



Committee and Date
StrettonDale Local Joint
Committee

23 January 2014

7.00pm
Silvester Horne Institute

Item

5

Public

STRETTONDALE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2014 AT THE SILVESTER HORNE INSTITUTE, CHURCH STRETTON 7.00 PM – 9.15 PM

Responsible Officer Lisa Bedford

e-mail: lisa.bedford@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01584 838241

Committee Members Present:

Shropshire Council

Tim Barker (Chair), Burnell Electoral Division

Lee Chapman, Church Stretton and Craven Arms Electoral Division

Town/Parish Councils

Paul Harris, Leebotwood and Longnor Parish Council

Lynne Grey, Eaton-Under-Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council

Colin Stevenson, Rushbury Parish Council

Steve Pennington, Cardington Parish Council

Dom Wilson, Church Stretton Town Council

Co-opted members

Nicola McPherson, Strettondale Area Partnership

Richard Hubbard, StrettonDale Area Partnership

Also present: -

Lisa Bedford, Community Action Officer Shropshire Council

Chris Taylor, Connecting Shropshire, Shropshire Council

PC Damon Preston, West Mercia Police

PCSO David Baron, West Mercia Police

PCSO Lisa Thomas, West Mercia Police

Barry Sheldon, Deputy Crime Commissioner

There were approximately 15 members of the public present at the meeting.

ACTION

1. Apologies for absence and substitutions

Apologies were received from.

Cecilia Motley, Corvedale Electoral Division (Shropshire Council)
David Evans, Craven Arms and Church Stretton Electoral Division
(Shropshire Council), Mel McFarland, (Rushbury Parish Council),
Colin Stephenson substituting, Hilary Claytonsmith (Church Stretton
Town Council), Dom Wilson substituting

2. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None declared

3. Notes of the Meeting held on 7 November 2013

AGREED:

That the notes of the meeting held on 7 November 2013 be approved
and signed as a correct record.

TB/LB

4. Public Questions and Suggestions for Agenda Items for Future Meetings

A question was raised as to whether Streetscene representatives
from Shropshire Council could attend a future meeting to talk about
their wider work.

LJC – the chairman confirmed that there is no budget to give out in
grants next financial year, although the meetings would still continue
in the next financial year.

5. Community Safety Update

PC Preston gave an overview of the crime figures for the previous
quarter. In summary there were 180 incidents, 21 recorded crimes,
and 13 incidents of antisocial behaviour.

PC Preston introduced two new PCSO's based at Church Stretton
now, Dave Baron and Lisa Thomas who cover the Craven Arms and
Church Stretton areas. There is also a new Special Sargent.

Excellent work and initiative was shown by PCSO Barron and PCSO
Thomas in relation to tracking down stolen plant in the region of
£20,000 in November.

Future priorities include; reducing crime, continuing speed campaign

in the Strettons and Hope Bowdler and Longville, more contact with the local schools, arrange more personal and home safety events and working with neighbourhood watch.

6. Crime Commissioner for West Mercia

Barry Sheldon, Deputy Crime Commissioner for West Mercia attended the meeting to give an overview of his work and to answer questions from members of the public.

Mr Sheldon explained that Mr Longmore was in good spirits following his recent operation and would return home to convalesce in the coming days.

An overview was given regarding the financial situation and the savings that had to be made. This has included the strategic alliance with Warwickshire which enabled savings through economies of scale and closure of stations. Their pledge is to maintain the frontline staff until May 2016. The impact on staff has been minimal with only 51 redundancies.

They are looking to recruit more specials that live in and want to stay in the local area. PCSO's have also been given more powers and are now able to work until midnight.

Tetrapads (robust mobile devices like ipads) are now being rolled out so paperwork can be done remotely rather than having to come back to the station.

Response patrol has been from Leominster since October and patrol teams are to cover the same area for at least 6 months and there hasn't been a significant change in response times since the new arrangements.

Further budget savings were needed; a additional £22 million is needed by 2018/19. There had been underspend in the previous two years and there is money in reserves which would be used to contribute towards the savings. Also there would be an 'invest to save' programme.

Questions from members of the public:

- Issue around speeding in All Stretton
- Speeding motorbikes in on the A49
- Investment in intelligence
- Issue of farmers not utilising the laybys

7. Connecting Shropshire Broadband update

An overview was given on the status of the Connecting Shropshire broadband programme by Chris Taylor from Shropshire Council (see attached presentation)

A team of skilled officers has now been recruited to help deliver the programme and the first areas for upgrade were announced in October as Minsterley, Montford Bridge and Ford.

The Shropshire programme area covers 72,000 properties with the county. In early February the areas to be enabled throughout the rest of the year will be announced.

The aim of the programme is:

- Enable 100% of premises in the intervention area to have access to a basic level of broadband (defined as 2mbps or above) by the end of spring 2016 as part of the programme.
- Provide as much superfast broadband (defined as 24mbps or above) delivered via fibre in Shropshire for the money available by the end of Spring 2016.

An updated map and further programme information is available on the website www.connectingshropshire.co.uk

Chris Taylor offered to attend any Parish Council meetings over the coming months as relevant.

8. Shropshire Council Budget

The chairman explained that the proposed budget was now out for consultation and could be viewed at:

<http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/council-budgets-and-spending/budget-proposals-201415-to-201617/>

£80 million needs to be saved over the coming 3 years, £40 million in year 1 and £20 million in each of the remaining two years.

Capital funding was being used for 'invest to save' initiatives.

Work at a high level was being undertaken with partners agencies to see if more partnership working could take place to minimise costs.

Questions / issues were raised regarding the following:

- Support for VCS to enable investment and resilience?
- Reduction of the transport budgets and implications for rural area?
- Should the mantra of 'quicker, cheaper, better, together' be changed to reflect a change in how services are to be delivered?

9. Updates and Issues from the Parishes

Parish Council representatives updated the meeting on issues and events within their parish areas. There was concern expressed by a

number of parishes regarding planning and the SAMDev processes.

It was explained that a session for local parish/town councils in the StrettonDale area was taking place at the end of January around planning and the 5 year land supply and there were sessions around CIL in March.

10. Flood Forum

A hand out was circulated to all present regarding recent works and support available from the council.

All were asked to forward any local concerns to their Shropshire Councillor or Community Action Officer.

11. Future meeting arrangements

The next meeting would take place on 22rd May, venue to be confirmed

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed..... Chairman

Date: 2014