

SOUTH JOINT COMMITTEE

19 June 2008

*Held at Ettington Community Centre
Meeting commenced: 6.00 pm Meeting ended: 8.05 pm*

Present: Councillor R Hyde (Chairman) Councillors Rev N Beamer, M Beckett, S Beese, M Brain, R Cheney, R Cockings, J Dill-Russell, J Fradgley, A Gardner, S Gray, T Honychurch, P Moorse, M Perry, K Rolfe, C Saint, V Seaman, I Seccombe and P Seccombe.

Apologies: Councillors M Brain, G Roache, J Taylor and R White

1. Appointment of Chair

Two nominations were received for the appointment of Chair of the Committee and, following a show of hands, it was

RESOLVED:

That Councillor R Hyde be appointed Chair of the Committee for the Council Year 2008/09.

Councillor Hyde thereupon took the Chair.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chair

Two nominations were received for the appointment of Vice-Chair of the Committee and, following a show of hands, it was

RESOLVED:

That Councillor P Seccombe be appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee for the Council Year 2008/09.

3. Disclosure of Interests

Councillor Gray disclosed a Personal Interest in Minute 10 as a Trustee of Aunt Phoebee Recreation Ground, Long Compton

Councillor Saint disclosed a Personal Interest in Grant Application 782 as he was a Board Member on Young Enterprise South Warwickshire

Councillor Cheney disclosed a Personal Interest in Grant Application 824 as member of Brailes Parish Council

Councillor Beamer disclosed a Personal Interest in Grant Application 832, Friends of Holy Trinity Church

Councillor Hyde disclosed a Prejudicial Interest in Grant Application 838, as a member of Stratford Sports Club

4. Terms of Reference and Standing Orders

The joint report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development, Warwickshire County Council and the Monitoring Officer and Solicitor to the Council, Stratford on Avon District Council was considered.

RESOLVED:

That the Standing Orders be received and noted.

5. Name of the Joint Committee

RESOLVED:

That the name of the Committee be South Joint Committee.

6. Public Question Time

No public questions had been submitted.

At the invitation of the Chair, those members of the public present in respect of their revenue or capital grant applications were invited to address the Committee. In accordance with Minute 8 below, the Committee and public were informed of the current status of the grants scheme and were advised that unless the application was considered to be time critical then the preferred option would be for the Committee to defer the applications to their next meeting (24 July 2008).

Accordingly, the following addressed the Committee on their grant application and were asked to indicate if their application was time critical:

Dick Shacklock - Long Compton 1st Response
John Ingle and Richard Thompson - Pillerton Priors Village Hall
Jenny Barrie - Friends of the Music of Holy Trinity Church
Trevor Crisp - Young Enterprise South Warwickshire
Maggie Pettifer - Barton on the Heath
David Mutton - The Shakespeare Hospice
Richard Maksymowicz - Stratford on Avon Gliding Club
David Passingham - Stretton on Fosse Parish Council
Deborah Androli - The Bridge Preschool
Tim Raistrick - Stratford on Avon Music Festival
Brad Lawes - Tysoe Parish Plan
Joe Harvey - Stratford Sports Club
Chris Righton - Brailes Village Hall Management Committee
David Squires - Townsend Hall Management Committee

7. State of the District

Mr Nash gave a short presentation to the Committee on the profile of the South area as demonstrated by a limited range of ward level statistics derived from a variety of sources. Comparisons to other wards within the district and the wider area were also given. The Committee was informed that the presentation provided a taster of some more detailed work in progress by the Warwickshire Observatory. It was envisaged that full profiles of the six community areas of the District would be available by the September cycle of meetings. These profiles would provide an important evidence-based analysis of the two

community areas which were covered by this Committee and would help to identify issues needing to be addressed as a high priority in order to improve quality of life within the area.

The Committee made no specific observations on the State of the District report but raised the following comments on the presentation;

- The report required 'dovetailing' together with information held by the County Council;
- It could be enhanced by the inclusion of previous data in order to see if there were any emerging trends;
- There is interest in seeing statistics relating to migrant communities; and,
- On the issue of economic wellbeing, the Committee will wish to consider how the two Councils were working together to encourage development.

RESOLVED:

That the 'State of the District' report be noted and that the comments raised by the South Joint Committee, as outlined in the preamble, be taken on board in the preparation of the area profiles.

8. Funding Criteria

Consideration was given to a report outlining the proposals that the grants awarded at local level by the two Council's be combined into a single grants scheme and awarded through the Joint Committees.

The Committee agreed with the suggestion that a working group be set up in order to progress the scheme and it was agreed that the Chair, Vice Chair together with a Liberal Democrat representative (to be advised) be appointed to represent this Committee.

In addition, Members were asked to forward any comments on the grants criteria to Martin Gibbons Area Manager (WCC) or Robert Walsh Head of Community Services (SDC) by 27 June 2008.

RESOLVED:

That the Chair, Vice Chair and a Member from the Liberal Democrat group represent the Joint Committee on a working party to progress the arrangements for a combined grants scheme.

9. Grants Funding

Councillor Gray now disclosed

- 1) a Prejudicial Interest in Grant Application 782 as he was Chair of Governors at Shipston Primary School, who may benefit from the scheme.
- 2) a Personal Interest in Grant Application 850 as a member of Stour Power.

The Committee was informed that in line with Minute 8 above, the grants scheme would shortly become a combined single scheme and Members were informed that some of the applications could be deferred to the July 2008 meeting, when they would be assessed under the new joint criteria. Officers had assessed which applications were considered to be time critical and therefore would need to be considered at this meeting and the Chairman had asked those Members of the Public who had addressed the Committee on grant applications whether they were in agreement with their own applications being deferred or whether they considered that it was necessary that they be considered at this meeting. (The Committee was informed other representatives of grant applications had been contacted prior to the meeting in order to assess whether their application was time critical).

Revenue Grants

The Committee considered applications for revenue grants in the light of

- the District and County Councils agreed Scheme,
- the priorities established by the District Council's Corporate Aims, and
- available budgets.

The Committee had been addressed by:

David Passingham from Stretton on Fosse Parish Council – Application 839

Dick Shacklock from Long Compton First Response – Application 829

The options available to the Committee with regard to the application included offering a grant of the amount requested, offering a different amount or refusing the application.

The offer of grant authorised, together with reason for the decision, is set out below.

<p>Applicant: Project:</p> <p>Total Cost: Grant Requested: Grant Approved:</p> <p>Reason For decision:</p>	<p>Summer Activity Voucher Scheme Annual free activity vouchers to young people whose families are in receipt of means-tested benefits.</p> <p>£20,000</p> <p>£1,500</p> <p>£1,500</p> <p>The scheme supports objectives in the District Council's Grants scheme, the District Council's Corporate Aims and for the criteria for a County Council grant.</p>
<p>Applicant: Project:</p> <p>Total Cost: Grant Requested: Grant Approved:</p>	<p>Long Compton First Response Purchase of essential equipment to provide urgent medical assistance to victims of strokes, heart attacks and similar medical emergencies.</p> <p>£2,600</p> <p>£1,275</p> <p>Deferred</p>

Reason For decision:	The grant request exceeded the recommended amount of 30-35% of project costs. The application was deferred until the next round of funding when new criteria will be in place.
Applicant: Project: Total Cost: Grant Requested: Grant Approved: Reason For decision:	Stretton on Fosse Parish Council Creation and maintenance of a wildflower meadow and interpretation signage. £982 £982 £982 The scheme supports objectives in the District Council's Grants scheme and the District Council's Corporate Aims. No comments provided from County Council. The committee voted to award 100% of the total project costs due the differences in scoring and allocation between the District and County schemes and the potential for changes under the grants scheme review. The project costs had not taken into account the value of the voluntary labour involved. The emerging LAA has identified the need to enhance biodiversity as an important local improvement target.
Applicant: Project: Total Cost: Grant Requested: Grant Approved: Reason for decision:	ILEAP Comprehensive programme of leisure activities for disabled and non-disabled people during the Summer Holidays. £23,151 £900 £900 The scheme supports objectives in the District Council's Grants scheme, the District Council's Corporate Aims and for the criteria for a County Council grant. The Committee considered that if funding was not matched by the remaining joint committees, the application be reconsidered by this Committee.

Capital Grants

The Committee considered applications for capital grants in the light of the District and County Councils agreed Schemes, the priorities established by the District Council's Corporate Aims, and available budgets.

The options available to the Committee with regard to the applications included offering a grant of the amount requested, offering a different amount or refusing the application.

The Committee had been addressed by

Councillor Rolfe on behalf of The Bridge Preschool – Application 812

David Squires from Townsend Hall Management Committee – Application 850

The offers of grant authorised, together with reason for the decisions, is set out below.

Applicant: Project: Total Cost: Grant Requested: Grant Approved: Reason for decision:	The Bridge Pre-School Replace double glazed windows £5,711 £1,427 £1,427 The scheme supports objectives in the District Council's Grants scheme and the District Council's Corporate Aims. No comments provided from County Council.
Applicant: Project: Total Cost: Grant Requested: Grant Approved: Reason for decision:	Townsend Hall Management Committee Improvements to the kitchen area £20,000 £5,000 £5,000 The scheme supports objectives in the District Council's Grants scheme and the District Council's Corporate Aims. No comments provided from County Council.

10. Dog Control Order

Consideration was given to a proposal to introduce a Dog Control Order under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 to replace the existing powers and to provide improved powers for enforcement against dog fouling across the whole of the Stratford District.

RESOLVED:

That the adoption of a Dog Control Order for the Stratford District be approved by the South Joint Committee.

11. Dates, starting time and venue for future meetings

RESOLVED:

That meetings of the Committee scheduled to be held during 2008/09 commence at 6.00pm, at venues around the district on the following dates:

24 July 2008
25 September 2008
18 December 2008
19 March 2009

12. Provisional Future Agenda Items

The Committee requested that the following items be considered at future meetings of the Committee:

- World Class Stratford, most urgently the transport issues being addressed by the Transport Reference Group;
- The local Eco-Town proposal;
- Progress report One-Stop Shops; and
- Parish Plan implementation

13. Urgent Business - Better Healthcare Programme

A written request had been received from the executive director for the 'Better Healthcare Programme for Banbury and surrounding areas' seeking a nomination to a proposed community partnership forum that would consider healthcare issues for that area.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Roache be appointed as representative to the Community Partnership Forum.

CHAIRMAN

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