

The local Rural Watch Co-ordinator was praised for circulating a vast amount of community safety information that covered a wide geographic area.

In response to a question, Sgt Bailey also reassured the public that there were no plans within the West Mercia constabulary to reduce the number of CSO posts at present.

Sgt Bailey urged the public to use the 101 number to report non-urgent incidents and reminded everyone that the Safer Neighbourhood Team could also be contacted on that number. However, 999 should still be used for emergencies.

6. Local Commissioning – Future Options for Albrighton Library

Chris Edwards, Shropshire Council gave a presentation on the progress made in relation to the future of the library and proposals currently being considered. He advised that negotiations on terms of the lease, plan layout, staffing options etc were ongoing and formal consideration of the proposals would be taking place at Albrighton Parish Council's meeting on 17th December and Shropshire Council's cabinet meeting on 7th January 2016.

One of the plan drawings currently being circulated had given the wrong impression on the proposals so it was agreed that a clearer plan would be circulated. Members of the public thought that there may be opportunities to utilise the garden space at the back of the library more effectively in the future.

There was some discussion about a new internal wall not being fixed but being more of a moveable partition, however, this had been discounted due to financial constraints.

Chris Edwards confirmed that there was no guarantee about the level of funding from Shropshire Council after the initial 3 year period and Councillor Malcolm Pate reminded the meeting that Shropshire Council were having to change their way of working to address the cuts.

7. Albrighton Swimming Pool – update

Councillor Malcolm Pate advised the meeting that there had been a significant reduction in the funding for the pool. As a result of this the Head Teacher was now looking at how the deficit could be addressed. To date, there had been a meeting called between the school, civic society, Shropshire Council and the Parish Council where it was decided to attempt to keep the pool going.

At a recent meeting of the Civic Society a straw poll of members attending had felt that an increase in the parish council's precept could possibly support the deficit and Albrighton Parish Council had since decided to fund the shortfall for the forthcoming financial year.

He advised that the Parish Council funding was on the understanding that work would now go ahead locally to look at how to move forward with operating the facility into the future. It had been agreed that there was a need to clarify the costs involved in running the pool and to ensure that these costs were kept separate to the running costs of the school.

Members of the public raised the possibility of looking at solar funding possibilities to help to reduce the revenue costs in the future.

Councillor David Beechey felt that it was important to re-establish a good committee to run the community element of the pool as the membership had currently reduced to 2 and clearly this was not acceptable. Chris Edwards confirmed that discussions were on-going with the existing committee to support members on how to move forward.

The Head Teacher had agreed to get volunteers together to reinvigorate the club via the weekly school newsletter. It was also noted that efforts should be made to get St Mary's Primary school to commit to using their local pool.

The LJC would report updates on progress at future meetings.

8. Albrighton Railway Ramp Project and proposed alterations to Station Road

It was noted that Alice Dilly had forwarded a position statement in relation to progress on the railway ramp project. She advised that a plan showing preliminary proposals was being finalised in preparation for public consultation. It was anticipated that this would take place in late November / early December during which time plans would be displayed and response forms would be made available to capture residents and users views.

9. Other issues raised at the meeting.

CIL Funding from local development - Councillor Pate confirmed that there would only be S106 that applied to the first phase of building of 85 homes in Albrighton and not CIL, however, CIL would apply to the second phase of the development. CIL would be used to address Place Plan priorities for the area.

Footpath at Elm Road

Some concern was raised about footpath safety at Elm Road and whether there was any progress with plans to move the pathway. Further information would be sought and fed back.

40mph speed limit along Cross Road

A member of the public asked whether any decision had been taken on extending the 40mph speed limit to the Albrighton Feeds junction. Further information would be sought and fed back.