



Item

A

Public Paper

**CLEOBURY AND RURAL LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23rd MARCH 2016
MARKET HALL, CLEOBURY MORTIMER
7.00 pm – 9.00pm**

1. PRESENT:

Members of the Committee:

Madge Shingleton	Shropshire Council (Chair)
Deborah Brown	Cleobury Mortimer Parish Council
Chris Jones	Milson & Neen Sollars Parish Council
Bill Foster	Wheathill Parish Council
Sue Turner	Hopton Wafers Parish Council

In Attendance:

Chris Blyth	Director of Operations, Rotala
Rose Grey	Diamond Buses
Aaron McDonough	Diamond Buses
PCSO Nick Morris	WMP

Shropshire Council Officers:

Vicky Turner	Community Enablement Officer
James Willocks	Transport Manager

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Gwilym Butler, Shropshire Council
Richard Huffer, Shropshire Council
Vince Romeo, Coreley Parish Council
Brian Howells, Burford Parish Council
David Haywood, Kinlet Parish Council
Julian Celford, Neen Savage Parish Council

3. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

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

No declarations made

4. COMMUNITY SAFETY, FIRE SERVICE & HOUSING UPDATES

Police – Nick Morris spoke about recent crime in the area – there has been a spike in van break ins and power tool thefts, and advised on using Smartwater to protect items in your vans.

All Cleobury parish residents should by now have received a follow up survey on Smartwater from Warwick University

PC O’Leary also advised the audience of www.police.uk where you can identify localities and any crimes reported there.

5. DECISION NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 28TH July 2015

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

6. YOUTH COMMISSIONING

- I. The recipients of the LJC youth activity grants for 2015/16 presented to the committee how their grants had been spent.

South Shropshire Youth Forum – display boards in foyer

St Marys Youth Project - report attached

Cleobury Girl Guiding – report attached

- II. The report was considered by the committee and the following recommendation agreed

APPROVED That the Community Enablement Officer and the Chair of the Cleobury Mortimer Youth Partnership, work with the youth partnership, to bring a grant application, that meets with the commissioning outcomes, to the next LJC meeting.

7. 2L BUS SERVICE

Chris Blyth, Director of Operations for Rotala spoke about the changes / improvements to the service since the LJC meeting in July 2015, he then listened to continued complaints from users: The main concerns raised included:

- Students arriving late to college and not being allowed into the lesson if they turn up late
- Condition of the buses – need to travel with windows open during the winter because of fumes
- Buses breaking down
- Buses losing power on Angel Bank
- Buses not turning up
- Buses leaving early
- Drivers saying that they can’t / won’t drop the lift for wheelchairs
- Rerouted service due to roadworks but users not told
- Careless driving
- Bus being stopped for drivers to have cigarette break
- The time taken to get to Kidderminster via the estates

Chris responded that all buses are DDA compliant, that the regeneration of Kidderminster town centre has caused delays, that the Shropshire Council section is an add on to a commercial route, He will speak to the Engineer Manager about the condition of the buses, all buses have safety inspections

every 21 days, they are MOT'd annually from 3 years old. Chris welcomes feedback and can raise complaints directly to him on Chris.Blyth@rotala.co.uk

James Willocks (Shropshire Council Transport Manager) listened to the feelings within the room and the stress and anxiety caused by the current situation. He explained that Shropshire Council give a subsidy to Worcestershire Council and that Worcestershire Council have then commissioned the service to Diamond. Shropshire Council represents the taxpayer and are not going to continue to pay Worcestershire if Shropshire residents are not happy with the service.

The way forward for Shropshire Council – James Willocks to speak to Worcestershire Council and also to cost up options of a Shropshire Council managed contract – he will then report back to the LJC on the final options.

8. UPDATE ON BROADBAND

The attached report was noted

9. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no further questions from the public

10. IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None made

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

TBC