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| <u>Committee and date:</u>               | <u>Item/Paper</u> |
| Ludlow & Clee Area Local Joint Committee |                   |
|  | <u>Public</u>     |

**NOTES OF THE LUDLOW & CLEE AREA LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM ON Thursday 25 February 2016 at Elim Church Hall, Smithfield Ludlow.**

**Responsible Officer:** Linda Monteith

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**Committee Members Present:**

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Councillor R Osborne        | Bitterley Parish Council               |
| Councillor Mrs T Huffer     | Shropshire Council – Ludlow East Ward  |
| Councillor Mrs V Parry      | Shropshire Council – Ludlow South Ward |
| Councillor P Draper         | Ludlow Town Council                    |
| Councillor R Huffer (Chair) | Shropshire Council – Clee              |
| Councillor Andy Boddington  | Shropshire Councillor - North          |
| Councillor I Liddle         | Ludford Parish Council                 |
| Ann Sutcliffe               | SSHA                                   |

**Officers Present:**

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Linda Monteith | Community Action Officer |
| Malcom Pate    | Shropshire Council       |
| Chris Edwards  | Shropshire Council       |

**Also in attendance:**

|                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| CSO James Beddow        | West Mercia Police |
| Inspector Robert Thomas | West Mercia Police |

**ACTION**

**Welcome and apologies**

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillor E Marrs, Councillor G Williams and Councillor H Chance.

**Notes of the meeting held on 22 October 2015**

**RESOLVED:**

that the Notes of the meeting of the Ludlow & Clee Area Local Joint Committee held 22 June 2015 be approved as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**Councillor Malcolm Pate.**

Malcolm explained he was a part of the group who set up LJC's and was impressed by the good turnout. Malcolm also explained he was Leader until 2009 and was now back again.

In 1017/18 cuts must be made that nobody wants. Half of the budget goes on elderly care.

Cabinet changes that have been made are the Chief Executive now runs the authority with collective decisions. The Council has reengaged with town

and parish councils and are being as open and transparent as possible. Talks have taken place with Minister Greg Clarke who acknowledged that the formula for elderly care is not working in a large rural area. Other Counties have the same problem and pressure is being mounted. The Council are reengaging with the LEP to see if Euro funding can be obtained.

Past 2020 the council will only have business rates and council tax and be down to 25 million to run its services.

**Questions from the floor.**

- What will this mean to Shropshire? The cuts are unacceptable but the council has to set a legal budget. Library's, swimming pools will be closing. All the cuts are listed on the Council website and lots of counties are in the same position. Malcolm agreed it was terrible but the books have to balance
- Vulnerable Childrens department is highlighted as being cut so how is this helping young people? Things have moved on. The council may now be looking to employ more people in this department as they can provide a chargeable service generating income.
- People will pay more to keep services so please do not rule out a referendum. Malcolm cannot see how council tax cap could stay as councils will not cope

A vote was then cast to see who was in favour of raising council tax and this was supported by almost everyone in the room. The few who didn't said it was because they could not afford it with low incomes. People are already living on food parcels.

- Ludlow is 30 miles from Shrewsbury and the council has been seen as a Shrewsbury council this needs addressing or proving it's not the case. Malcolm explained he had a new cabinet and a lot of the councillors were from the south. All the county is equal but people must understand that 60% of the county's population live in Shrewsbury.
- How does Shropshire Council fair alongside other councils with the cuts? Malcolm explained that Telford is shutting its libraries. 130 million has been saved over the last 5 years and the public has not noticed. The council is now working more smartly but they have got nothing left.
- Malcolm explained IP@E was an experiment that other councils also tried to generate money. The market place was not there though. Malcolm explained that he was not involved in setting it up and about 6 months ago it was decided it was not working. Other Councils are also closing theirs.
- To attract young people to Shropshire public transport has to be improved. Young people move away because of travel costs. Malcolm explained there was no budget to subsidise the buses.
- Shared services between health and council need to work better and closer. Malcolm thought this worked well through the Health Boards and there was a need to work closer with health, could closed wards do other things?
- Biggest barrier to growth is planning and the restrictions.

Malcom explained that planning applications have to meet the guidelines; planners have to work within the law.

- Encourage small hospitals to keep wards open, Ludlow Hospital is now down to 7 beds. Could Malcolm encourage the powers to be to open beds at Ludlow? Malcom explained he was talking to the chairman of the trust about these issues
- Car parks generate an income that goes straight to the council. Why can Ludlow not keep their car park income as this comes from tourism in Ludlow? Malcolm explained that tourism was a county wide industry. Shropshire council has no intention of letting the towns have this income when the council is in such a state.
- If the 0% comes in and museums close what will happen to the volunteers and users. Could a separate trust be considered? Malcolm explained that if a CIC could demonstrate they could do this with no money from Shropshire Council then the council would look at it. It was stressed by the person asking the question she meant keeping the whole of Shropshire's collections together in a trust. Malcolm said he was open to ideas and there may be other ways to do things

Councillor Andy Boddington thanked Councillor Pate and asked if he would be willing to come again in a years' time to give an update. Councillor Pate said he would be happy to.

### **Youth Commissioning update**

Councillor Tracey Huffer updated the meeting on what was now in place for the young people in the Ludlow area.

Ludlow Junior Youth Club – This group started on 15<sup>th</sup> January and is delivered under the Youth Commissioning by SYA. The group is for years 6 – 8 and currently 23 young people attend on a Friday afternoon from 3.30 – 5pm. Flyers were handed out at the meeting

Ludlow Senior young people – Detached youth sessions are running on a Friday night 7.30 – 9pm, this is being delivered by SSYF. The Youth Partnership has also secured funding from the Community Panel to run 8 sports sessions on the following weeks from 6 – 7.30pm with Shrewsbury Town in the community.

February 26<sup>th</sup>, March 11<sup>th</sup>, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> May 13<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup>. The last date to be confirmed. Funding has also been secured from Westley's to fund detached youth work on Leavers day and GCSE results day.

Councillors are trying to secure the youth centre for traditional youth activities and are having talks with Shropshire Council.

### **Resilient Communities**

Ludlow is going to concentrate on youth and what to build on traditional youth work.

Ann Sutcliffe informed the meeting that Ludlow Foyer is only protected for another year and will close in 2017 unless Shropshire Council continues with its grant or the local housing allowance is not over turned. The new build will

be unable to go ahead unless SSHA can get certainty of funding.  
Youth is the biggest priority and a way of going forward must be found.

### **Police and Speeding update**

Bitterley Speed Watch – meetings are taking place with the Parish Council.  
Ludlow Town Residents Committee – This is a little more difficult as the speeds around sites in the town are not within the criteria for those that community speed watch can address. Contact will continue with LTCRA.  
The Community Speed watch in Clee Hill has been given the green light.  
At the October meeting Chief Superintendent Charlie Hill said he would look at the stats and see how many people in Shropshire have been done for speeding and how many of these had an SY8 postcode. Inspector Rob Thomas informed the meeting that the figure for the SY8 area was 121 caught in excess of posted speed limits.  
Inspector Thomas also informed the meeting of an event on March 10<sup>th</sup> – How to protect your business from criminals. Leaflets were handed out at the meeting at Tom Dickins Fine Art Castle Street Ludlow between 5:30pm and 7:00pm please contact [GIBSONJA@parliament.uk](mailto:GIBSONJA@parliament.uk) to register / informal enquiries or call 01584 872187.  
Inspector Thomas introduced CSO James Beddow to the meeting as the CSO for Ludlow. James replaces CSO Lucy Morris.

### **Parish / Town Council and Shropshire Council Updates**

#### Bitterley Parish Council – Councillor R Osborne

Progress is being made with the issues of speeding. The play area in Bitterley needs upgrading and funding is being looked at. Bitterley Parish Plan will be refreshed this year.

#### Ludford Parish Council – Councillor Imogen Liddle

Ludford Bridge is currently out of action due to an accident and the full extent of damage is not yet known making Ludford very isolated.  
The hydro plan is making headway. Please do not put posters up on the fossil bone bed, the nails damage the rock.

#### Councillor Boddington

There will be another review of the roundabout at one stop at East Hamlet.  
A scheme is being drawn up to make the railway station pedestrian access safer as people walk towards Aldi.

#### Councillor Parry

Temeside will be resurfaced at Easter.  
The gas building in Temeside is being demolished sometime this year.  
A490 bus service between Ludlow and Leominster will continue as parish councils are putting money towards it.  
Ludlow in Bloom has been awarded £8,000 towards a sensory garden. Please could people continue to vote for the project as this will increase funding?

#### Ludlow – Councillor P Draper

Ludlow Town Council will be refreshing the Town Plan this year.

The TV programme Most Haunted will be filming in the area.  
The Buttercross is almost complete  
The Town Walls should be completed in 2017 and a date is being worked towards  
There is a possibility of an international delegation visiting Ludlow and promoting the town.

Councillor T Huffer

Please sign the Shopdoc petition if you have not already done so. If Shopdoc is lost the hospital will almost certainly go to.

Updates from the floor.

Fly tipping is increasing on Clee Hill Common

Ludlow champion of fair trade – March 16<sup>th</sup> at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, 7.30pm

Highways have not needed to use the snow ploughs this winter so can the money be used to repair potholes?

Councillor Boddington and other Councillors will raise this question with Ringway.

**Date/time of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held at Bitterley on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 9pm

Chairman:.....

Date:.....