

DONNINGTON AND MUXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at St John's Church, Muxton on 12th December 2018

Present: Councillors: M Edwards (Chairman), Mrs E A Clare, Mrs L Dugmore, N Dugmore, Mrs L Edwards, D Hayward, A Lawrence, P Loughlin, C Mason, V Rainsford.

Also Present: R Morgan (Parish Clerk), Joanne Couch (Telford Priory School Business Manager), K Buttress and M Stokes.

18/12/134 Apologies: Councillors Mrs R Gregory, J Lavery and J Thompson.

Resolved – that the apologies are accepted.

18/12/135 Declaration of Interest: As per Register.

18/12/136 Public Session

Mr K Buttress thanked the Clerk for arranging to get the hedge cut along the left-hand side of Muxton Lane. He then informed Councillors that in response to a complaint he made around May 2018 the bus stop had been marked out outside 65 Wellington Road, Muxton. However, contractors (bar one) have continuously ignored the bus stop markings and erected traffic lights when carrying out their work without providing a temporary bus stop. Would it be possible for the Muxton Borough Councillors to discuss this matter with Telford & Wrekin Council officers and get this resolved? The developer constantly blocks the bus stop with his vehicle. Mr Buttress also requested that a report on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan is provided to keep residents informed.

Mr Stokes thanked the Clerk for following up the issues raised at the last Council meeting regarding the problem with the reference numbers that are provided through the “Report It” application for complaints made that did not correspond to Telford & Wrekin Council’s own reference numbers. Mr Stokes has been informed that there are plans to upgrade this system and he requested that someone attend a meeting regarding this matter to explain the issues that residents have been experiencing.

The Clerk was asked to check Telford & Wrekin Council’s “Report It” site as the map is out of date and the reference numbers given to residents do not correspond to those of the Borough Councils’.

18/12/137 Grants

Councillors discussed the grant application received and asked Joanne Couch questions relating to it.

Resolved – that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £200 was awarded to the Telford Priory School.

18/12/138 Minutes

To confirm the following Minutes of the Council:

- a. Planning Committee meeting held on 12th November 2018.

Resolved – that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

- b. Council meeting held on 12th November 2018.

Resolved – that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

18/12/139 Matters Arising from Minutes

Councillor N Dugmore informed Council that Mr A Careless (Telford and Wrekin Council's Rights of Way Officer) had visited the footpath between Muxton Marsh through to Brands Meadow and has agreed to try and resolve the issues at this location but this would not happen during this financial year. Councillor Dugmore also stated that he will continue to try and get the hedge reduced along Donnington Wood Way to improve the Safer Routes to School.

The Clerk informed Councillors that one of the projectors purchased had been loaned to St John's Church, Muxton and that the poem read out at the War Memorial, Winifred's Drive on Remembrance Day had been included in the latest Parish Council newsletter.

A new base has been laid and a second-hand bus shelter had been installed outside Donnington Medical Practice. Councillors were disappointed that it had been taken from the bus stop near the junction of Ewart Road and St George's Road, Donnington. The Clerk was instructed to write to Arriva requesting details of who the insurance company dealing with this matter is and how much was paid out as a result of the accident which demolished the bus shelter that was previously at this location and to whom.

18/12/140 Expenditure Transactions

Each Councillor received a copy of the Expenditure Transactions for November 2018.

Resolved – that the expenditure transactions for November 2018 are ratified and accepted as a true record.

18/12/141 Income Received

Each Councillor received a copy of the income report for November 2018.

Resolved – that the Income Report for November 2018 is ratified and accepted as a true record.

18/12/142 Bank Reconciliation

Each Councillor received a copy of the bank reconciliation as at 30th November 2018.

Resolved – that the bank reconciliation as at 30th November 2018 is accepted as a true record.

18/12/143 Financial Budget Comparisons

Each Councillor received a copy of the financial budget comparisons as at 30th November 2018.

Resolved – that they be confirmed and signed as a true record.

18/12/144 Clerk's Report

Councillors received updates on the following:

Benches

The Soldiers Bench for Muxton will be installed over the next couple of weeks. The two recycled plastic benches have been delivered and will be installed in due course. Councillor C Mason stated that he had received a lot of compliments regarding the Soldiers Bench installed on Winifred's Drive, Donnington.

Bins, Muxton

The Parish Council has ordered a new bin to be located at Brands Meadow and is awaiting its delivery. Once this has been received then the process of installing it will begin.

Speed Indicator Display Signs

The Clerk has met with Ray Northwood from Prysmian and lamp posts in the suggested locations have been identified. A member from Prysmian will be in touch with the Clerk soon to place brackets and SIDS on the lamp posts. Prysmian will also move the SIDS around the Parish on a monthly basis and collect/drop off batteries.

Bollards Thornton Park Avenue/Holland Drive, Muxton.

The Clerk and Councillor N Dugmore has met with Tony Smith (TWS) to discuss the number of bollards required and has received a quote. This is given at:

Using 100mm x 100mm sloped top wooden bollards that would be 500mm out of the ground and 4m apart- £771.50

Option using 100mm x 200mm sloped top wooden bollards same spacing and height out of the ground- £908.50

Shropshire Prostate Cancer Awareness

The Clerk has spoken to this organisation which has informed him of the following dates and location at which Awareness days will be held:

March 2019 – Thomas Telford School

May 2019 – Wellington

16th October 2019 – Oakengates

5th October 2019 – Newport

Possible suggested dates for Donnington and Muxton are end of October or beginning of November 2019.

The Clerk was instructed to inform Shropshire Prostate Cancer Awareness that either dates would be suitable.

Councillor Mrs L Dugmore arrived at the meeting at 1950 hrs.

18/12/145 Bollards Thornton Park Avenue/Holland Drive, Muxton

Councillors considered the purchase of bollards for Thornton Park Avenue/Holland Drive, Muxton to prevent vehicles parking on the grass verges.

Resolved – that the Clerk checks that the proposed distance between the bollards provided on the quote is correct and, in order not to delay the installation of the bollards, the Clerk is allowed a budget of no more than £2,000 to cover any variance in price should the distance provided be incorrect.

18/12/146 Community Events and Engagement Officer

A notice for a motion has been proposed in accordance with Standing Order Regulation 7 by the Chairman, Councillor M Edwards, that the Council discusses the appointment of a part time Community Events and Engagement Officer along with the recent recommendation

made by the Staff and Personnel Committee at its meeting held on 23rd October 2018. Councillors considered the draft job description provided and intensely debated the requirement for this post.

Resolved – that the Council employs a part time Community Events and Engagement Officer for 18 hrs a week on the NJC Scaling Point 13. This post is to commence in the new financial year commencing on 1st April 2019.

18/12/147 Smartwater Scheme

Councillors discussed the email received regarding Smartwater Kits and the possible purchase of kits for its residents.

Resolved – to purchase Smartwater Kits using money provided from Councillor A. Lawrence's Muxton Borough Councillor Ward Fund as a trial to gauge how many residents of Muxton would be interested in having them. If they proved to be popular then the Parish Council would consider purchasing kits for re-sale to residents living within all of the parish.

18/12/148 Budgets 2019/2020

Councillors discussed the proposed revised draft budgets for 2019/2020.

Resolved – to agree in principle to the draft budgets provided for 2019/2020. However, the Clerk is to include the cost of the Community Events and Engagement Officer in a revised budget to be provided to Council at its meeting in January 2019 at which Councillors will agree the precept setting and budgets for 2019/2020.

18/12/149 Annual Return for the Financial Year Ended 31st March 2018

The Chairman informed Councillors that the Annual Return has been signed off by the external auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP, and that in their opinion, the information provided is in accordance with the proper practices and no matters have come to their attention.

18/12/150 Christmas Festival

The Clerk informed Councillors that the Christmas Festival had proved very popular but there were some areas in which it can be improved. It is hoped to have more stalls at next years festival and advertise it better. Negative comments received related to the Christmas lights especially their poor quality and quantity. The Clerk explained that this was down to their age and wear and tear which meant that some were not serviceable as they were unsafe.

18/12/151 Asda, Donnington footpath

Councillors discussed public safety concerns regarding the road and footpath adjacent to Asda, Donnington.

Resolved – that the Clerk contacts Telford & Wrekin Council and Asda, Donnington to request that a light is installed along this route to help ensure the safety of the public that use this road and footpath.

18/12/152 Lloyds Bank, Donnington

Councillors expressed their disappointment at the decision made regarding the proposed closure of Lloyds Bank, Donnington scheduled for 11th February 2019.

Resolved – that the Clerk writes to Lloyds Bank Head Office informing it of this Council's disappointment at the closure and to offer the use of Turreff Hall, Donnington as a facility from where a mobile bank could be situated.

18/12/153 The Princess Royal Hospital (PRH), Telford

Councillors were asked to support the PRH by giving a grant towards doctors' houses.

Resolved – not to give a grant toward the provision of doctors' houses at PRH.

18/12/154 Telford Crisis Support

Councillors considered financially assisting Telford Crisis Support in its aim to raise £500 to purchase food to meet the demand of up to 150 referrals from social services, homeless charities, NHS, schools etc.

Resolved – to assist Telford Crisis Support by awarding it a grant of £100 and assist St John's Church, Muxton with a grant of £400 to provide hot meals for lonely people on Christmas Day.

18/12/155 Agenda Items for the Next Council Meeting

Councillors requested that the following items be included for discussion on the agenda of the next Council meeting:

Traffic calming Wellington Road, Muxton

20mph speed limit signs outside local schools.

18/12/156 Date of next meeting

The Chairman informed Councillors that the next Council Meeting will be held on Monday 14th January 2019 at Turreff Hall, Donnington commencing at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 2055hrs.

Signed:

Date: