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Montgomeryshire

Meeting Venue:
**Council Chamber - Neuadd Maldwyn,
Welshpool, Powys**

Meeting Date:
Wednesday, 8 March 2017

Meeting Time:
10.00 am



County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5LG

For further information please contact
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Issue Date:
28th February 2017

AGENDA

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| 1. | APOLOGIES | MS12-2017 |
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To receive apologies for absence.

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| 2. | MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING | MS13-2017 |
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To receive the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 18th January 2017.
(Pages 5 - 12)

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| 3. | CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS | MS14-2017 |
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To receive announcements from the Chairman.

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| 4. | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST | MS15-2017 |
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To receive declarations of interest in relation to matters to be discussed on the agenda.

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| 5. | POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (DYFED- POWYS POLICE FORCE AREA) - 10.15 - 10.45 | MS16-2017 |
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To receive an update from Dafydd Llewelyn, Police and Crime Commissioner and to discuss policing matters.

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| 6. | COMMUNITY POLICING (10.45 - 11.15) | MS17-2017 |
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To discuss local policing matters - Suzanne Lloyd - Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant.

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| 7. | REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS (11.15 - 12.15) | MS18-2017 |
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To receive reports from, and to put questions to, Cabinet Portfolio Holders:

- a. Councillor Wynne Jones – Deputy Leader/Cabinet Portfolio Holder: Finance, Legal and Communications
- b. Councillor John Powell – Cabinet Portfolio Holder – Environment, Sustainability and Human Resources

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| 8. | REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO MEMBERS SERVING ON OUTSIDE BODIES | MS19-2017 |
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To receive reports from, and put questions to, members serving on outside bodies:

- a. Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth Rail Liaison Committee – Councillor Mike Williams
(Pages 13 - 32)

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| 9. | ROAD SAFETY AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEMES | MS20-2017 |
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To consider Road Safety and Traffic Management Schemes:

- a. Leighton Arches 40 mph buffer zone - B4381 Welshpool (Pages 33 - 36)

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| 10. | CORRESPONDENCE | MS21-2017 |
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To receive items of correspondence.

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| 11. | DATE OF NEXT MEETING | MS22-2017 |
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To note the date of the next meeting – 5th July 2017.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MONTGOMERYSHIRE HELD AT COUNCIL
CHAMBER - NEUADD MALDWYN, WELSHPOOL, POWYS ON
WEDNESDAY, 18 JANUARY 2017**

PRESENT: County Councillor K M Roberts-Jones - (Chairman)

County Councillors MC Alexander, D Bailey, G J Bowker, G Breeze, R G Brown, D E Davies, A W Davies, L R E Davies, E R Davies, V E Evans, S M Hayes, D C Jones, E M Jones, D R Jones, J R Jones, W T Jones, F H Jump, P E Lewis, R H Mills, P C Pritchard, , W B Thomas, R G Thomas, G P Vaughan and J M Williams

In attendance:

Councillor Rosemarie Harris - Cabinet Portfolio Holder: Property, Housing, Catering and Cleaning, Armed Forces, Business and Customer Services and Standards/Monitoring Officer

Councillor Melanie Davies - Vice Chair – Powys teaching Health Board

Jeremy Patterson – Chief Executive, Neil Townsend - Office of National Statistics, Joy Garfitt - Assistant Director for Mental Health Services, Powys teaching Health Board, Councillor Mel Davies – Vice-Chair, Powys teaching Health Board, Chris Lloyd - Area Traffic Officer and Shane Thomas – Clerk.

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| 1. | APOLOGIES | MS1-2017 |
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Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors R.I. George, D.J. Mayor, G. Morgan, G.M. Jones and J.G. Shearer.

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| 2. | MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING | MS2-2017 |
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The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on Wednesday 9th November 2016 as a correct record. During discussion particular reference was made to the Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO) having recently decided to name a project Future Fit. Concerns had been expressed because of the potential for confusion given the name would be the same name given to the programme being run by the Shropshire and Telford NHS Trust to re-shape emergency care i.e. the Future Fit Programme. The Chair agreed to pursue the matter with the Chief Executive of PAVO with a view to changing the name of the PAVO project to something other than Future Fit.

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| 3. | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST | MS3-2017 |
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There were no declarations of interest made in relation to items on the agenda.

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| 4. | CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS | MS4-2017 |
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The Chairman reported on:

- a. **Councillor Frank Torrens (Deceased)** – members stood to remember ex-County Councillor Frank Torrens who had been a former shire Chairman
- b. **Welshpool Llanerchuddol (Bi-election)** - the Chairman welcomed Councillor Graham Breeze to his first shire meeting having recently been elected to represent Welshpool Llanerchuddol
- c. **Councillor Joy Shearer** – members joined the Chair in wishing Councillor Shearer the very best for a speedy recovery to good health
- d. **Christmas Carol Service** – the Chair thanked those who had attended her Christmas Carol Service held at Kerry Church. The High Sheriff had read at the ceremony

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| 5. | CENSUS TESTING (10.15 - 10.45) | MS5-2017 |
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Members welcomed Neil Townsend, Office of National Statistics to the meeting to provide an update in relation to census testing for 2017. During discussion and update particular reference was made to:

- a. **2011 Census** – the 2011 census had been very successful and local authorities had provided valuable support. There had been attempts to encourage use of technology i.e. digital returns. 16% of those who had completed 2011 census returns had done so on-line
- b. **2021 Census** – the government (Westminster and Wales) had approved the recommendation to have a Census, however, the enabling legislation won't be until 2018/19, the content needs to be agreed first
- c. **2017 Test** - there would be a period of preparatory work leading up to the 2021 census and an initial test with sample groups would be undertaken in 2017. There would be seven UK test areas of 100,000 residents from each. The sample group would be asked to take part in the test. Areas of Montgomeryshire had been identified for inclusion in the test. There would be a focus on digital returns allowing for paper opt outs. Tests would be Welsh language compliant. Those households which had been identified would be contacted from 20th March onwards. The census test date would be 9th April
- d. **Local Authorities** – local authorities in each test area would play an important part in supporting activities including helping advise town and community councils
- e. **On-line** – a member highlighted the particularly poor broadband/internet access available and how it would be difficult for residents to engage via. on-line test returns
- f. **2019** – there would be a 2021 census rehearsal in 2019

It was agreed that members should have access to the presentation. Members thanked Neil for his update and for agreeing to keeping them informed.

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| 6. | OLDER ADULT MENTAL HEALTH NHS SERVICES (10.45 - 11.15) | MS6-2017 |
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Members welcomed Joy Garfitt – Assistant Director for Mental Health Services, Powys teaching Health Board and Councillor Mel Davies – Vice-Chair, Powys teaching Health Board to the meeting. During discussion particular reference was made to:

- a. **Fan Gorau (Closure)** – the site is an 8 bed inpatient unit for older adults in Newtown and supports those with mental illness. Since 13th June 2016 the site had been closed for admissions. At the time of closure there were three inpatients and before it closed it would usually care for between 3-6 patients at a time. The site was closed due to staffing shortages which meant it could not operate safely (in particular the need for registered mental health nurses). There had been a range of options considered in order to maintain the facility prior to closure. Despite a recruitment campaign which included advertising vacant positions eleven times appointments had not been made
- b. **Dementia Home Treatment Team** - in the light of the above and the need to provide support a dementia home treatment team was established. The team provides intensive support to patients in their own homes or in the settings which they live in and operates between the hours of 7.30 a.m. and 8.30 p.m. seven days a week. The arrangement has proven very positive. Since operating the team had supported 53 patients which is more than would have been supported at the Fan Gorau site. Staff, patients and carers had all praised this way of operating
- c. **Fan Gorau (Re-opening)** – it is hoped that the site would re-open soon, however, it would depend on being able to recruit to positions. The DHTT model of care had been a success and could shape the future of dementia support
- d. **Hospital Admissions** – where hospital admission was needed it would always be the preference to admit within the Powys border which could, in some cases, mean admission to Ystradgynlais. The need to admit close to home would always be recognised and considered. Where admissions are distances away there would be support offered to families and close relatives i.e. contributions towards travel and overnight stay costs etc. At this point in time the Powys teaching Health Board would not use Betsy Cadwallader for admissions because of it being in special measures. The position would remain under review
- e. **Member Engagement/Input** – Powys teaching Health Board would welcome member input and engagement with regard to the siting and operation of its services. Attending today to update and discuss matters should re-assure members that their input is important
- f. **Specialist Positions** – it's accepted that there are difficulties on a national level in terms of recruiting to specialised nursing/caring positions i.e. mental health/dementia. It was noted that during the period 2009-15 mental health services had been accessed from Betsy Cadwallader Health Board
- g. **Welsh/English Care Contributions (Capped Charges)** – it is recognised that the difference of position with regard to the capping of financial care contributions is more visible at border areas. Care contributes in England are not capped whereas in Wales they are
- h. **Powys Mental Health Strategy** – it would be important for there to be clarity in terms of responsibilities in relation to agreed actions under the Mental Health Strategy and to keep track. It was confirmed that the Powys teaching Board through the Director of Nursing and the Assistant Director for Mental Health Services (Joy Garfitt) had responsibility for moving forward with actions. A stakeholder group would monitor delivery of the strategy and it was agreed that the membership of that group should be extended to include that of the Council's Mental Health Champion (Councillor Dawn Bailey). Links would be made and Joy would feedback to Dawn regarding arrangements

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| 7. | REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS (11.15 - 12 NOON) | MS7-2017 |
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Members welcomed the opportunity to receive reports from, and to put questions to, Cabinet Portfolio Holders. During discussion particular reference was made to:

a. Councillor Graham Brown, Deputy Leader/Cabinet Portfolio Holder: Children's Services/Commissioning and Procurement

- i. **Commercial Services** – the Commercial Services Team continues to support services in reviewing spends and delivering on the commissioning and procurement approach. In this regard the team has supported delivering on savings running into the millions
- ii. **Leisure and Recreation** – Cabinet had agreed to use additional funding provided by the Welsh Government to retain the Staylitttle Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Caereinion Leisure Centre and Knighton Leisure Centre for a further 12 mths so that further work could be undertaken to review the operation of each site. A member expressed concern with regard to the different approach in relation to Knighton i.e. it had been agreed that Knighton should be supported for the longer term whilst the funding for Caereinion and Staylitttle was different in Knighton because it had a pool. Options for Staylitttle include a commercial proposals and options for Caereinion include an asset transfer (both were being progressed)
- iii. **Children's Services** – Amanda Lewis had recently left the Authority, Amanda held the position of Strategic Director: People which included Director of Social Services. In the light of the position Carol Shillabeer, Director of the Health Board had assumed the role of Director of Social Services and Phil Hodgson had been appointed Head of Operations for Social Services. The arrangement was cost neutral. There had been recent changes with a view to strengthening arrangements for supporting children which included a move to locality based services (multi-agency teams). The position would be monitored and there are significant benefits to be achieved through working locally and across agencies (there are four locality teams operating in Powys). Accepting that there could be a draw on the budget at any time to meet areas of need the budget position looks likely to be positive and that the yearend spend will be within budget
- iv. **Fostering Services** – support for foster carers had been strengthened in a bid to provide a better service for those operating within Powys. It's very important to provide a strong support network in order to build provision and reduce the use of agencies
- v. **Respite (Camlais/Bannau – Brecon)** – spare capacity at both sites would be made available for purchase and could become a lucrative income stream

b. Councillor Rosemarie Harris, Cabinet Portfolio Holder: Property, Housing, Catering and Cleaning, Armed Forces, Business and Customer Services and Standards/Monitoring Officer

- i. **Property** – officers are continuing to consider options for the property portfolio which includes sale, investment, leasing etc. Local members would be engaged in relation to considerations for their areas

- ii. **StAMP (Strategic Asset Management Plan)** – members had been invited to attend StAMP meetings to discuss options for the management/treatment of properties/assets. Members were urged to attend meetings to input
- iii. **Agile Working** – the programme would be progressed in order to support accommodation reviews and provide a better experience for those employees who would benefit from working this way
- iv. **Ladywell House, Newtown** – the Council would be looking to purchase the premise. There are letting options and the Council would be sharing the building with a tenant
- v. **Brecon Cultural Hub** – officers are supporting the creation of the hub which would be a £10 million project within Brecon town
- vi. **Archives** – the Authority had been found failing in its archive provision and had undertaken significant capital works to upgrade facilities at Ddole Road, Llandrindod Wells. Members would be invited to tour the facility (there had been a £1.7 million investment)
- vii. **Judge's Lodgings (Presteigne)** – the lodgings had been offered for asset transfer and a Trustee group had entered into an agreement with the Council for the site. The Authority had provided £50k to undertake much needed capital works which included a significant sum for the roof
- viii. **Gypsy and Travellers** – the Authority had been found lacking in its provision to meet the recognised need. Further units would be provided using Welsh Government funding at Brecon (3 additional units) and Machynlleth (5 units). A member suggested that the Authority should be very pro-active in advising communities of the recognised need and the duty to comply with Welsh Government requirements in order to explain positions. It was felt that information should clarify that most of the costs would be met by the Welsh Government and not by the County Council
- ix. **Right to Buy** – the previous application to the Welsh Government to suspend the right to buy had been unsuccessful. A further application, supported by housing associations, had been submitted and it's hoped that this application would be approved
- x. **Affordable Housing** – there's a recognised shortfall in affordable housing. Providing the right type of dwelling would be important i.e. 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom flats. The impact of single occupancy (the bedroom tax) had an impact on those in larger dwellings. There are good links between housing and those delivering on adult social care to ensure that needs are recognised and built into plans
- xi. **Older People's Accommodation** – the Council has in the region of 2000 designated dwellings and would be looking to provide to meet the need
- xii. **Supporting Local Businesses/Loan Scheme** – when considering build projects there would be as strong focus on supporting local tradesmen etc. The Portfolio Holder confirmed that an agreement had been entered in to ensure the use of local timber in relation to some developments. The Council also operates a loan scheme which developers could access
- xiii. **Syrian Refugees** – the Council would play its part in re-settling Syrian refugees in line with a national programme. There are two accepting areas (Newtown and Ystradgynlais). Communities in both areas had been very welcoming
- xiv. **Armed Forces Covenant** – the Portfolio Holder chairs the Covenant Board. The Board can provide funding to support activities which link to the forces (serving, ex-serving and forces families/communities). It would be important to maximise the drawdown of funding to support Powys projects.

A member requested that detail regarding the application process etc. be circulated to members for their awareness and to help them in encouraging bids to support local, qualifying activities

- xv. **Catering and Cleaning Services** – the service has an annual budget of in the region of £6million. The service continues to be recognised and had received a number of high level awards
- xvi. **Cashless System for Schools (Business Services)** – business services are supporting the roll out of school cashless payment systems which have proven positive and welcome. The roll out would focus on high schools first then be introduced in the primary sector
- xvii. **Cemeteries (Christmas Closures)** – a member expressed concern regarding cemetery closures over the Christmas/New Year period which had meant that burial arrangements were unable to be made. While recognising that staff would be on leave during the period it was felt that a level of service should be retained to enable arrangements to proceed. The Chief Executive would report the matter to the responsible portfolio holder

Members thanked the Portfolio Holders for their updates and for responding to issues raised.

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| 8. | REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO MEMBERS SERVING ON OUTSIDE BODIES | MS8-2017 |
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Members welcomed the opportunity to receive reports from, and to put questions to, members serving on outside bodies.

- a. **To appoint to a Powysland Trustee Position** – Councillor Graham Breeze accepted the nomination to serve as a Powysland Trustee to represent the shire
- b. **To confirm non-Council representation on the Community Health Council (Montgomeryshire)** – members agreed to accept the nomination of the Chairman and to appoint Ruth Weston to a vacant position on the CHC. The clerk would link with both Ruth and the CHC in this regard

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| 9. | CORRESPONDENCE | MS9-2017 |
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There were no items of correspondence.

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| 10. | ROAD SAFETY AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEMES | MS10-2017 |
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Members welcomed Chris Lloyd, Area Traffic Officer to the meeting for this item of business.

- a. **18 Tonne Amenity Weight Limit – Criggion Lane, Trewern (C2039 and C2040)**

Having considered the report, and debated a request from Bausley with Criggion Community Council to modify the proposed order to introduce the 18 tonne

amenity weight limit with an exemption for all agricultural vehicles, it was **RESOLVED** that the 18 tonne amenity weigh limit Traffic Regulation Order be made as originally proposed.

The local member for Trewern requested that highway officers endeavour to have the 18 tonne amenity weight limit made and implemented at the earliest opportunity.

While discussing matters, the local members for Llanfair Caereinion and Machynlleth requested an update in relation to progress towards implementing the Welsh Government funded 20mph speed restrictions on the approaches to the Llanfair Caereinion and Machynlleth Primary School sites. It was noted that speed restrictions at other qualifying sites had been imposed.

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| 11. | DATE OF NEXT MEETING | MS11-2017 |
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The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 8th March 2017 and would include updates in relation to local policing and the Newtown bypass.

**County Councillor K M Roberts-Jones
Chairman**

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MS19-2017

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| Paper to: | The Montgomeryshire Committee on Wednesday, 8 th March 2017 |
| Author: | County Councillor J. Michael Williams, Powys County Council's Montgomeryshire Rail Representative |
| Subject: | The Shrewsbury – Aberystwyth Railway Liaison Committee |

1. Shrewsbury – Aberystwyth Railway Liaison Committee held on Friday, 10th February 2017.

1.1 Attendees.

Present were representatives of the County Councils of Powys, Ceredigion, Gwynedd and Shropshire; the Town/Community Councils of Barmouth, Machynlleth, Welshpool, Aberystwyth, Caersws, Carno and Newtown; Cambrian Rail Partnership; Arriva Trains Wales; Rail Future; Aberdyfi/Tywyn Tourism; Tallylyn Railway; West Coast 250, Shrewsbury-Aberystwyth Rail Passengers 'Association and Carno Station Action Group.

1.2 Former Chairman Cllr. Mansel Williams.

Immediate past chairman and former Shropshire County Councillor Mansel Williams passed away during 2016.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to the success of the Committee in bringing about the current enhanced services to the line, arrangements are well in hand for the unveiling of a plaque at Shrewsbury station on March 17th, 2017.

Invitations to be sent out shortly.

1.3 Surveys for Welsh Government (April and August 2017).

The Secretary, Robert Robinson, outlined the details of the surveys that Welsh Government has commissioned the Committee to carry out in April and August of this year. The findings of which will form a report to Welsh Government.

1.4 Franchise Meetings held in Welshpool.

The four bidding franchise companies attended well-received sessions with members of the Committee over two days in January 2017.

The areas discussed at the meeting are posted on the website:
<http://shrewsburyaberystwythrailway.org>

1.5 Welshpool Station Car Park.

There is still some doubt over the ownership of the site. Powys Estates own the freehold but there is no proof of title record of a lease to Network Rail at present.

1.6 Machynlleth Station Lifts.

It was noted that the lifts were working. However, the bi-lingual signage/messaging was still not in place.

1.7 Travel Plan for 2016-2020.

The Travel Plan has been posted on the website since November 2016 with no further comments received. The Committee adopted the Plan as the Committee's formal policy and can be accessed via <http://shrewsburyaberystwythrailway.org>

1.8 Guards on Trains.

The Committee considered the importance of Guards/Other Staff with a safety critical role on trains on the main and coast lines.

The importance was underlined by recording the following important points:

Arriva Trains Wales confirmed that, during their franchise, there will always be a conductor/guard on all trains.

- i) Rural nature of the lines (no stations are manned all the time).
- ii) Important information to passengers as trains split and there are short platforms.
- iii) There are a lot of children using the services for local journeys.
- iv) Revenue collection and safety of passengers.

Actions: The Secretary is to write to Transport for Wales, the Welsh Government Secretary (Ken Skates AM) and the Shadow Transport Secretary (Russell George AM).

The Secretary is also to issue a press release as this is an item of public interest.

1.9 Report by Ben Davies, Arriva Trains Wales.

A verbal report was given by Arriva Trains Wales' Ben Davies with the following points of particular interest:

- i) Class 158 trains should all have free Wi-Fi by Easter 2017.
- ii) Increase in passenger traffic from 2015 to 2016 saw increases of 9.5% local and 5.2% non-local journeys.
- iii) Late Coast train is now stopping at all stations.
- iv) There is to be a change in the timetable to allow the last train to link better at Machynlleth. (Arrival of ex Shrewsbury at 21.43 with the Coast Train leaving at 21.49). This will be Monday to Friday at first.
- v) Improvements in bi-lingual information was a hot topic during the franchise meetings. However, there will be no investment to improve this during the life of the franchise as it is not clear if the trains will still be used in Wales after the new franchise in 2018.
- vi) Bi-lingual information on platforms was raised.
- vii) Work is still continuing to improve Machynlleth station as a transport hub.
- viii) The new toilets at Machynlleth have been delayed but the temporary ones were always clean and well-kept.
- ix) Tickets should be purchased if possible before going onto a train. However, the policy is that people should seek out the guard/conductor at the first opportunity when on the train.
- x) Information was asked for on cancellations but with little evidence to back up the statement of 60 out of 120 trains running late or cancelled. The member was asked to provide details so that Arriva Trains Wales could respond.
- xi) Appreciation was expressed at the work of Arriva Trains Wales and what they do for the Cambrian lines.
- xii) New shelters are due to be put in place at Machynlleth station.
- xiii) New style of tickets was raised with such issues as not being able to use them in London Underground ticket barriers. The tickets are being reviewed shortly.
- xiv) Lack of toilets was raised with regard to platform 3 at Shrewsbury. It was pointed out that except in exceptional circumstances this is an interchange platform and a train is normally already in the platform with the trains having toilets on board.

1.10 Report by Rhydian Mason, Line Development Officer (LDO), Cambrian Railways Partnership.

A written and verbal report (copy on the website: <http://shrewsburyaberystwythrailway.org>) was given by Rhydian Mason LDO, Cambrian Railways partnership.

- i) **Meeting with Paul Maynard MP.** We have been fortunate to be offered a meeting with Paul Maynard MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Department for Transport (Rail Minister, DfT, with a view to seeking his endorsement for the efforts we're making to promote the Orange Wallet scheme nationally. I attended along with Ben Davies, Phil Caldwell and David Crunhorn of Arriva Trains Wales (ATW), and we were given a fair meeting with Mr. Maynard. He was able to give us his endorsement for the scheme along with advice on how to proceed with our efforts, in conjunction with his officers. This is an excellent example of how a local, community rail partnership project is able to make a national mark, and we will be taking his advice forward, working in partnership with ATW and the Arriva UK Group.

- ii) **Rail Franchising and Welsh Government support.** I've attended numerous meetings along with colleagues from the 4 other Wales & Borders Community Rail Partnerships (CRP) where we've been discussing the future of CRPs and how they might fit in with the next franchise. This year we've been fortunate to receive grant funding for both revenue and capital projects from Welsh Government (WG) and we are naturally keen to work with WG to secure more funding for the coming financial years. We have had a verbal confirmation that we have been successful in our capital grant bids for new shelters for Welshpool, Dyfi Junction and Llanaber stations.
- iii) **Publications.** We are imminently ready to proceed to publish our new booklet of short walks on the Cambrian lines. This booklet will take the place of the Cambrian Trailways' leaflets which proved extremely popular some years ago. We have secured the endorsement of the Wales Coastal Path (via Natural Resources Wales) and are seeking approval to use the Welsh Government/Visit Wales logos on it as well.
- iv) **Surveys.** The Cambrian Railways Partnership is delighted to work with the Shrewsbury-Aberystwyth Railway Liaison Committee and we are commissioning surveys scheduled for spring 2017 as part of our grant from the Welsh Government, to be delivered on our behalf by this Committee and the Mid Wales Rail Implementation Group. The surveys follow on from the success of the 2013 and 2015 surveys which resulted in improved services on the Cambrian lines.
- v) **2017 Promotional Campaign.** We have already produced a short promotional film and are seeking additional funding to allow us to prepare a brand new tourist-focussed website and further short films which we are looking to release in February/March until early summer this year. The campaign will be exclusively based on social media platforms.
- vi) **Stories and Books by Cambrian.** We have been approached by the Ceredigion Council library service and the Welsh Books Council to work on further projects linking stories and books with the Cambrian lines. We are currently awaiting confirmation of details and funding to pilot what could emerge as a pan-Wales project.
- vii) **2017/18 Business Plan.** Our business plan for the next financial year is being prepared and will outline our project for the coming 12 months. This will be presented at the next meeting of the Cambrian Railways Partnership for approval by the funding stakeholders, due to be held in March.

1.11 Written Report from Network Rail.

The Committee received a written report from Network Rail (copy on the website: <http://shrewsburyaberystwythrailway.org>).

- i) **Sponsorship/Enhancement update.** Toilet improvement works will commence on Shrewsbury station in early summer 2017. The layout will include the splitting of disabled/ladies toilets. The layout of the existing toilet block will be altered, particularly in order to separate the disabled toilets from the lobby of the ladies' toilet. There will also be an extension that will accommodate new cleaners' room and disabled toilet, which will make them easier to access. The façade will be clad in a similar manner to the recently constructed waiting room and information centre in order to create a cohesive image for new structures amongst the existing buildings.
- ii) **Welshpool Car Park.** There are property issues to be resolved at car park with Network Rail Property. Network Rail solicitors are doing title searches at the present time.
- iii) **Talerddig Level Crossings.** Eight crossings are to close in 2017, road construction work now underway.
- iv) **Machynlleth station car park.** A meeting to be arranged for 15th February to review options – attendees include Network Rail, Arriva Trains Wales, the local authority and Rhydian Mason.
- v) **Bow Street.** Asset protection and support work for proposed new station. Network Rail understands that an application has been made to the DfT New Stations Fund to support this scheme.
- vi) **Maintenance update.** Majority of the blocks on this line involve re-sleepering, re-ballasting – replacing life expired assets and rectifying faults. Disruptive possessions

- leading to replacement road transport occurring over next few months, between Sutton Bridge and Aberystwyth on nights of: 3/4 July, 4/5 July and 6/7 July.
- vii) **Community Rail.** Active schemes at Tywyn, Tywyn station, Penychain and Criccieth. Network Rail is promoting and supporting Community Rail and welcome applications for new schemes. Barmouth Viaduct celebrations are being led by Rebecca Heeley from Network Rail.

1.12 British Transport Police.

No report received.

1.13 Carno Station.

There was nothing further to report at this stage on the re-opening of Carno station. Papers on timetabling had been circulated to officers.

1.14 Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting (AGM) was noted as Friday, June 2nd, 2017, at Welshpool Town Hall, 11:15am:

.....

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

TRAVEL PLAN FOR 2016 TO 2020



APPROVED - Dated 10th February 2017

CLlr Trevor Roberts Chair

CLlr Mike Williams Vice Chair

Rhydian Mason

Robert Robinson FRICS FLCM Secretary



**SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH
RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE**

INDEX

| No | Item | Page no |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| 1. | Introduction | 3 |
| 2. | The Committee | 3 |
| 3. | Funding of the Committee & its work | 4 |
| 4. | Recent history | 4 |
| 5. | Purpose of the plan | 4 |
| 6. | Survey and monitoring of the service | 5 |
| 7. | Franchise | 5 |
| 8. | Consultation | 6 |
| 9. | Infrastructure Policy | 7 |
| 10. | Rail Services Policy | 9 |
| 11. | Bus Policy | 10 |
| 12. | Policy Proposals | 11 |
| 13. | Review and monitoring | 12 |
| Appendix | | |
| A | Map of the Shrewsbury/Aberystwyth Line | 13 |
| B | Committee membership | 14 |
| C | Consultation method | 15 |
| D | Consultation results | 16 |

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

1. Introduction

1.1 Document

This document sets out details of the Shrewsbury Aberystwyth Rail Liaison Committee (more information within its constitution) and sets out the aims and objectives of the Committee over the next 4 years from 2016 to 2020.

1.2 Plan

The plan was approved following consultation will form the policy, aims and objectives of the Committee.

2. The Committee

2.1 Membership

The membership of the Committee shall be as set out at appendix B.

2.2 Meetings

The main meeting of the members of the group shall be held 4 times a year of which two shall be a joint with the Cambrian Line Conference.

2.3 Secretariat & Financial

The secretariat and financial management shall be provided by Welshpool Town Council.

2.4 Executive

The day to day running of the affairs of the Committee shall be carried out by Welshpool Town Council with an executive formed to action instructions from the Committee. The executive shall comprise the Chair, Vice Chair, Cambrian Rail Partnership and Secretary.

3. Funding of the Committee & its work

3.1 Funding

The funding of the Committee shall be by the following:

- i) Grant aid from the three County Councils.
- ii) Grant aid from the Welsh Government for specific purposes.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

4. Recent history

4.1 Infrastructure & signals

In July 2013 the Executive met with the Minister to discuss possible timetable improvements for the line. This cumulated in a major survey being undertaken funded by Welsh Government. The results were impressive and lead to an implementation group being set up to bring forward the new services.

4.2 Work with Welsh Government

The Committee has worked with Welsh Government not only in the introduction of the new services but also with surveys to provide information for the Minister. This is to continue with surveys being carried out in the summer months.

4.2 Improved rail services

The improved rail services have provided the following:

- i) An hourly service for most of the day along the Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth Line.
- ii) A full two hourly service on the Coast Line.
- iii) Improvements to stations to support the new services.

5. Purpose of the plan

The purpose of the plan is to give direction to the Committee with an agreed plan and set of policies.

This in turn will inform the Principle Authorities and Rail Companies the aims and objectives for the line and which will aid working together to achieve such aims.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

6. Survey and monitoring of the service

6.1 Summer Surveys

The Committee is to work with Welsh Government in the completion of independent surveys – such surveys to be funded by Welsh Government and are to be carried out in the summer months.

6.2 Recording of surveys

The Committee will record such surveys on a template with all years able to be seen next to each other.

6.3 Monitoring

The information gained from the summer surveys are to be used to aid the monitoring of this document.

6.4 Consultation methods

The method used for consultation shall be as set out at appendix C.

7. Franchise

7.1 Response to consultation

The Committee responded to the Franchise 2018 consultation, a copy of the response is available on the web site of the Committee at www.shrewsburyaberystwythrail.org.uk

7.2 Inclusion in plan

The submission comments are to be read alongside this plan as informative.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

8. Consultation

8.1 Evidence for the plan

8.2 Method of consultation

The plan is to be subject to consultation as follows:

- i) Draft approved by the members present.
- ii) Each individual Council represented will be asked to comment.
- iii) The document will be available on line and can be used by Communities to consult residents and others giving a chance to put forward their views.
- iv) The Welsh Government and County Councils will be asked to comment.

The results of the consultation shall be included as evidence for the plan and form part of the plan.

8.3 Consideration of the results

The consultation results were reported to the Committee and considered before approval of the plan.

8.4 Results

The results of the consultation are set out at appendix D.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

9. Infrastructure Policy

9.1 General

The Policy of the Committee with regard to infrastructure is set out here.

9.2 Shrewsbury

The Committee supports and will actively aid the completion of the following:

- i) Redevelopment of Shrewsbury Station to provide better facilities.
- ii) Better access to platform 3.

9.3 Welshpool

The Committee supports and will actively aid the completion of the following:

- i) Improved disabled access to the platforms.
- ii) Rail ticket sales on the platform and at the Tourist Information Centre.
- iii) Town Bus Service provision at the station with improved signage.

9.4 Newtown

The Committee will consider supporting the completion of any improvements to this station as they come forward.

9.5 Caersws

The Committee supports and will actively aid the completion of the following:

- i) Improved car parking facilities.

9.6 Machynlleth

The Committee supports and will actively aid the completion of the following:

- i) Completion of works to the footbridge and lift provision.
- ii) Improved car parking and bus arrangements.

9.7 Dovey Junction

The Committee supports and will support any further improvements to access to serve the station.

9.8 Borth

The Committee will consider supporting the completion of any improvements to this station as they come forward.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

9.9 Aberystwyth

The Committee will consider supporting the completion of any improvements to this station as they come forward.

9.10 Further stations

To support the re-opening of intermediate stations (subject to such actions not impeding the full hourly train service with its connections):

9.11 Flooding and sea defences

To support any infrastructure works to protect the line from the effects of the sea and in particular flooding.

To support any remedial actions that are taken to reduce the risk of flooding on the main line.

9.12 Permanent Way

To monitor and consider any aspects which may affect the provision of rail infrastructure with particular regard to Network Rail.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

10. Rail Services

10.1 General

The Policy of the Committee with regard to train services is set out here.

10.2 Timetable

The improved timetable is welcome but needs to be improved as follows:

- a) Full hourly service on the main line from Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth.
- b) Full 7 day a week timetable.

10.3 On board catering

On board catering to be continued and extended as needed to all trains.

10.4 Ticketing

To gain a more understandable ticketing system for rail services including 'Bus Plus' ticketing.

10.5 Information

To support improvements to the information boards, displays on platforms and other printed material for the public.

10.6 Train stock

To support the introduction of new rolling stock and the upgrading of the existing stock.

10.7 London services

To support the retention of London services from Shrewsbury.

10.8 Cross border rail services

To support the retention of services from Mid Wales to Birmingham International and to other main centres.

10.9 Rolling Stock

To support any initiative to create better and replacement rolling stock.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

11. Buses

11.1 General

The Policy of the Committee with regard to buses is set out here.

11.2 Buses linking with trains

To support any initiative which provides timetabled buses which link in with train times.

To aid this support is given:

- a) to the provision of the Welshpool Town Bus Service calling at the railway station.

11.3 Signage

To improve signage at stations giving information on buses and where they serve.

11.4 Local buses

To support the retention of rural bus services where there is no other form of public transport available.

11.5 Local bus linking main stations

Support for the provision of buses along the rail line towns stopping at the villages as well as the main line stations linked to train times.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

12. Policy Proposals

12.1 General

The Policies contained in the document are to be implemented and may not be changed without the approval of a full meeting of the members.

12.2 Policies

The Policy of the Committee is set out in 9, 10 and 11 above.

12.3 Action Plan

The Action Plan for implementation shall include:

- i) Completion of surveys in the summer for Welsh Government.
- ii) Bringing forward proposals as set out in this document to a timetable agreed with the Full Committee.

12.4 Method of implementation

The implementation methods shall include:

- a) Working with Welsh Government and Principle Authorities.
- b) Working with the Principle Authorities and Rail Companies.
- c) Survey work.
- d) Direct action on projects.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

13. Review and monitoring

13.1 Review dates

The plan shall be reviewed at the March meeting held each year of the Committee.

13.2 Monitoring

The monitoring of progress shall be presented in chart form for easy reference.

13.3 Reporting

The report containing the review shall be published and a copy made available to the Minister, Principle Authorities and Rail Companies after it has been approved by the Committee.

This plan was approved on.....

Signed *Trevor Roberts*

Cllr Trevor Roberts Chair

Signed *Michael Williams*

Cllr Michael Williams Vice Chair

Signed *Robert A Robinson*

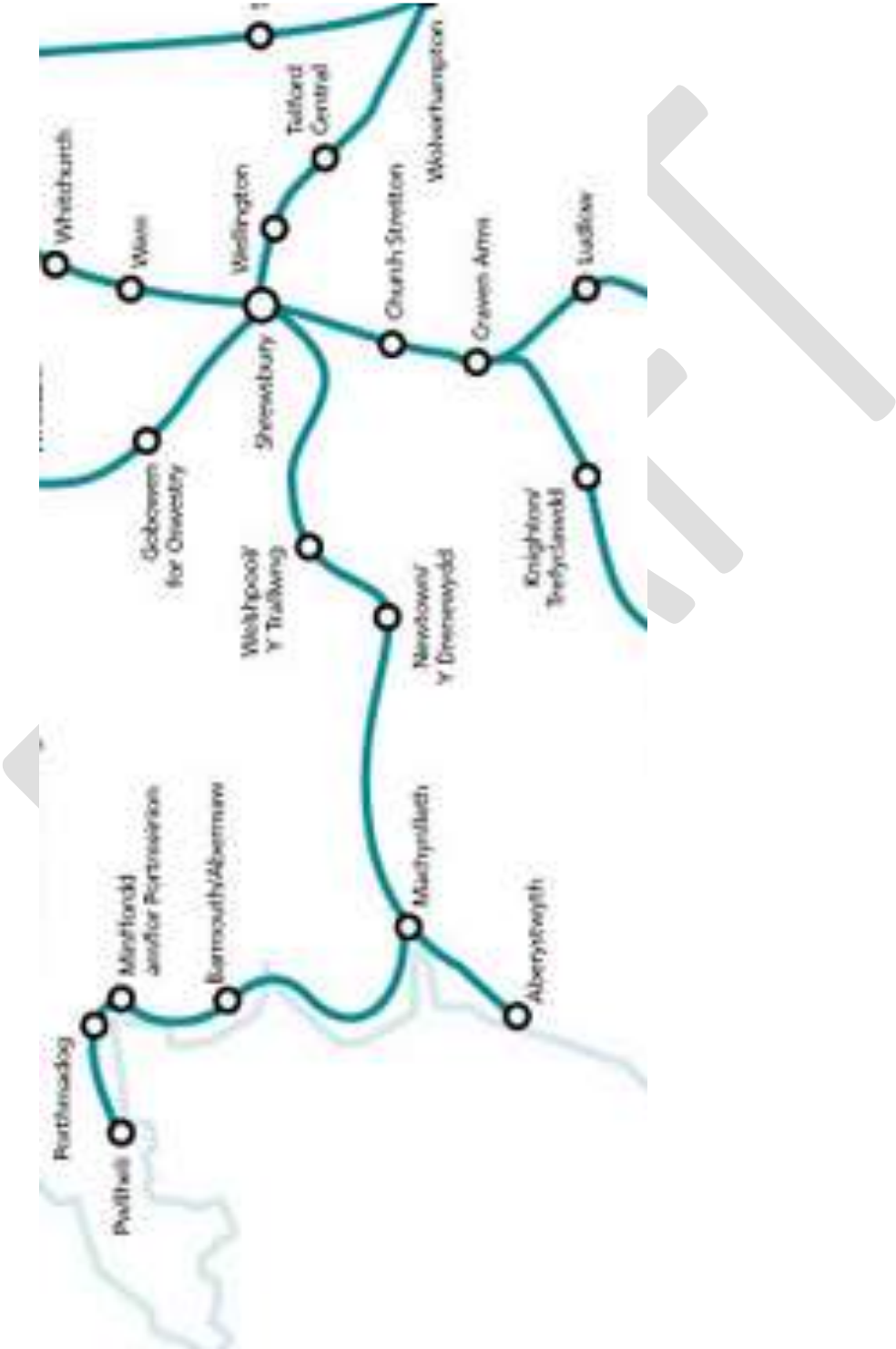
Robert Robinson Secretariat

Dated 10th February 2017

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

Appendix A

Map of the Shrewsbury/Aberystwyth Line



SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

APPENDIX B

Committee Membership

The following shall be members of the Committee:

Representatives from the following County Councils:

- Ceredigion County Council
- Powys County Council
- Shropshire County Council

Representatives from the following Town & Community Councils:

- Shrewsbury Town Council
- Welshpool Town Council
- Newtown Town Council
- Caersws Community Council
- Machynlleth Town Council
- Borth Community Council
- Aberystwyth Town Council

Representatives from the following interest groups:

- Coast Line Conference
- S.A.R.P.A.
- Rail Focus
- Carno Action Group
- West Coast 250
- Tallylyn Railway
- Welshpool and Llanfair Light Railway

Representatives from the following:

- Arriva Trains Wales
- Network Rail
- Cambrian Rail Partnership
- British Transport Police

Representatives from Government as follows:

- MP's for Ceredigion and Montgomeryshire.
- AM's for Mid and West Wales areas.
- Local AM for Montgomeryshire and Ceredigion
- Ministers and representatives of Welsh Government.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected from the members and shall be elected Councillors.

APPENDIX C

CONSULTATION METHODS

The following consultation methods are to be used:

Surveys for rail services (on board trains)

The survey forms for those on board shall be done by issuing and collecting on the train within a few minutes of issue before collection using volunteers or staff in pairs.

Surveys for major projects

The following survey methods shall be used to consult on Major Projects including this plan:

Booklets

Provision of booklets/flyers with information in paper form for use either via delivery to homes or central points.

Web Site

Information to be published on the Committees web site and where needed with a specific site using survey monkey.

Social Media

Information to be published in all social media including face-book, twitter and My Welshpool/My Newtown.

Local Press

Information to be published in all local press.

Drop in days

To provide drop in days in central places in areas affected by any proposals. These to be hosted by the local representatives with support from the Secretariat.

All material shall be bi-lingual where possible.

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

APPENDIX D

Consultation results

The Committee published the plan and sought comments.

All comments received have been taken into the final adopted plan.

DRAFT

MS20-2017

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS AND LOCAL SERVICES

Montgomeryshire

8th March 2017

REPORT BY: Road Safety and Traffic Systems Manager

SUBJECT: Leighton Arches 40 mph buffer zone - B4381, Welshpool

REPORT FOR: Decision

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Full planning approval P/2016/1240 was granted on 22nd February 2017 for an extension to the existing Leighton Arches gypsy and traveller site, located along the B4381 at Welshpool, to incorporate two additional pitches, an amenity building and parking area, together with the relocation of an existing field access.
- 1.2 One of the planning conditions stipulated with respect to this planning consent states “prior to the commencement of development, a Traffic Regulation Order shall be secured by the developer to introduce a 40mph speed limit along the B4381 county highway. The order must be implemented together with its associated traffic calming measures, traffic signs and alterations to the verge markers by the bridge parapets prior the first use of the access hereby permitted”.
- 1.3 The project is to extend the existing Gypsy Traveller site at Leighton Arches, Welshpool to create two additional living plots. The need for the plots was identified through work undertaken in preparation of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) for Powys which has been approved by the Welsh Government.
- 1.4 The development works are proposed to be completed by the end of March 2018.
- 1.5 It is anticipated the scheme will be funded by Powys CC capital budget and Welsh Government grant funding for which an application has been submitted.
- 1.6 The effect of the traffic regulation order would be to prohibit all vehicles from driving along the relevant part of the B4381 at a speed in excess of 40 mph.
- 1.7 The provision of the necessary regulatory signing and the cost to implement the traffic regulation order would be funded as part of the project at no cost to the highway authority.
- 1.8 The provision of the 40 mph buffer zone is considered to be compliant with the Welsh Assembly Government Circular No: 24/2009 “Setting Local Speed Limits in Wales” which was published in October 2009.

2.0 Proposal

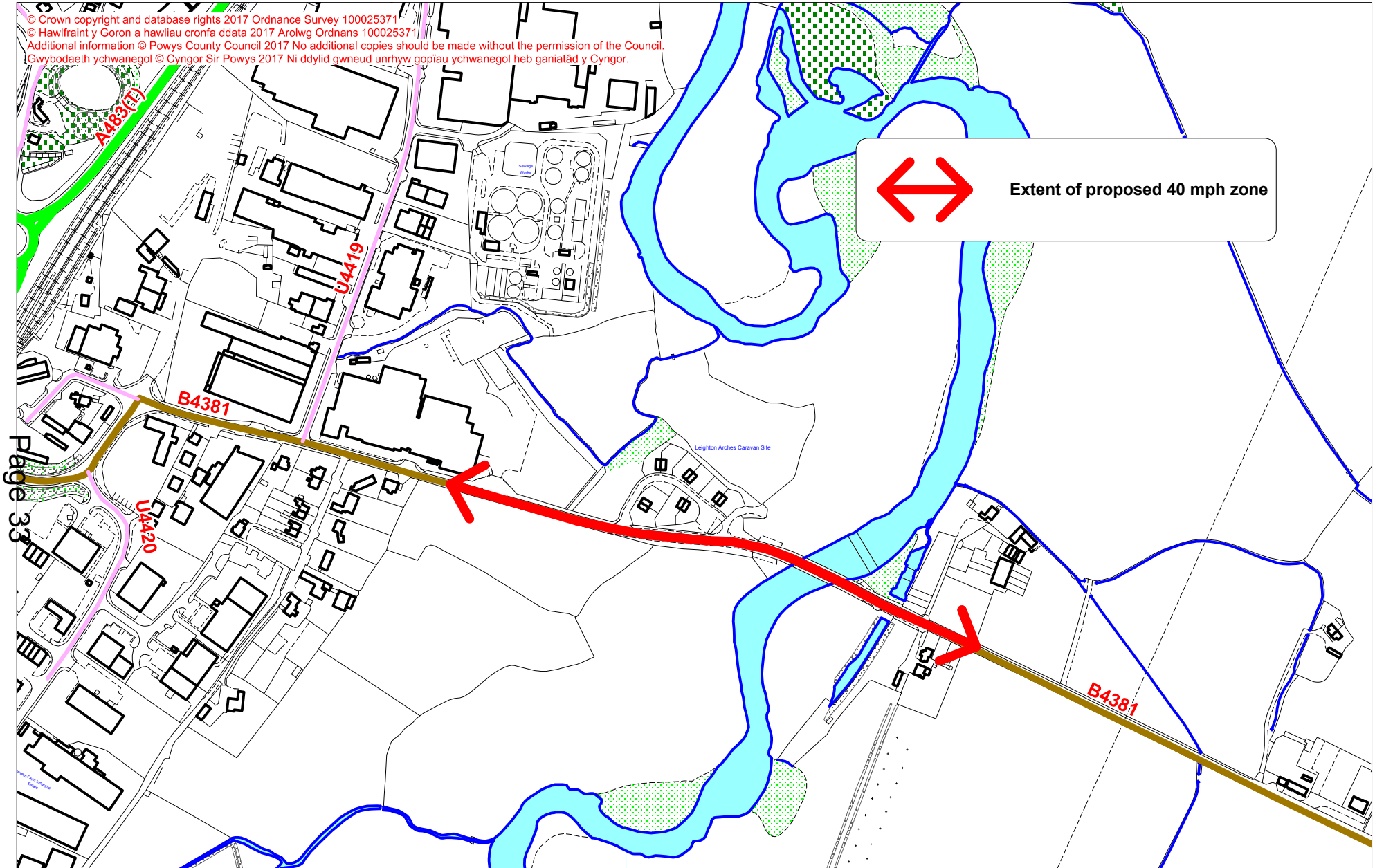
- 2.1 To impose a permanent traffic regulation order to introduce a 40 mph buffer zone speed limit over a distance of approximately 520 metres, to commence at the eastern terminal point of the existing 30 mph speed limit along the B4381 by the Sidoli factory, and extend to a point on the east side of the river bridge over the River Severn as identified on the attached plan.

| Recommendation: | Reason for Recommendation: |
|--|---|
| Committee is asked to resolve that the Traffic Regulation Order consultation procedure is initiated in accordance with The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996; and if no substantive objections are received the proposal be implemented. | To introduce a 40 mph zone to satisfy the planning requirements of the P/2016/1240 planning consent for the Leighton Arches extension project. |

| Relevant Policy (ies): | Local Transport Plan | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Within Policy: | Y | Within Budget: | Y |

| Contact Officer Name: | Tel: | Fax: | Email: |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Chris Lloyd | 0845 607 6060 | 01597 826269 | chris.lloyd@powys.gov.uk |

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