like to visit, ranging from local (Wrexham/Shrewsbury) to National (Birmingham and London) and even International (Disneyland Paris was mentioned). The group were fully prepared to help plan and organise these visits and aware of financial implications.

Some young people commented that while variety of available activities wasn't an issue- frequency was, with many only being available one night a week. They felt this was a real barrier to learning the skills involved (examples such as music, dance and sports). One young person pointed out that he and his friends spent their evenings (when out of home), walking the streets and sitting in bus shelters. The other older young people agreed that they did the same and all felt that what there was a need for "somewhere to chill out- maybe with comfy sofas"

6. Big Local

Nick Heard updated on the work of the Big Local. This included the development of a joint car scheme. Big Local were working on getting information out and particularly interested in how information is cascaded. They were fully utilising Big Facebook page and had provided support to three village magazines. They were maximising their community chest money and had funded two projects in Gobowen. The Big Local were launching their Fair Shares Credit Union, providing support and information around money advice. They were also looking at establishing a savings club. They had employed Andy Rimmer as their Youth and Community Worker who would be doing more of the 'strategic' youth work. Andy had scheduled half term activities and had started some outreach sessions in Weston Rhyn to try and talk with young people in Weston Rhyn to find out what they would like.

7. PACT Meeting (Partners and Communities Together)

Charlie Iremonger the CSO had attended to provide an update. Charlie indicated alcohol had been involved in recent accident. Charlie updated on the bypass and potential to narrow the road to try and stop drivers overtaking. Charlie indicated that there had been a couple of burglaries in the area and suspicions. Road traffic collisions discussed further including speeding limits. Charlie updated on his community speed watch and that he was looking for a good location on the Ellesmere Road.

8. Public Question Time

No further updates from those present.

9. Date of Next Meeting

To be confirmed

Chairman:.....

Date:.....