

SOUTH JOINT COMMITTEE

18 December 2008

*Held at Council Chamber, Elizabeth House, Stratford-upon-Avon
Meeting commenced: 6.00 pm Meeting ended: 7.55 pm*

Present: County Councillor R Hyde Rev N Beamer, M Beckett, R Cheney,
R Cockings, J Dill-Russell, J Fradgley, A Gardner, S Gray, P Moorse,
G Roache, C Saint, I Seccombe and P Seccombe

Apologies: Councillor S Beese, M Brain, T Honychurch, M Perry, K Rolfe, V Seaman,
J Taylor and R White

43. Disclosure of Interests

Councillor Beckett disclosed a Personal Interest in Minute 47 as a Board member of the Stratford town management partnership.

Councillor Cheney disclosed Personal Interests in Minute 48 as a member of Vision for Stour, and in item 49 as a landowner on the edge of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and as a member of Brailes Parish Council which is in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Councillor Gray disclosed Personal Interests in Minute 48 as a member of Vision for Stour and in item 49 as the District Council's representative on Cotswold Conservation Board.

Councillor Saint disclosed Personal Interests in Minute 48 as the Chairman of the Vision for Stour and in item 49 as a member of the Cotswold Conservation Board.

Councillor I Seccombe disclosed a Personal Interest relating to Minute 49 as a member of BARD.

Councillor P Seccombe disclosed a Personal Interest in Minute 48 as a member of Vision for Stour.

44. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2008 were confirmed and signed.

45. Public Question Time (30 Minutes)

At the invitation of the Chairman, the following members of the public addressed the Committee:

- Kate Barnett in respect of Shotton Girls Grammar School;
- Mr Jim McLeman in respect of the Racecourse Brook flooding;
- Robert Gullen in respect of a cycling issue; and,
- Richard Adams in regards to a grant application from the Shipston Royal British Legion.

In light of the information presented to the Committee, it was

AGREED:

That more detailed information would be presented to the March meeting regarding:

- the corporate funding opportunities for Stratford Grammar School for Girls;
- the Racecourse Brook flooding issues and potential solutions; and,
- an update on the developments of the cycling proposals.

46. Speed Limit Review

Under the provisions of Minute 34 of the last meeting, the Committee had supported proposals for speed limit reviews where objections to the proposal had been received.

However, for technical reasons, the Committee was also required to confirm by resolution that it approved the implementation of all the proposals for changes to speed limits arising from the speed limit review for the area, including those proposals that had not generated any objections.

To assist the Committee, a list of all proposals for the Stratford-on-Avon district was circulated with the Agenda for the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That approval be given to implement all speed limit changes arising from the speed limit review for the South Joint Committee's area, including those proposals that had not generated any objections.

47. Community Grants

Rebecca Goodman (Community Grants Officer) attended the meeting for this item and answered members questions raised on the report.

Consideration was given to the recommendations from the South Funding Sub-Group for the award of Community Grants under the new Joint Community Grants Scheme.

As recorded in minute 45 (public question time), Richard Adams had addressed the Committee in support of the application from Shipston Royal British Legion for grant aid towards the publication of a book detailing the background and lives of all men detailed on the Shipston War Memorial.

The Committee then considered the Funding Sub-Group's recommendations and

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a grant of £5,310 be awarded to the Council for Voluntary Services to provide a web based Sports and Recreation information service for Stratford District;
- (2) That a grant of £15,000 be awarded to Grace's Playground to improve play facilities at the village playground in Ilmington;

- (3) That a grant of £10,000 be awarded to Shipston Scout Hut for the replacement of the existing Scout Hut with a new log style cabin;
- (4) That a grant of £3,134 be awarded to Stratford Community Radio to equip and run an internet based community radio station;
- (5) That a grant of £1,228 be awarded to Stratford-upon-Avon Trampoline Club to provide new equipment;
- (6) That a grant of £2,400 be awarded to Lifespace to enable the delivery of several workshops and programmes for the benefit of teenagers and parents within the Stratford area;
- (7) That a grant of £10,000 be awarded to Stourton & Cherington Playing Fields Association to replace all equipment in the village playing fields;
- (8) That the Committee did not agree to the recommendation from the Sub-Group and considered that a grant of £6,920 should be awarded to Tredington Parish Council to improve access to the village hall by resurfacing the car park;
- (9) That no grant be awarded to Mezzo Mums for the reasons given by the Sub-Group;
- (10) That the Committee did not agree to the recommendation from the Sub-Group and considered that a grant of £1,398 should be awarded to Shipston Royal British Legion for the publication of a book detailing the background and lives of all men detailed on the Shipston War Memorial;
- (11) That no grant be awarded to the Newbold Sea Scouts for the reasons given by the Sub-Group;
- (12) That no grant be awarded to the St John's Ambulance, Shipston Branch for the reasons given by the Sub-Group; and,
- (13) That the grants awarded to the following under officers' delegated authority be noted:
 - a. Stratford Town Management Partnership;
 - b. Oxhill Village Hall; and
 - c. Epilepsy Action (Stratford Branch).

48. Vision for Stour Project funding

Rebecca Goodman (Community Grants Officer) attended the meeting for this item and answered members questions raised on the report.

Consideration was given to an update on progress made on the four Vision for Stour projects provided with financial support by the Committee under Minute 23 of its meeting held on 24 July 2008. Three new applications for the balance of the funding available in 2008/09 had been submitted.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the progress reports be received; and,
- (2) That the following new awards of grant be made:

• Dig for Stour	£4,800
• Riverside Amenity Area	£1,900
• Hub@Shipston	£2,200

49. Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan

David Jones (Stratford on Avon District Council Planner) gave a presentation on the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan and answered members questions raised on the report.

Consideration was given to a paper outlining the Cotswold AONB Management Plan 2008-13.

Having regard to the above, it was

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the implementation of the Cotswolds AONB Management Plan 2008-13 be supported by Stratford District Council; and,
That the content of the AONB Management Plan 2008-13 as supplementary guidance in accordance with paragraph 6.3 of PPS12 be endorsed by Stratford District Council.

50. Disabled Access over Lucy's Mill Footbridge

Lisa Arben (Senior Solicitor Warwickshire County Council) attended the meeting for this item and answered Members questions raised on the report.

Consideration was given to a paper outlining the considerations for reasonable adjustments to enable disabled access over Lucy's Mill footbridge, Stratford-upon-Avon.

Having regard to the above, it was

RESOLVED:

That the findings of the report be noted.

51. Procedure for adoption of Parish Plans

Martin Gibbins (Warwickshire County Council Area Manager – Stratford) attended the meeting for this item and answered members questions raised on the report.

Consideration was given to the following amended process for the Committee to adopt a Parish Plan on behalf of both the County and District Councils:

To adopt, in the following circumstances, Parish Plans and Village Design Statements which, in the opinion of the Chief Executives of Stratford-on-

Avon District Council and Warwickshire County Council do not conflict with District Council or County Council policy;

a) as a local information source; and

b) as a material consideration in dealing with planning applications in accordance with provisions in the District Local Plan

RESOLVED:

That the amended process, as outlined in the preamble to this Minute, be adopted.

52. Report from Community Forums

On the presentation of the reports from the meetings of the Stratford-upon-Avon Community Forum held at the Ken Kennet Centre on 3 December 2008 and the Stour Community Forum held at the Preston on Stour Village Hall on 2 December 2008, it was noted that there had been no items referred to the Committee for attention/discussion.

53. Library Service

Ayub Khan (Head of Libraries – Strategy) attended the meeting for this item and answered Members questions raised on the report.

Consideration was given to a paper outlining the key principles underpinning the transformation of Library Services to Warwickshire residents upon which the County Council's Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee had requested the Joint Committee's views.

The framework had evolved due to:

- a) a decrease in footfall in libraries and an increase in internet usage;
- b) the Government's ten-year vision for public libraries looks to the development of areas such as adult learning, family learning and using services in a more diverse way to meet the needs of communities;
- c) the financial challenge of balancing bottom line budgets and to ensure that social care services were maintained and risks kept to a minimum, with the result that the library service would need to be developed into a modern, cost effective service; and
- d) the Library Service was currently halfway through a restructure in response to the need for change.

During the ensuing discussions, it was requested by Members that the Committee be consulted at a later date after consolidation of all the consultation had occurred. Members were particularly concerned that there should be no diminishment of library services within the District.

Having regard to the above, it was