

Donnington and Muxton Parish Council
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Turreff Hall
on 13th May 2019 at 7.00pm

Present:

Councillors: M Edwards (Chairman), 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.

AP19/1 Apologies: There were no apologies.

AP19/2 Chairman's Report

Each Councillor received a copy of the Chairman's Report for 2018/2019 which was as follows:

It has been my honour to serve a second term as Chairman of Donnington and Muxton Parish Council during 2018/2019 and I am delighted to say that this Council has undertaken a great deal during this reporting year. The Parish Council has been actively lobbying the local MPs to try and keep the Accident and Emergency department open at the Princess Royal Hospital and tried to prevent the closure of Lloyds Bank in Donnington, even offering to host a mobile bank at Turreff Hall. However, the offer was not taken up by Lloyds Banking Group and sadly the banking facility on Wrekin Drive has now closed, much to the disappointment of this Council and the community.

Donnington and Muxton Community Library continues to thrive, and I cannot thank the volunteers enough for helping to ensure that this facility remains open. The car park at the front of the library was completed in July 2018 and the Council has received nothing but positive comments about it.

Telford & Wrekin Council has now employed an Environmental Officer, Kay Grice, to cover the northern area of Telford which includes this Council's parish and it has been a pleasure to work with her to date and look forward to working with her in the future.

On a personal note, I was privileged to have been nominated by this Council to be put into a lucky dip with other Shropshire Parish and Town Council's Chairman/Mayors to attend one of the Buckingham Palace's Garden Parties. I was delighted, surprised and honoured to be chosen and will now represent this Parish Council and Telford at one of these parties later this year.

The flood alleviation scheme for Donnington is now approximately 70% completed and it is hoped that the whole scheme will be finished by the end of May. I would like to thank the community as a whole for its patience and understanding during this essential work.

The Christmas festival held on The Parade, Donnington was a great success with the only negative being the poor Christmas lights. I am delighted that the Parish Council has now included in its budgets money to improve the lighting for this and future years.

The SIDS are being a great success and this Council is also in the process of installing a permanent one along Wellington Road, Muxton.

Another defibrillator has been installed at St John's Church, Muxton and I would like to thank the Church for allowing this Council to place one here. It is planned to put another defibrillator somewhere along Marshbrook Way, Muxton near the outdoor gym but a suitable location has not yet been found.

The Parish Council has also become part of the Dementia Friendly Community which means that people with dementia are understood, respected and supported. In a dementia friendly community people will be aware of and understand dementia, and people with dementia will feel included and involved.

I would like to thank all the Councillors for their support during my tenure as Chairman and wish those not standing in May's elections all the very best for the future. For those standing again as Parish and Borough Councillors I wish you all the very best and hopefully I will be working with you again.

I would personally, and on behalf of the Councillors, like to thank Ralph and Kate for all their work this reporting year especially in ensuring the Parish Council is now GDPR 2018 compliant, our accounts are kept in line with the required legislation and the work involved with the Neighbourhood Plan, along with the general running of the Council and library. I would also like to thank Helen who continually maintains the library and Turreff Hall to the highest standard.

AP19/3 Questions from Parishioners

Mr B Taylor informed those present that there are issues concerning the state of the road at the southern end of Muxton Lane where mud and slurry has been left all over the road and footpath by the farmer who has failed to clean up the mess. The farmer has been approached but has become quite abusive about the matter. It was reported to Telford & Wrekin Council on 1st February 2019 and 24 emails later nothing has been done about it and the road and footpath have not been cleaned. Would it be possible for the Parish Council to pass on these comments to the Borough Council and try and get the matter resolved? It was stated that the farmer is duty bound to clean the road and footpath and the Borough Council's enforcement team need to speak to the farmer face to face and not through emails. The Clerk was asked to pass the comments on to Telford & Wrekin Council.

Mrs V Allen and Mrs P Gillespie informed Councillors of the potholes at the car park to Donnington Bowling Green, the amount of litter here and that there is suspected drug dealing going on in the car park at night. The suspected drug dealing had been reported to the Police, but they do not appear to be doing anything about it. Mrs Allen and Mrs Gillespie were told, that whilst it is frustrating, to keep reporting the matter to the Police and eventually it will be classed by the Police as a "hot spot" and officers time will be allocated to checking the area.

The Clerk was asked to contact Telford & Wrekin Council regarding the potholes and the Police to raise concerns about the suspected drug dealing and enquire if it would be possible to erect a mobile CCTV camera at this location. The Clerk was also asked to invite the new Police Officer for this area to the next Council meeting.

Mrs Allen asked if it would be possible to get somewhere where young people can go at night instead of on the streets. The Clerk was asked to contact Telford & Wrekin Council to request this.

The meeting closed at 1930hrs.

Signed:

Date: