

Donnington and Muxton Parish Council
Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held at Turreff Hall
on 13th May 2019

Present: Councillors: M Edwards, Mrs E A Clare, Miss F Doran, Mrs L Dugmore, N Dugmore, J Gough, J Lavery, A Lawrence, P Loughlin, C Mason, R Overton, M Stokes and J Thompson.

Also Present: R Morgan (Parish Clerk), Mrs V Allen, Mrs P Gillespie, Mrs R Gregory and B Taylor.

19/05/01 Election of the Chairman of the Council:

Nominations were requested for Chairman of this Parish Council for the forthcoming year 13th May 2019 to May 2020. Councillor P Loughlin was nominated by Councillor N Dugmore and seconded by Councillor Mrs L Dugmore. Councillor J Lavery was nominated by Councillor J Thompson and seconded by Councillor Miss F Doran.

Resolved - that the Chairman for the forthcoming year 13th May 2019 to May 2020 is Councillor P Loughlin. Councillor P Loughlin then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman.

19/05/02 Election of the Vice-Chairman of the Council:

Nominations were requested for Vice-Chairman of this Parish Council for the forthcoming year 13th May 2019 to May 2020. Councillor J Lavery was nominated by Councillor J Thompson and seconded by Councillor R Overton. Councillor Mrs L Dugmore was nominated by Councillor N Dugmore and seconded by Councillor J Gough.

Resolved - that the Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year 13th May 2019 to May 2020 is Councillor Mrs L Dugmore.

19/05/03 Members Declarations of Acceptance of Office

All newly elected Councillors signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

19/05/04 Apologies: There were no apologies.

19/05/05 Declaration of Interest: As per Register. Also, Councillor J Thompson – Item 18/05/17, Councillor R Overton – Item 19/05/11g, Councillor N Dugmore – Item 19/05/21 and Councillor C Mason – Item 18/05/12d

19/05/06 Grant Applications

Councillors considered a request for a grant from this Parish Council by Age Concern Donnington Day Centre.

Resolved – that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £300 was awarded to Age Concern Donnington Day Centre.

19/05/07 Minutes

Councillors were requested to confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 8th April 2019.

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

19/05/08 Matters Arising from Minutes

Christmas Lights – The Clerk informed those present that he is meeting with the contractor on Tuesday 14th May to discuss the additional Christmas lights for this Parish Council and will bring this report to the next Council meeting scheduled for 10th June. The Clerk was also asked to apply for grants to offset the cost of the lights.

Neighbourhood Plan – The Clerk informed Councillors that he had received the indicative timescale for the Neighbourhood Plan from this Council's consultant and now that he has all the Councillors email addresses would be forwarding this on to them.

Bollards, Muxton – Councillor N Dugmore had been unable to meet with Adam Brookes (Telford & Wrekin Council's Highways Officer) but would liaise with him to discuss the matter in the future. Councillor M Stokes suggested that 23 bollards are required for Thornton Park Avenue, Muxton to prevent vehicles parking on the grass verges.

19/05/09 Appointment of Members to Standing Committees

Resolved - that under Local Government Act (LGA) 1972 s101 the following Committees be arranged for the discharge of functions on behalf of the Parish Council and that the Councillors listed be elected onto these Committees.

Planning

Councillors: Miss F Doran, M Edwards, J Gough, J Lavery and M Stokes.

Staff and Personnel

Councillors: N Dugmore, M Edwards, J Lavery, A Lawrence and R Overton.

Library Committee

Councillors: Mrs E A Clare, Miss F Doran, N Dugmore and J Thompson.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman are ex-officio members of all Committees except Staff and Personnel. The Chairman is not an ex-officio member of the Staff and Personnel Committee.

19/05/10 Appointment of New Committees

Councillors considered the requirement for the appointment of new committees.

Resolved – that there is no requirement for any additional committees.

19/05/11 External Organisations

To appoint Councillors as representatives of the Parish Council on the following external organisations:

- a. Wrekin Area Committee – Councillor Miss F Doran
- b. Parish and Town Council Group – Councillor Miss F Doran
- c. Parish Charter Monitoring Group – Councillor Miss F Doran

- d. Shropshire Playing Fields Association Executive Committee – Councillor J Lavery.
- e. Telford Sports Forum – Councillor J Lavery.
- f. Bus User Group – No Councillors were nominated for this.
- g. Donnington Partnership – Councillor Mrs L Dugmore (Reserve Councillor N Dugmore).
- h. Granville Country Park Steering Group – Councillor N Dugmore.
- i. Snow Liaison Officers:
Donnington East – Councillor Miss F Doran
Donnington West – Councillor R Overton
Muxton – Councillor M Stokes
The Humbers – Councillor J Gough
- j. Community Emergency Co-ordinator – Councillor P Loughlin.

The Clerk was asked to find out if there were any Military organisations/groups in the area that the Parish Council could become involved with and, if so, Councillor J Gough will be willing to represent the Parish Council at its meetings.

19/05/12 Affiliation/Membership to other organisations

Councillors reviewed the Council's membership to the following organisations:

- a. The Shropshire Association of Local Councils (SALC).
Resolved - to renew the Parish Council's membership to the Shropshire Association of Local Councils at a cost of £2,009.72.
- b. Shropshire Playing Fields Association.
Resolved – to give a donation of £50 to the Shropshire Playing Fields Association.
- c. Telford Sports Forum.
Resolved - to renew the Parish Council's membership to the Telford & Wrekin Sports Forum at a cost of £10 per annum.
- d. Shrewsbury and Newport Canals Trust.
Resolved - to renew the Parish Council's membership to the Shrewsbury and Newport Canals Trust at £20 per annum.

19/05/13 Meetings 2019/2020

Each Councillor received a draft copy of dates proposed for forthcoming meetings for 2019/2020.

Resolved – that the amended timetable for the forthcoming meetings for 2019/2020 is accepted.

19/05/14 Signatories for Bank Accounts

Councillors discussed the appointment of signatories for the Co-operative Bank, Nationwide Business Savings Account and Lloyds Bank Accounts.

Resolved – that the Signatories for the Parish Council's Co-operative Bank, Nationwide Business Savings Account and Lloyds Bank Accounts will be Councillors N Dugmore, J Lavery, A Lawrence and C Mason.

19/05/15 Payments by Direct Debits

Each Councillor received a copy of a list of service/utility providers paid by way of Direct Debit by this Parish Council.

Resolved - to ratify the continuation of paying the service providers listed by Direct Debit.

19/05/16 Councillor Allowances

Councillors discussed the continued payment of allowances to Councillors.

Resolved – that under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 s25 this Parish Council continues paying allowances to its Councillors.

19/05/17 Advertising Turreff Hall

Councillors discussed the continued advertising of Turreff Hall in the production programmes of The Little Theatre Donnington at a cost of £125 per annum.

Resolved – to continue advertising in the programmes of The Little Theatre Donnington at a cost of £125 per annum (LGA 1972 s144).

19/05/18 General Power of Competence

The three conditions for eligibility for the Parish Council to exercise the General Power of Competence are as follows:

Resolution: The Council must resolve at a meeting that it meets the criteria for eligibility relating to the electoral mandate and relevant training of the Clerk.

Electoral Mandate: at the time the resolution is passed, at least two-thirds of the council must hold office as a result of being declared elected (i.e. not co-opted).

Qualified Clerk: at the time that the resolution is passed, the Clerk must hold a recognised professional qualification (e.g. Certificate in Local Council Administration, Certificate of Higher Education in Local Policy) **AND** pass the 2012 CiLCA module relating to the general power of competence.

Resolved – as a result of satisfying the above criteria the Parish Council, from 13th May 2019 until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council, that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence)(Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, adopts the General Power of Competence.

19/05/19 Smartwater Scheme

Councillors discussed the provision of Smartwater Kits to local residents by Ward and the cost implications this involves.

Resolved – that due to the cost implications involved it was decided not to purchase Smartwater kits. The Clerk was asked to contact Rachael Oakley to see if it would be possible for this Council to purchase Smartwater street warning signs.

19/05/20 Car Park Granville Country Park

Councillors discussed the response received from Telford & Wrekin Council regarding this Council's request for a car park off Donnington Wood Way roundabout to serve users of Granville Country Park.

The response stated that the Borough Council had no budgets available for such a major scheme and in addition it would not be permissible to provide another entry arm off this roundabout for the purposes of a car park. Councillor R Overton suggested that it might be a good idea to find out who owns the land and discuss the proposal with a Borough Council Planning Officer. Concerns were also raised that it could attract anti-social behaviour similar to the issues raised in the Annual Parish Meeting regarding Donnington Bowling Club car park.

Resolved – that the Clerk investigates the ownership of the land and discusses the proposal with a Borough Council Planning Officer.

19/05/21 Granville Country Park Projects

Councillor N Dugmore stated that he could not provide an update and costs relating to the proposed projects for Granville Country Park as the Granville Country Park Steering Group had not yet been able to obtain all the quotes required. The project are as follows:

- A bridge over the stream on Muxton Marsh to prevent people walking on the rare flowers in this area. The cost for this is yet to be confirmed.
- Signage for walkers in Granville Country Park providing location, history and description of flora/fauna in the area. Locations and number of signs required are yet to be agreed.
- The provision of a Children's trail. It has been proposed to contact a local children's author to write a story around Granville Country Park and tie in with this a trail for children and local schools to follow.

19/05/22 War Memorial Muxton

Councillor A Lawrence stated that some more Muxton residents had offered donations toward a War Memorial in Muxton and suggested locations for it included the land off Marshbrook Way where the Soldiers Bench is already located or at St John's Church, Muxton. The Clerk was asked to contact St John's Church to see if they would be willing to site a War Memorial at the Church.

Councillor J Gough stated that he was currently working on a project to replace the War Memorial in Donnington with a statue or something similar. It was also suggested to have a joint War Memorial with Muxton at a different location, but concerns were raised that moving a War Memorial could be very controversial. The Clerk was asked to include an item on the next Council meeting agenda to discuss the War Memorial at Donnington.

19/05/23 Severn Hospice Telford

Councillors discussed the effects that the recent cuts announced by Severn Hospice Telford will have on local residents.

Resolved – that the Parish Council writes to the Chairman of Telford & Wrekin Clinical Commissioning Group objecting to the cuts.

19/05/24 Internet Cafe

Councillors considered a proposal to have an internet café at Donnington and Muxton Community Library. Items discussed related to the possible lack of space in the library to site one, who would run and manage it and health and safety matters.

It was then suggested to provide a vending machine in the library and the Clerk was asked to investigate costs of these and report back at the next Council meeting.

19/05/25 Annual Report

Each Councillor received a copy of the Annual Report for 2018/2019.

Resolved – to accept the Annual Report for 2018/2019.

19/05/26 Date of next meeting

The Chairman informed Councillors that the next Council meeting will be held on Monday 10th June 2019 commencing at 7pm at Turreff Hall, Donnington. Items to be discussed will include the approval of Accounts for the Annual Return 2018/2019.

The meeting closed at 2100hrs.

Signed:

Date: