

**NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE GOBOWEN, SELATTYN, ST MARTINS & WESTON RHYN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2016 AT 7.00 PM AT ST MARTINS SCHOOL, ST MARTINS**

7.00 p.m. – 9.00 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, and Cllr Angela Bright

Officers: Corrie Davies and Kate Garner

**There were approximately 15- 20 attendees**

**ACTION**

**1. Welcome and Introduction from the Chairman**

Cllr Robert Macey introduced the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Steve Davenport and Cllr Sara Heap

**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 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were approved, following amendment to number of years funding for Three Parishes Big Local and Defibrillator for St Martins. The notes were confirmed as a true record by the committee.

**5. PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER**

Melissa Bebb introduced her role as the Rural, Business and Cyber Crime Co-ordinator, part funded by the PCC and based at Shirehall. Melissa had a handout that local people could take away outlining key areas of work including working alongside the local police team on community action days, attending summer events, shows and

fetes, working alongside key policing schemes 'We Don't Buy Crime' and 'Stop That Thief'. Melissa also worked with Shropshire Rural Hub to support Farm Walks with a date due in the Spring to support the promotion of farm security. An advice session day had been ran in Knockin in conjunction with Shropshire Rural hub.

West Mercia Representative Dave Hughes provided a full update on We Don't Buy Crime explaining that they provide a pack to victims of dwelling burglaries. This includes a free SMART water pack with UV property marking pens and crime prevention information. Stop that Thief aims to work with business that have been victims of crime and fits premises with crime prevention materials for three weeks so that the businesses can see if they would like to purchase.

Dave highlighted a handout on the table for all those in attendance that included information about how to protect yourself against scams. A recent incident in Gobowen where a vulnerable person had been targeted for their card details. Dave noted that there are still vulnerable people out there and will do all they can to support. Councillor David Lloyd asked how they as local Members they could support. Dave asked that if they know who the vulnerable people are they can go and talk directly. They have put out websites, posters, and targeted where they know but there will still be those that are not identified that could be made aware. John Davies noted that the flier was very well produced and should be circulated out through the parish magazines.

Sue Heard if thanks to Dave could be noted for all his help and support at St Martins Youth Club.

Sue Schofield highlighted the ongoing issue of traffic in the villages, speeding and heavy vehicles and asked that the police continue to push for speed enforcement, road safety partnership. Cllr Robert Macey raised the request for community speed watch.

Cllr Robert Macey asked if Melissa's contact details were on the handout so that requests could be made for her to attend specific events in the area. Cllr Macey thanked Dave and Melissa for their attendance.

## **6. Update on youth commissioning for the LJC area**

Councillor Robert Macey updated on first quarter of LJC youth commissioned activities, noting that some of the providers were in attendance to update directly.

Gill Jones from TNS Community Foundation updated on their first quarter of activities. They had been commissioned to provide 2 hour holiday sessions of multi-sport activity. The October half term they had ran two sessions with good attendance. They had noted some problems with age range with a number of young people being under the 10 year old bracket. Gill noted that they learnt from this initial pilot and for February half term amended their fliers to display the age range and request that local people book to try and ensure numbers. Gill noted they had received no one at the Gobowen session and the St Martins session had been rained off. The Weston Rhyn had received young people with around 15 attending. Gill asked those in attendance and community partners for advice on what would work to encourage attendance. The sessions in

Trefonen and Llanymynech along with Weston Rhyn had been successful so they know that it can work. Sue Schofield suggested communicating the information earlier. Sue Heard thought that joint marketing could be done specifically looking at what young people would respond too. Councillor Robert Macey noted that Gill was really open to all ideas and support. Cllr John Stevens explained that the parish magazines were an option for support.

Sue Heard highlighted that they have a new role starting with Three Parishes Big Local for a Communications Officer and one possible idea might for the new person in role to develop a bulletin every two weeks with this type of information allowing for regular updates.

Ruairi updated on Fusion Arts youth work at Gobowen, St Martins and Weston Rhyn. He mentioned that the venue at Weston Rhyn was a difficult venue for young people and to monitor. They had also been locked out of the building on 6/7 occasions. They were looking for a long term solution to move to the school and start something smaller there with the view to growing the club.

Cllr Robert Macey highlighted Bridie's activities locally with fencing and start up success of this in the area.

Corrie noted it had been interesting to see young people trying out the woodworking skills and that they had the choice to try this over sport if that was maybe not for them at the TNS session at Weston Rhyn. Corrie updated that LJC had £3000 left in the new financial year and based on discussion with the committee they would be looking to a small community chest in the new financial year.

## **7. Update on Gobowen Library**

Cllr David Lloyd gave the partnership and the LJC thanks for providing the motivation and support for Gobowen Library. Members had received support from around 60 people at an LJC meeting which had provided them with a mandate for the partnership work that had been forged. Councillor David Lloyd explained that they had been given a very strong signal that local people valued the Library as an asset and that local people and neighbouring of St Martins and Oswestry were using the library. Cllr David Lloyd referred to the project as Gobowen Central, a community hub with books. They now had partner support to open the building for longer and could look at a whole range of services and activities to be held there. They had even received interest from SSAFA for ex- serviceman. Councillor Robert Macey highlighted that a range of partners were working together and the Partnership have a meeting on Thursday afternoon to continue to develop a partnership that will support the project and the asset long term.

Corrie mentioned that the project had been a team effort between Shropshire Council, Members, Parish Council, Three Parishes Big Local and Shropshire Town and Rural Housing, ensuring a local offer and chance to explore opportunity further.

A local business women and resident asked if there would be any opportunity for hot desking at the library for herself as a local online businesses. She noted it would be useful to have space where she could work locally. Councillor Robert Macey noted that they would welcome this kind of support. Councillor Robert Macey asked that those interested get in touch.

8.

### Three Parishes Big Local

Nick Heard updated on the work of Three Parishes Big Local with a clip recorded at the Big Chat. Nick noted that all new calendar for 2016 had been delivered. Community First Responders are now using the car that 3PBL part funded. The 3PBL livery is fixed. There are another four Big Grants (up to £5000) under consideration. Community Chest grants of 2016 awarded, totalling £1400. Beneficiaries are St Martins Village Life, 1st Gobowen Rainbows, Gobowen Station Improvement project, Selattyn village show. Recruitment of Communications & Community Project Officer underway. The Savings club is about to start at Gobowen Primary. Following on from The Big Chat, they are continuing consultation with local people and will be distributing information to Community groups and putting displays up in community buildings during March and April to let people know how they can give us their feedback and ideas. Invitations will shortly be sent out to The Big Get Together on 14th May at St Martins School. Two new Partners have joined 3PBL in recent months - Polly Smith from Weston Rhyn & Penny Jones from Gobowen. Three Parishes Big Local are working with the England Illegal Money Lending team to deliver a loan shark awareness project in the next few months. The website, [www.big-local.org](http://www.big-local.org), is being re-designed to bring it up-to-date with the current position of 3PBL and will now be easily readable from all devices. We expect to launch the new website in the next couple of months. Three Parish Big Local are installing new noticeboards in the three villages that will be used to share information about 3PBL and community groups, events and fundraisers. One of these has already been installed on the railings at Weston Rhyn School and others will be installed in Gobowen and St Martins in the next few weeks. (Locations are the gable end of the shop on the corner of Green Lane & Ellesmere Road in St Martins, Gobowen Co-op, and the concrete bus shelter on the corner of St Martins Road and Ferndale Crescent in Gobowen). Bridie asked how they get access to these boards as they are locked. Nick suggested that Bridget would be the best option for access.

9.

### The Big Conversation

Clive Wright, Chief Executive of Shropshire Council was introduced by the Chair. Clive introduced himself and his role. He was aware that some attendees may have received information already so had brought a You Tube Clip. The Big Conversation has been a way of engaging with local people to see what they think in an open and transparent way. It was not a consultation. As market research and statistical information go it had been well received. If carried out by MORI they would stop at 600 people and Shropshire had received over 2000 with further face to face discussions on top. Based on the information back most are suggesting that the Council should increase council tax. Education, safeguarding and adult social care have been raised as key areas. The council will still need to make cuts to these big priority areas. There are 150 other areas of service delivery that we won't be able to deliver as there isn't the resource. Clive explained that we want to look at all options together in partnership with town and parish councils. We are not expecting any

partners to do anything but we are open to all avenues. The lack of resources means that there is a need to work much closer together. We have done a lot and changed how we do things which has ensured everything is 50% lower but as we go forward we won't be able to do this.

Sue Schofield said that she was encouraged by what had been said which has shown that they had already been listened to. As the chair of the parish council they are considering what they could do. Sue noted she is still unclear as to what they take on, and at what risk and what are the Council's statutory obligations. Clive shared the youth provision as an area that had been looked at differently. There are lots of youth clubs and societies available to young people and we are assured that there is enough for young people to do without our provision.

Clive used recycling as an example explaining that if we recycled to the level European countries do we could make huge savings. We know that Shropshire can also be a lonely county due to its rurality. Communities that building in support your neighbour type schemes are also helping the adult social care agenda. Cllr Angela Bright explained that Weston Rhyn would be receiving a talk to educate local people on recycling thanks to local Members.

Glyn Pennington asked if parish clerks could have a list of the 150 areas. Clive noted that these were due to go out this week.

Councillor John Stevens said that at the LJC planning meeting they had discussed having early conversations about youth activities across the parish council areas and genuine conversations were needed about other areas. He felt that the LJC's as units were a positive way of having local discussion prior to any wider clusters around towns. He raised concern around discussions with planners..

Sue talked about collaboration and a north west hub at SALC or whether this would be via LJC but communication needed to be worked on at county council.

Cllr Angela Bright highlighted Tourism and that it should be taken more seriously in Shropshire especially as an economic and business driver. Clive highlighted Shrewsbury Business Improvement District and the difference collaborative working plays in promoting the area. John Davies asked that Shropshire be sympathetic to the needs of the area as a cross border area. He also highlighted the magistrate's court. Clive noted that every part of the county feels the same or that they are getting a better or lesser deal, which was not the case. Maggie Rowlands raised the heritage assets in the area and noted that tourism is a key priority in the locality. Councillor Angela Bright noted the World Heritage Site that brings in millions and this is not being capitalised on in the right way due to lack of support. Sue Schofield highlighted Mile End and its ranking in the league. Clive highlighted that there is a real opportunity for destinations to be promoted through partnership working.

A resident asked when Shropshire would be going live with its web castings. Clive suggested this would be very soon and with IT, equipment could even be possible from this week.

Clive explained that he is always available if local people would like

to call him or ring him with any further ideas or questions.

**10. Public Questions**

There were no further questions from the floor.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

Pencilled for the 28<sup>th</sup> of June at Weston Rhyn Institute 7pm

Chairman:.....

Date:.....