

Donnington and Muxton Parish Council



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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Cordingley Hall, Donnington on 8th November 2021 commencing at 7pm

Present: Councillors Mrs L Dugmore (Vice-Chairman), I Alexander, Miss F Doran, N Dugmore, J Lavery, A Lawrence, R Overton, M Rowe and J Thompson.

Also Present: R Morgan (Parish Clerk), Mrs H Westwood (Parish Council Community Events and Engagement Officer), J Bedesha and S Haydon (Community Safety and Cohesion Team Telford & Wrekin Council) and K Buttress.

21/11/117 Apologies: Councillor M Edwards, J Gough, T Hoof and J Urey.

Resolved – that the apologies are accepted.

21/11/118 Declaration of Interest: As per Registers of Interests.

21/11/119 Public Session: There were no questions or comments from the public.

21/11/120 Safer and Stronger Programme

Each Councillor received a copy of the presentation by Jas Bedesda and Simon Haydon with regard to the Safer and Stronger Programme. The programme is multi-agency and aims to build safer and stronger communities by investing in ten areas across the Borough to tackle the root causes of crime, rather than the crime itself. Some of the ways in which this will be done will be to design out crime (by making streets safer and investment in CCTV), finding out what the key drivers of crime are in each area and prevent landlords exploiting tenants. Simon Haydon then informed Councillors of some of the work that had been carried out in the Parish Council area. New CCTV cameras had been installed to address anti-social behaviour in School Road and Columbine Way near the underpass and fly-tipping in Penistone Close. The team intends to carry out events and activities within the area to discover what residents' concerns are and to improve women's safety.

Councillor N Dugmore stated that he had been trying to get the thick bushes between the trees along Donnington Wood Way cut back for the last three years as this is deemed a safer route to school and nothing has been done. Anything could happen on this footpath and it's an accident waiting to happen. Simon Haydon informed Councillors that he had spoken to the Environmental Officer for the area who has agreed to meet with him next week to discuss the issue.

He has spoken to women about the path, and they have stated that they would not walk along it. Simon also informed Councillors that he had asked for the streetlights to be cleaned and now he had to try and change people's perception that it is now safer.

When asked how many CCTV cameras were in Donnington Councillors were informed that there are 26 cameras in Donnington which can be moved around the area. £900,000 has been invested in upgrading the CCTV system in Telford.

The Chairman thanked J Bedesha and S Haydon for coming to speak to the Parish Council.

21/11/121 Grant Application

Councillors discussed an application for a grant received from Breton Park Residents Association for money to purchase a defibrillator. It was proposed that the Parish Council purchased the defibrillator for Breton Park instead of awarding them a grant.

Resolved – that the Parish Council purchases and installs a defibrillator for Breton Park, Muxton.

21/11/122 Minutes: To confirm the following Minutes of the Council and its Committees:

- a. Council meeting held on 11th October 2021.

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

- b. Planning Committee meeting held on 18th October 2021.

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

- c. Planning Committee meeting held on 1st November 2021.

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

21/11/123 Matters Arising from Minutes

Councillors received updated information on the following:

Tactile paving, Muxton – The Clerk informed Councillors that he had reported the issues with the tactile paving in Muxton to Telford & Wrekin Council's Highways Department and that he had been provided a reference number for the work to improve/repair them.

Pembridge Close Play Area – the Clerk informed Councillors that he didn't know if Councillor J Urey had yet met with Derek Owen (Telford & Wrekin Council's Health Space Design Specialist) regarding the play area off Pembridge Close, Muxton. Councillor M Rowe asked if he and C Lord can be invited to any meetings.

21/11/124 Expenditure Transactions: Each Councillor received a copy of the Expenditure Transactions for October 2021.

Resolved – that the Expenditure Transactions for October 2021 are ratified and accepted as a true record.

21/11/125 Income Received: Each Councillor received a copy of the Income Report for October 2021.

Resolved – that the Income Report for October 2021 is ratified and accepted as a true record.

21/11/126 Bank Reconciliation: Each Councillor received a copy of the Bank Reconciliation as of 31st October 2021.

Resolved – that the Bank Reconciliation as of 31st October 2021 is ratified and accepted as a true record.

21/11/127 Financial Budget Comparisons: Each Councillor received a copy of the Financial Budget Comparison as at 31st October 2021.

Resolved – that the Financial Budget Comparisons as at 31st October 2021 are ratified and accepted as a true record.

21/11/128 Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)

It was proposed that as Councillor J Urey had requested that this item be placed on the agenda, and that she was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting, that this item be deferred to December's Council meeting. Councillor N Dugmore confirmed that investigative groundworks had been carried out near Muxton Primary School to see if lay-bys could be installed to help ease the traffic congestion at school drop off and pick up times.

Resolved – to defer this item to December's Council meeting. The Clerk was asked to approach Telford & Wrekin Council and discuss offering part of the Parish Council land opposite Muxton Primary School to the Borough Council for provision of a lay-by/small car park.

21/11/129 Allotments

Councillors considered reviewing the rent paid for a Parish Council allotment plot. The Clerk had provided some examples of what other Telford Town/Parish Council's charge for their plots. Various increases were suggested. Proposed by Councillor J Lavery, seconded by Councillor R Overton that the Parish Council does not increase the rent for its allotments. *Proposed by Councillor Mrs L Dugmore, seconded by Councillor N Dugmore to increase the rent – defeated. [Amended and added at Meeting].*

Resolved – that the Parish Council does not raise its rent for its allotment plots.

21/11/130 Safer Routes to School, Donnington Wood Way

This item had been discussed with J Bedesha and S Haydon as part of item 21/11/120 Safer and Stronger Programme.

21/11/131 Pensioners Christmas Dinner

Councillor attendance at the Pensioners Christmas Dinner was discussed. Councillor J Lavery stated that he was unhappy with the fact that numerous emails discussing this had circulated amongst Councillors when it should be discussed at a Council meeting. The Clerk explained that as responses from Councillors had been time critical it was sometimes necessary to get responses from Councillors in this manner. Some Councillors were concerned that as payment of Councillor allowances had recently been stopped, and that some attending the meal would lose income from time off work, some form of recompense should be made and those Councillors attending should not have to pay for their meal. It was also suggested that Councillors could just attend the event and meet residents without having a meal.

Resolved – that Councillors attending this event will pay for their Christmas Dinner if they wish to partake in the meal.

21/11/132 Donnington Day, Broadoaks Field

Mrs H Westwood provided Councillors with a brief background to the Polish Heritage Day event taking place in May 2022 and that the organiser would like to involve the local communities in the event. As a result, the Parish Council has been approached to help organise a Donnington Day event on Saturday 7th May 2022 in partnership with Shropshire European Organisation to help with community cohesion between local and surrounding communities and European Communities. The Clerk informed Councillors that this will involve some expense to the Council.

Resolved – that the Parish Council helps organise a Donnington International Day on Saturday 7th May 2022 and involve as many communities/nationalities as possible.

21/11/133 Commemorative Coins for Queen’s Jubilee

Mrs H Westwood provided Councillors with some examples of costs of commemorative coins to give to local children to commemorate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022.

Resolved – to give a commemorative coin to every child from Foundation to Key Stage 2 in Local Schools up to a total maximum budget of £2,000.

21/11/134 Budgets: Councillors discussed the preliminary draft budgets for 2022/2023. Councillor N Dugmore asked if a spreadsheet could be created of the extra income received from the NHS for hiring Turreff Hall as a vaccination centre so additional items could be purchased for the benefit of the community. Councillor J Lavery asked for a breakdown of the balance of money left at the end of the financial year 2020/21.

21/11/135 Council Laptop

Councillors were informed that the Events Officer’s computer had completely shut down and IT Support could not fix the problem. Therefore, after discussions with the Chairman, the Clerk had purchased a new laptop so that the Event’s Officer no longer has to use her own personal laptop.

21/11/136 Development Plans

Councillors considered a response to Telford & Wrekin Council’s Homes for All consultation. Councillor R Overton informed Councillors that Telford & Wrekin Council is trying to improve the renting of homes by the private sector. The Parish Council was concerned that not enough dwellings were being created for vulnerable young adults and would have liked to have seen more.

Resolved – that the Clerk responds to the consultation on behalf of the Council stating that not enough dwellings were being created for vulnerable young adults and would have liked to have seen more.

21/11/137 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:

Pensioners trip to the seaside 2022 – to receive an update on this proposed event.

Saltwell’s Drive bus shelter – to receive an update on the repair of the exposed bare wires.

Bus shelter near Breton Park Wellington Road, Muxton – to update Councillors on where the missing bus shelter has gone.

Bench, Wellington Road, Donnington – to receive a diagram of where the seats/benches are located with a view to providing another bench.

21/11/138 Date of next meeting

The Chairman informed Councillors that the next Council meeting will be held on Monday 13th December 2021 at the Donnington Community Hub, Donnington, commencing at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 2045hrs.

Signed:

Date: