

Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee Meeting held 14th June 2021

Attendance

Fourteen members attended the meeting representing:

Albrighton Parish Council Alveley and Romsley Parish Council Barrow Parish Council Bridgnorth Town Council Chelmarsh Parish Council Highley Parish Council	Much Wenlock Town Council Neen Savage Parish Council Ryton and Grindle Parish Council Shifnal Town Council Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council Tong Parish Council
Dianne Dorrell , SALC Ray Wickson, SALC Gillian Bailey, Secretary	

ALC Appointments	Representatives to Executive Committee	
CLlr David Beechey, Chair CLlr Rosemary Abbiss, Vice Chair Gillian Bailey, Secretary	CLlr Rosemary Abbiss CLlr David Beechey	Reserves CLlr Trevor Tarran CLlr Jonathan Hartwell-Beavis

Presentations

1. Steve Brown, Shropshire Council Highways

Local Transport Plan 4 <https://shropshire.gov.uk/roads-and-highways/local-transport-plan-ltp4/>

Shropshire council are currently holding a series for theme based workshops go to <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/2/?ogbl#inbox/FMfcgzGkXmXsbBZDcCnDILNtRXrkCDWMee> for details and how to book.

There will be a full public consultation in the late autumn and further consultation until January 2022.

The plan will sit alongside other key policy documents such as the Local Plan and the Economic Strategy. It will seek to take account of some of the new challenges, such as changes in work patterns and increases in delivery vehicles as well as local cycling and walking routes and developing sustainable methods of travel to support the climate change strategy.

Other projects include:

- **Transport for recovery:** Three key 'levelling up' projects:
 1. Craven Arms – A49
 2. Oswestry – opening up the Town Centre
 3. Shrewsbury Big Town Plan
- Bid to central government for **Welcome back** fund for Shropshire High Streets.
- Connectivity review with Wales
- Significant projects
 - Mile End, Oswestry
 - Shifnal Town Centre
 - North West relief road
 - Public realm work in Bridgnorth

- **Bus Back Better** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bus-back-better> looking at public transport options.

The Council will be working with key stakeholders and neighbouring authorities to understand their views whilst balancing the needs of economic development, housing growth and changing demographics and sustainability.

In response to questions Steve Brown confirmed:

- that the local transport plan will include strategies for working towards Shropshire Council's 2030 zero net carbon goal.
- There will be further opportunities during the consultation process for Local Councils to be involved.

Responses to other questions.

Potholes: Companies which fail to correctly reinstate roads after works (gas, water, telecoms) are held to account and can face significant financial penalties.

Responsibility for A roads: Steve Brown agreed to send a list of which roads are Highways England / Shropshire Council

Litter Collection

Steve confirmed that Shropshire Council will support community litter picking supplying equipment and arranging collection of full bags.

There is a programme of inspection and litter clearing from A roads – reports should be made via the website <https://shropshire.gov.uk/street-care-and-cleaning/environmental-maintenance/littering-including-overflowing-public-bins/> unless there is an emergency issue – e.g: drug paraphernalia.

2. Sam Kirby-Brown – Shropshire Council's response to Climate Change

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/climate-change-and-sustainability/>

The website page details the work Shropshire Council is doing to combat climate change across Shropshire Council. Tools have been developed to help communities including a resource pack,

Details of guidance and suggestions for Councils can be found here.

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/climate-change>

3. Queens Green Canopy – Allan Wilson <https://queensgreencanopy.org/>

A tree planting project to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Town and Parish Councils are being asked to engage with their communities to celebrate by planting a tree(s). Trees would need to be planted October – March 2021 to be recorded as part of the project in June 2022.

Trees are available free of charge.

4. SALC Update

Dianne Dorrell and Cllr Wickson gave members an overview of the work of SALC.

5. Parish Council Issues

Speeding issues in Chelmarsh. SALC to assist with engaging highways with speed calming measures.

6. Items for Future Meetings

Update on Governance review.



SERVING LOCAL COUNCILS IN SHROPSHIRE AND TELFORD & WREKIN
Affiliated to the National Association of Local Councils

BRIDGNORTH AND SHIFNAL AREA COMMITTEE

CONSTITUTION

Throughout this document, any reference to Local Councils includes Parish and Town Councils.

Meetings

1. The Area Committee shall hold not less than four meetings per year. Venues shall be decided by the Secretary and meetings may take place across the Borough/Area.
2. Additional meetings can be arranged as required. These may be in the form of a seminar on a particular topic.

Administration

3. The Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee may arrange its own business and procedure including its financial arrangements and may appoint such Officers as it may deem necessary. Such Officers shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the Committee.
4. Any Annual Subscription fee will be agreed at the AGM.
5. Two Councillors will be elected (with two named substitutes) to the SALC Executive Committee at the AGM and will be entitled to vote at Executive meetings. Such members are expected to report to the Executive Committee on matters considered by the Area Committee and should be prepared to take an active part in the Executive and report back on Executive Committee business to members of the Area Committee.
6. .
7. The Secretary of the Area Committee shall submit a written report of its activities to the Executive Committee (this may be in the form of the Minutes of meetings) in sufficient time to be made available at all Executive meetings.
8. Annual Accounts shall be submitted to the AGM of the Area Committee and will be subject to independent inspection.
9. When a Local Council has an issue of concern affecting its parish as a whole, then the Council may forward its collective view to the Area Committee via its representative for discussion at the next meeting.

Membership

10. The Area Committee is part of the Shropshire Association of Local Councils and serves all Local Councils which are Members of SALC within its area.
11. Each member Council may elect two representatives, both representatives can vote on behalf of their council.
12. A Council may elect the Clerk and up to two Councillors as representatives. The clerk may not vote except where they are acting as a duly empowered substitute (see 14).
13. Any clerk or councillor may attend the Area Committee meeting, only duly elected representatives may vote on behalf of their Council.
14. When the elected representative from each Local Council is unable to attend an Area Committee meeting, a substitute may attend but may not vote unless their vote has been empowered by their Council.

15. The County Secretary to SALC shall be invited to all meetings and shall be forwarded copies of minutes of all meetings held by the Area Committee.

Aims and Objectives

- To encourage local councils to work in partnership with each other and with principal partners.
- To provide a forum in which local councils' are able to offer guidance and support for each other on the complex issues affecting local councils.
- To provide the opportunity for exchanging information and views; and to share good practice and experiences between councils.
- To facilitate training and development.
- To provide a channel of communication between local councils, SALC, principle authorities and other groups.
- To formulate recommendations and motions to SALC's Executive, to SALC's AGM and to NALC's Policy Committee via SALC Executive.
- To take on a Scrutiny role on local services and highlight any issues with the appropriate agency and/or with SALC.
- To consider and offer a combined response to matters affecting a specific area.
- To represent their area as a consultative forum with SALC and other agencies.
- To formulate joint policies and explore area partnerships.
- To receive information and briefings on topics of local concern.
- To appoint representatives from the Area Committee to the SALC Executive and outside organisations.
- To set own agenda and work autonomously.

Benefits of membership to SALC and Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee:

- SALC can help a local council to resolve the majority of issues, problems or tasks with which it is faced. However, occasionally when SALC is unable to help find a solution it will put you in touch with one of its network of expert contacts who can advise you further
- At a national level, it is the view that no local council can operate effectively without membership to its county association. From the Association's perspective, it can be a stronger lobbying body at principal council level if it has high membership of county local councils.
- With pressures for development at an unprecedented level both nationally, and in Shropshire, it is hard for councils to provide a full service to its electorate if the Council stands alone without the support of SALC's professional expertise available through its membership.
- SALC facilitates training for clerks and councillors at venues throughout Shropshire.
- SALC can assist clerks whose council wishes to pursue a Local Council Award.
- SALC offers advice and information relating to the CiLCA qualification, the recognised qualification that Clerks need before their council can achieve a Local Council Award unless the Clerk is a holder of the Local Policy Certificate, Diploma or Degree.
- There are many benefits to be gained from being members of SALC and working together with its Area Committees adds value.
- More details about the work of SALC and Area Committees can be found at <https://www.alcshropshire.co.uk/>

Reviewed 14th June 2021