

DONNINGTON AND MUXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Turreff Hall, Donnington on 14th October 2019

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

Also Present: R Morgan (Parish Clerk), Mrs R Gregory and Mrs C Nielsen.

19/10/109 Apologies: Councillors Mrs E A Clare and M Edwards.

Resolved – that the apologies are accepted.

19/10/110 Declaration of Interest: As per Register.

19/10/111 Public Session

A local resident complained that their neighbour has had a lot of rubbish in their garden for some time to the extent that there had recently been an infestation of maggots. The resident stated that they had to pay to get rid of these and there were now concerns that there are rats as well. They had tried speaking to the neighbour but to no avail and the Wrekin Housing Trust had been no help whatsoever. Councillor R Overton stated that the Borough Council deals with the landlords regarding matters such as this and he will discuss this issue with it. He stated that he would liaise with the resident and asked for their contact details. The resident was also advised to write to the Wrekin Housing Trust and officially complain about the way its officer had treated her.

19/10/112 Minutes

Councillors were asked to confirm the Minutes of the following meetings:

- a. Council meeting held on 11th September 2019.

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

- b. Planning Committee meeting held on 7th October 2019.

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

19/10/113 Matters Arising from Minutes

Bollards Thornton Park Avenue – Since Councillor M Stokes had sent a revised plan for the bollards no response had been received from Telford & Wrekin Council (T&Wr). The Clerk was asked to chase this matter up with Adam Brookes and Angie Astley (T&Wr Council).

Footpath Brands Meadow – the Clerk informed Councillors that this matter was being dealt with by Telford & Wrekin Council and would find out from Kay Grice and Angie Astley when the work to install a drain at this location will take place.

Traffic lights junction Wellington Road, Muxton with the A518 – It was stated that there is potential to have these installed financed via the Community Infrastructure Levy (s106) from a planning application by Central and County Developments Ltd for a convenience store on land off Wellington Road, Muxton.

Gateway Sign – the Clerk informed those present that he was meeting with a Borough Council Highways Officer on 28th October 2019 to show her where the sign should be removed from and where it should be installed.

St Matthew's Road crossing – Councillors decided to request a standard pedestrian crossing at this location and asked the Clerk to inform the Borough Council about this decision. The Clerk was also asked if Telford & Wrekin Council could give a timescale of when this might be installed.

Market Drayton Town Council – the Clerk informed Councillors that he had not yet contacted this Council to ask which contractor it used for replacing the streetlights with LED lanterns but that he would do over the forthcoming weeks.

Plant a Tree Scheme – The Clerk informed Councillors that he is meeting with Telford & Wrekin Council's tree officer to discuss planting trees around the parish which will include Broadoaks Field by Aldi.

19/10/114 Financial Budget Comparisons

Each Councillor received the Financial Budget Comparison as at 31st August 2019. Councillors asked what the cumulative income from the solar panels was, queried why the budget heading 301/2 for National Insurance was already overspent and the fact that no payment for water for the library had yet been made. The Clerk informed Councillors that he would investigate these matters.

Resolved – that the expenditure transactions as at 31st August 2019 are accepted as a true record. The Clerk was asked to provide a report on the solar panels for the next Council meeting.

19/10/115 Local Council Award Scheme

The Parish Council is due its re-accreditation for its Foundation Level Local Council Award Scheme. Councillors are therefore requested to confirm by resolution that this Parish Council publishes online the following:

- a. Its Standing Orders and Financial Regulations
- b. Its Code of Conduct and a link to Councillors registers of interest
- c. Its Publication Scheme
- d. Its last Annual Return
- e. Transparent information about Council payments
- f. A calendar of all meetings including the Annual meeting of electors (Annual Public Meeting)
- g. Minutes of at least one year of full council meetings and all committee meetings
- h. Current agendas
- i. The budget and precept information for the current financial year
- j. Its complaint procedure
- k. Council contact details and councillor information in line with the Transparency Code
- l. Its Action Plan for the current year
- m. Evidence of consulting the community (Neighbourhood Plan, Speeding Wellington Road, Muxton, Quiet Lane Muxton Lane etc)

- n. Evidence of participating in Town and Country Planning (Planning application consultation and Neighbourhood Plan)

Resolved – that this Parish Council publishes online the aforementioned documents.

To obtain the Quality Level this Council must confirm by resolution that it meets all the requirements for the Foundation Award and also publishes online the following:

- a. Draft Minutes of all Council and Committee meetings within four weeks of the last meeting
- b. A Health and Safety Policy
- c. A Community Engagement Policy involving two-way communication between Council and Community
- d. Councillor Profiles
- e. A grant awarding policy
- f. Evidence showing how electors contribute to the Annual Parish Meeting
- g. Evidence of community engagement, council activities and the promotion of democratic processes in an Annual Report, online material and regular news bulletins
- h. Evidence of helping the community plan for the future (Neighbourhood Plan)

Resolved – that this Parish Council meets the requirements for the Foundation Award and publishes online the aforementioned documents.

19/10/116 Clerk's Report

Each Councillor received a copy of the Clerk's report containing the following:

Granville Country Park – the Clerk informed those present that the Granville Country Park Steering Group no longer requires a boardwalk across Muxton Marsh.

Councillor N Dugmore stated that it still wishes to have a children's trail financed by the Community Infrastructure Levy (s106) from the proposed development on land off Redhill.

Plant a Tree Scheme – the Clerk stated that he is currently in discussion with Gavin Onions (Telford & Wrekin Council Tree Officer) regarding the provision of trees around the parish via the Plant a Tree Scheme. With regard to the fruit trees at Brands Meadow Play Area, Mr Onions is of the opinion that the proposed location is not the best to have these given the proximity of the MUGA as there may be quite a high chance for potential vandalism and if they were to survive until fruiting age. There would possibly be anti-social misuse of the fruit. Mr Onions thinks it would also be a good idea to get the local school involved in the planting of the orchard as this may give the local children that sense of ownership of the trees.

Additionally, Mr Onions met with Mr Adams recently who lives in Broomhurst Way. He has been growing trees for 50 years and has around 50+ Horse chestnuts and Norway maples, which he would like to donate to the Donnington and Muxton area. Councillors were grateful of this offer of trees and requested that the Norway Maples are planted at Brands Meadow Play Area and the Horse Chestnut is planted on Broad Oaks near to Aldi. Councillor J Lavery also suggested planting trees on the land adjacent to the Scout Hut.

Lamp Post Poppies – idverde will install and remove the lamp post poppies at the locations requested for a fee of £280. They will be collected and installed on 28th / 29th October. The Clerk was asked to attach one of these poppies to the War Memorial Gates at Donnington Recreation Ground.

The Clerk was also asked if it would still be possible to obtain a wreath to attach to the War Memorial Gates and to clarify where the Memorial Service will take place in Donnington.

Pensioners Christmas Dinner – the pensioners Christmas dinner will take place at Cordingley Hall on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th December 2019. Each day will provide a two-course meal plus in-house entertainment and cater for 150 people at £10 per head. The Community Events and Engagement Officer will issue tickets for each day on a first come first served basis. It is hoped that by holding these meals it will help reduce the social isolation for those that rarely meet anyone.

The matter of pensioners requiring carers and transport was raised. Councillors agreed that if pensioners requiring carers wished to attend then the carers should also be given a ticket. Also, if anyone required transport to get there then the Community Events and Engagement Officer will take their details and transport can then be arranged nearer the date. The Events Officer is also to contact Hadley and Leegomery Parish Council to investigate how it provides transport for its function.

19/10/117 Grassed area junction Furnace Lane/Oakengates Road

Councillors discussed the possibility of this Parish Council paying toward a cut and collection service for the grassed areas within the parish. The Clerk explained how much it costs just to have the grass cut and collected at St Matthew's Church, Donnington and what it pays toward collecting the grass at Donnington War Memorial.

Resolved – that due to the high cost that would be involved it was decided just to have a cut and collect service at the Donnington War Memorial and St Matthew's Church. The Clerk was also asked to investigate how much it would cost to have the grass collected from the Gun Roundabout in Donnington. Councillors were also asked to provide the Clerk with any other suggested areas.

19/10/118 Pigeon Deterrent Spikes

Councillors were informed that the cost of purchasing Pigeon deterrent spikes for the streetlights was on average £25 per lantern but may be slightly more for larger lanterns. Councillor N Dugmore stated that he would purchase the pigeon deterrent spikes out of his Borough Ward Fund and deal with this matter personally.

19/10/119 Wildflower Beds within the parish

Councillors discussed planting wildflower beds within the parish. The Clerk informed Councillors that the Borough Council is already planning to create wildflower beds on major road verges. Councillor A Lawrence stated that he would pay toward the wildflower area opposite Muxton Primary School and for daffodil bulbs opposite the Soldiers bench in Muxton out of his Borough Ward Fund. Councillor N Dugmore stated that he would pay for poppies to be planted opposite the Soldiers bench from his Borough Ward Fund.

19/10/120 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:

Tree at Donnington War Memorial – to discuss removing the dead tree at the War Memorial.
Commemorating 75th Anniversary of VE Day – to agree a date and confirm a location for this Parish Council event.

Christmas Lights – to receive a report on the progress of the Christmas Lights.

Solar Panels – to receive a report on the solar panels

Minutes Silence – to hold a Minutes Silence to commemorate Armistice Day.

19/10/121 Date of next meeting

The Chairman informed Councillors that the next Council meeting will be held on Monday 11th November 2019 at Turreff Hall, Donnington commencing at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 2025hrs.

Signed:

Date: