

DONNINGTON AND MUXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Turreff Hall, Donnington on 8th July 2019

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

Also Present: R Morgan (Parish Clerk), P Haigh (idverde Community Development Manager), Miss C Gill, T Ladkin, R Minton and Mrs R Gregory.

19/07/56 Apologies: Councillors M Edwards and C Mason.

Resolved – that the apologies are accepted.

19/07/57 Declaration of Interest: As per Register.

19/07/58 Public Session

Complaints were made concerning the state of some of the allotment plots and that keys were being given out to other people to undertake work on behalf of some plot holders that are unable to work them themselves. Suggestions were made to charge a £10 deposit for keys to ensure they are returned and, if a plot had not been worked and then given up, to employ idverde to trim and collect the weeds prior to that plot being re-issued. The Chairman asked if they had thought of creating an allotment society and asked that they list their top three issues so that he could discuss these with the Clerk.

Mrs R Gregory asked when the double yellow lines were being installed opposite the junction of Church Road on St Matthew's Road, Donnington as previously promised when work was carried out for a new car park and lay-by at this location. The Clerk was asked to chase this matter up as well as the promised double yellow lines at Thornton Park Avenue, Marshbrook Way and Lytham Green, Muxton near to Muxton Primary School.

19/07/59 idverde Community Development Manager

Mr P Haigh introduced himself to Councillors as idverde's Community Development Manager. He provided a brief background about himself and the work idverde were carrying out in this parish. He stated that there is a Community Investment Fund to assist community groups wishing to carry out their own work in the area and was happy for Councillors to have his contact details so they could contact him directly when issues arose. P Haigh stated that there had been comments placed on social media which he did not think were appropriate regarding the condition of Donnington War Memorial and to address this he had changed cutting the grass here from a Monday to a Friday. Mr Haigh was asked if it would be possible for areas to be litter pick prior to cutting the grass and he stated that this is only done on small areas. The Chairman thanked Mr Haigh for introducing himself to Council and the Clerk suggested that they read this Council's Media Policy to ensure they are complying with it.

19/07/60 Grant Application

Resolved – that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £250 was awarded to Job Box Telford & Wrekin Council to support the launch of a Wellbeing drop in at Donnington and Muxton Community Library.

19/07/61 Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10th June 2019.

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

19/07/62 Matters Arising from Minutes

Councillors received updated information of actions contained in the Minutes as follows:

Ercall Colts – the Clerk informed Councillors that he had not received written details of their proposal to take over responsibility of the football pitches on Broadoaks Field as requested.

Plant a Tree Scheme – The Clerk informed Councillors that he had met Telford & Wrekin Council's tree officer who is looking at suitable sites in Muxton and Donnington where trees can be planted.

Gateway Sign Re-siting – The Clerk informed Councillors that he had not received a response from Telford & Wrekin Council regarding this, or other highway issues reported. The Clerk was asked to create a list of issues not yet responded to and discuss these with the Chairman prior to contacting A Astley (Assistant Director Telford & Wrekin Council) to find out why no responses had been received.

Bollards Thornton Park Avenue, Muxton – Councillor N Dugmore explained he had met with Adam Brookes (Telford & Wrekin Council's Highways Officer) who would shortly be providing the Clerk with a quote to install bollards on Thornton Park Avenue. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Brookes to get confirmation that Telford & Wrekin Council would be responsible for the liability for the bollards on Holland Drive.

19/07/63 Expenditure Transactions

Each Councillor received a copy of the Expenditure Transactions for May 2019.

Resolved – that the expenditure transactions for May 2019 are ratified and accepted as a true record.

19/07/64 Income Received

Each Councillor received a copy of the income report for May 2019.

Resolved – that the Income Report for May 2019 is ratified and accepted as a true record.

19/07/65 Financial Budget Comparisons

Each Councillor received the Financial Budget Comparison as at 31st May 2019.

Resolved – that the expenditure transactions as at 31st May 2019 are accepted as a true record.

19/07/66 Bank Reconciliation

Each Councillor received a copy of the bank reconciliation as at 31st May 2019.

Resolved – that the bank reconciliation as at 31st May 2019 is accepted as a true record.

The following items 19/06/50 to 19/06/53 have been carried over from the meeting held on 10th June 2019.

19/06/50 Dog Fouling Campaign

Councillors discussed the Dog Fouling Campaign and the dog fouling and overgrown hedges on Humber Lane, Donnington. The Clerk was asked to request that Telford & Wrekin Council install three bins along this popular dog walking route along Humber Lane and ask if the hedges coming through the security fencing onto the footpaths could be cut back. The Clerk was also asked to contact the Borough Council to try and obtain the dog fouling “we are watching you” illuminous eyes to install in areas of the parish where dog fouling is worst.

Resolved – to purchase a dog poo fairy pack consisting of 10 A3 posters and 10 bin stickers at a cost of £45 plus VAT to be placed near to the local schools.

19/06/51 Donnington and Muxton Community Library

Councillors discussed options and quotes provided for a vending machine at Donnington and Muxton Community Library.

Resolved – not to have a vending machine at the Community Library.

19/06/53 VE Day 75

Councillors discussed SSAFA’s plans for VE Day 75 to celebrate and commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day.

Resolved – that the Parish Council investigates holding its own event on Broadoaks Field to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. Councillor J Gough stated he would contact the military at Donnington to see if they would be willing to attend the event.

19/07/67 Speeding Wellington Road, Muxton

The Chairman informed Councillors that he had met with Rod Lake from Safer Roads Partnership (SRP) to discuss the issues raised at this Council’s last meeting regarding speeding vehicles on Wellington Road, Muxton and what actions can be taken to prevent this. SRP has re-instated Police motorbikes with speed cameras once every two weeks near to the junction of Breton Park. The Chairman and Rod Lake are meeting with Mr Devereux on Tuesday 9th July 2019 to share data and discuss with Mr Brookes (Telford & Wrekin Council Highways Officer) various traffic calming measures. It is planned to hold a public meeting sometime in September to inform members of the public what traffic calming options are available. It was suggested that a flyer advertising the meeting is sent to those residents most affected and ask about the possibility of moving the traffic direction sign for Lilleshall to divert traffic along the A518 instead of along Wellington Road.

19/07/68 Granville Country Park

Councillor N Dugmore informed Councillors that he now had a price for a recycled plastic boardwalk across Muxton Marsh to help protect the wild orchids. The price is £11,000 including VAT. He had not heard back from the author of the Wrekin Giant with regard to having a trail at Granville Country Park.

Resolved – that as no price had been included on the agenda and the public have a right to know how much is being spent, then this item is to be added to the agenda for discussion at September’s Council Meeting. The Clerk was asked to investigate if any grants would be available from idverde, SITA, Veolia, Wrekin Housing Trust and Asda to help toward the cost of this project.

19/07/69 Monarch Fields Estate

The Clerk informed Councillors that he had received an email from Telford & Wrekin Council explaining why Telford & Wrekin Council has still not formally adopted Monarch Fields Estate, Donnington which includes Highlander Drive and Duke's View. The email stated that:

"Monarch Fields is an estate off Station Road Donnington and comprises of a Barrett Homes development with a small Lioncourt Homes development at the back. We [Telford & Wrekin Council] have periodically been asked about the status of these roads and most recently in 2017 where we discovered the following.

The site does have a signed S38 but this has stalled. In theory the roads are on maintenance and a snagging walk through was done with our Engineers in 2014 but those remedial works were not progressed and the site fell dormant. We eventually managed to contact Barrett Homes and it would appear that the problem relates to the S104 agreement with Severn Trent.

The surface water discharges under Station Road into a water course on the other side of the road. The outfall has caused erosion to the banks of the stream and silting. As such the S104 had not been concluded and hence why they had not progressed the adoption. We had been told they were required to strengthen the banks after which Severn Trent would review the matter after 6 months to see if this had solved the problem. The issue was that in order to do this they would need the agreement of the landowner in order to carry out the work and that they may sterilise a portion of the field.

I can confirm that the situation remains unchanged despite our best efforts and continued chasing. At this time, we are not getting a response from the Developer."

Councillor J Gough stated he would contact Barrett homes to discuss the issue and Councillor N Dugmore would investigate as to who owned the land in question.

19/07/70 Donnington Allotments

The Clerk informed Council of the recent events that occurred at Donnington Allotments and discussed the possibility of installing some CCTV Cameras to cover the site. The Clerk informed Councillors that Donnington Wood Bowling Club had a CCTV system that had a space for an extra camera should the Parish Council wish to purchase one and add it to its system or there are remote cameras available that are solar powered and can be located anywhere and viewed through a mobile phone or tablet.

Resolved – that the Clerk proceeds with purchasing a camera but to liaise with the Chairman prior to its purchase.

19/07/71 MyTelford

Councillor M Stokes informed Council that when using the MyTelford App you receive a reference number beginning with "i" and then a reference number highlighting which department was dealing with the matter. However, when checking on the progress it was difficult to find out why a reported issue had been closed without work being carried out or the issue resolved. The Clerk was asked to investigate this matter and inform Councillors.

19/07/72 Vehicles running outside schools

Concerns were raised regarding vehicles being left with their engines running outside schools especially during the winter months. Discussions were held to discuss ways to prevent this. As drivers doing this are breaking the law it was suggested that the Police carry out more random checks and speak to the people doing this. It was suggested that signs are erected on school property warning drivers of the penalty.

Resolved – that the Clerk investigate the cost of these signs, contact Telford & Wrekin Council about the proposed scheme and write to the schools and Chair of Governors to get permission to erect these signs on school property.

19/07/73 Council Policies

Councillors are requested to review the following policies for this Council:

- a. Parish Council's Standing Orders
- b. Parish Council's Financial Regulations
- c. Risk Management

Resolved – that the above documents are currently appropriate for this Parish Council.

19/07/74 Christmas Vouchers

Councillors discussed purchasing £5 Asda Vouchers for Christmas to give to those that are 65 years and over and live in this Parish.

Resolved – not to purchase vouchers for pensioners at Christmas but to place on the agenda for September's Council meeting an item whereby Councillors can discuss alternative options.

Councillor Mrs E A Clare left the meeting.

19/07/75 Use of Broadoaks Field

Councillors discussed allowing/supporting the use of Broadoaks Field for Harry Jones funfair in 2020 and "Uncle Sam's American Circus" July 24th – 28th.

Resolved – to have no issue regarding the use of Broadoaks Field to hold these aforementioned events but the Clerk is to check if Broadoaks Field is available next May/June to hold its commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of VE Day.

19/07/76 Benches Highlander Drive

Councillors considered purchasing benches for Highlander Drive, Donnington at a cost of £380 each plus installation at locations in Highlander Drive.

Resolved – to purchase four recycled plastic picnic benches for Highlander Drive at a cost of £380 each plus fitting costs.

Resolved – that as the meeting would progress beyond 2 hours that Standing Order 3x is suspended.

19/07/77 Parish Council Website

Councillors considered setting up a small working group to improve/modernise this Parish Council's website.

Resolved – that Councillors P Loughlin and A Lawrence, together with the Clerk and Website manager discuss alternatives available to modernise this Council's website.

19/07/78 Agenda Items for the Next Council Meeting

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

Planting Trees on three pieces of land in Muxton

19/07/79 Date of next meeting

The Chairman informed Councillors that the next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th September 2019 at St John's Church, Muxton commencing at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 2110hrs.

Signed:

Date: