



<u>Committee and date</u>
Whitchurch & Prees Local Joint Committee
4 <sup>th</sup> October 2017

<u>Item</u>
<u>Public</u>

**Responsible Officer:** Belinda Doolan, Community Enablement Officer, Shropshire Council  
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## WHITCHURCH & PREES LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

### NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017 IN Tilstock Village Hall AT 7PM

#### Committee Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Council</u>
Mr Tom Biggins	Shropshire Councillor
Mrs Peggy Mullock	Shropshire Councillor (Chair)
Mr Paul Wynn	Shropshire Councillor
Mr Ray Hirons	Prees Parish Council
Mrs Bev Duffy	Whitchurch Town Council

#### Officers present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Role</u>
Nicola Fisher	Community Enablement Officer, Shropshire Council
Kevin Aitkin	Shropshire Council

There were approximately 10 members of the public at the meeting.

#### ACTION

#### **23. Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone.

#### **24. Receive Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Shropshire Councillor Gerald Dakin. Cllr Paul Wynn gave his apologies as he would have to leave the meeting early.

#### **25. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Members were 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.

#### **26. Confirm Notes of LJC meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

It was RESOLVED that the notes of the previous meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

#### **27. Partners & Communities Together (PACT)**

## West Mercia Police

Sgt Claire Greenaway reported that there have been no excessive incidents in the Whitchurch area, listing the following:

- Lead Theft- SmartWater project.
- Burglary
- Working with the UK Border Agency on immigration matters
- Domestic Violence and ASB support for victims

Issues were raised about the speed of traffic on Station Road and St John Talbots school. Sgt Greenaway reported that joint visits between police and Dave Gradwell of Shropshire Council had resulted in actions of advisory signage. This is a national issue and PCSOs frequently patrol outside of schools to advise parents. Whitchurch Town Council to be included in SmartWater project

The issue of lorries going across the Bullring in Whitchurch were raised. Sgt Greenaway agreed to contact company to advise them as a photo showing the registration number could identify the vehicle.

## Shropshire Ambulance Service

Colin Fitzmaurice reported that current incident rates are running at Christmas and New year levels daily. There is no plan to move the ambulance station outside of Whitchurch. Urgent need to re-educate our communities on the appropriate use of the 999 services. High number of inappropriate calls to the 999 service which wastes time and resources.

There was discussion regarding the fatality due to cardiac arrest in the Bullring. No paramedic had attended the emergency; the defibrillator could not be located and the nearest ambulance was 20 minutes away.

The Whitchurch ambulance had already been deployed, the nearest ambulance was 20 miles away, and the air ambulance was committed, as was North Wales and Welsh ambulance services. The Helicopter was diverted and arrived 2 minutes after the ambulance which had covered 20 miles to arrive.

The issue of Defibrillators was explored and it was agreed that Mr Fitzmaurice would obtain the ambulance held list of the location of local defibs. He reassured members that if you call 999 you will be directed to the nearest defib and that the ambulance service has the code for access.

The issue of on-line defibrillator training was discussed; however, they are very simple to use and good guidance is clearly available in the box.

## **28. Whitchurch Men's Sheds**

Men's Sheds.

The Men's Shed philosophy is predicated upon creating spaces for men to meet and socialise. Many have workshops and activity areas and members are keen to undertake projects for other CVS organisations to help the local community. The Whitchurch Men's Shed is in CNE, and they have an amazing workshop. They have recently finished building a

shed for Santa's grotto. They are working to increase their membership, currently a small group meeting on a Wednesday and Thursday. They are looking to become dementia friendly. The Shed will be a core part of turning CNE into the White Lion Community Centre.

The issue of making things to sell was discussed, however the constitution states that they can't sell items but people can make donations.

The Issue of bicycle maintenance was discussed and other possibilities, however, work undertaken is dependent upon the members' skills

## **29. Shropshire Council Update – Car Parking Strategy**

### **A COPY OF THE PRESENTATION IS ATTACHED FOR INFORMATION.**

The aim of the Car Parking Strategy is to standardise car-parking arrangements and to do away with the disparity across the county. Equipment is old and out of date and does not reflect the consumer's usage or patterns of payment. Shropshire Council needs to invest in the fabric of the car parks. The strategy aims to clarify the situation and for ease of understanding introduce a linear pricing structure. It is anticipated that if Shropshire Council gets the linear pricing structure correct then it will alleviate congestion and improve air quality as we limit the car-parking cruising that currently happens as people look for spaces or move cars due to short-stay car parks. The aim is to give greater customer choice and to encourage "dwell times" as customers will only pay for what they use.

Residents are encouraged to respond to the consultation which is available on the Shropshire Council website and remains "live" until 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

The issue of introducing parking charges between 6-8pm was discussed and the possible impact to the night-time economy.

The Issue of the need for additional enforcement officers was discussed and that low compliance would result in greater enforcement and generated income would fund additional staff.

The issue of prejudicing low-income working people was discussed and the need to keep shopping car-parks available to shoppers.

The issue of private free car parks being negatively impacted by the introduction of these measures was discussed.

Cllr Mullock encouraged people to fill in the consultation and reminded attendees that the consultation closes 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Cllr Biggins sought clarity on the introduction of on-street car-parking charges. Shropshire Council is not proposing to introduce any additional on-street car parking charges anywhere in the county.

## **30. Question Time**

The issue of statistical prediction of the impact of a population increase in Shropshire was discussed. Assurances were given that Shropshire council continually reviews demand and provision of services and infrastructure.

The issue of the new highways contract was discussed and the current state of local roads. Residents were encouraged to contact Cllr Mullock via email so that she can refer matters to the portfolio holder.

The issue of penalty charges on utility companies who do not complete works per licences was discussed and assurances were given that all revenue raised was reinvested into road maintenance.

The issue of Community Infrastructure Levy payments was discussed and clarity was sought as to the definition of "local area".

### **32. Next Meeting**

The 2017/2018 round of Whitchurch & Surrounding Areas Local Joint Committee meetings are:

28<sup>th</sup> February 2017 in Whitchurch Civic Centre

All meetings start at 7pm and doors will be open from 6.30pm.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 20:50

Signature (Chair) ..... Date: .....