

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held at Turreff Hall  
on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011 at 7.00pm**

**Present:**

Councillors: C Mason (Chair), A Baker, Mrs C A Baker, M R Bolam, Mrs V J Brown, Mrs E A Clare, Mrs L M Dugmore, N A Dugmore, B H Green, Mrs P A Green, J M J Haigh, A Lawrence, J Lavery, Mrs E P Millard, P Norton.

**Also Present:** R Morgan (Parish Clerk), N Dunbar, Mrs R Gregory, P Hawkins, D Thompson.

The Chairman welcomed all the new councillors and thanked those that had served and those that were re-elected to serve the Parish Council. The Chairman then presented flowers to Mrs R Gregory thanking her for the work she had put in as a Councillor (but who, unfortunately, had not been re-elected) and for providing the refreshments for every Council meeting.

**1. Apologies:** There were no apologies.

**2. Chairman's Report:**

The biggest change to the Parish Council this year was the recognition of Muxton in its name. As a result of the Community Governance Review and a Re-Organisation Order the Parish Council, on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010, became Lilleshall, Donnington and Muxton Parish Council.

I am also delighted that, once again, this Parish Council has been awarded Quality Parish Status after satisfying the criteria set by government and the National Association of Local Councils. Well done to all concerned.

This year saw the commencement of the Sensory Garden project which I have been wanting in the Parish for some years. It has been created with the help of the Greenwood Trust and funded partially by a grant from Fair Share Trust. It is located near Barclay Gardens and when completed will provide a pleasant area where residents can sit and where school children can learn about nature. My thanks go to Matt Beech of the Greenwood Trust for all his work in achieving this ambition of mine.

Another initiative that I was delighted to see occurring this year was the invitation of individual organisations to give a presentation on what they did to the Parish Council. Presentations provided were regarding the West Mercia Police, Parish Housing Needs Survey, Coaching events at The Talbot Tennis Courts, Shropshire Ambulance First Emergency Responder and the Shropshire Fire Authority.

Civic Service: On 24<sup>th</sup> October 2011 I held a Civic Service at St Matthew's Church, Donnington. The service went extremely well and I would like to thank all those that attended especially Lord Grocott, The Mayor and Mayoress of the Borough of Telford & Wrekin, representatives from 83 St George's Squadron Air Training Corps and the Chairmen of adjoining Parish/Town Councils. I would also like to thank Reverend Paula Smith and her team of staff at the Church who helped make it a most enjoyable morning together with those that provided the refreshments after the Service at the Lifelong Learning Centre.

Community Engagement Meetings (CEM): I am delighted to see that the CEM's in Muxton are still well attended which now also include issues and concerns of the school children raised via Muxton School Council. My thanks goes to PC Duncan White and his local policing team for their work in Muxton, WPC Nikki Scott and her team for dealing with issues in Donnington and to Sgt Chris Munro and his team for his work in Lilleshall. The Parish Council has also continued to help financially support the local Donnington Beat Managers Vehicle.

This year unfortunately saw the loss of the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator as, with the restructuring occurring at Telford & Wrekin Council, Fiona Moore has had to relocate back to Civic Offices in a new role as Priority Action Co-ordinator. I would like to wish Fiona the very best in her new role and thank her for all the work she has done here in Donnington.

I am delighted to say that this reporting year saw this Parish Council become the first to have solar powered bus shelters in Telford and these are located in Turreff Avenue and Furnace Lane. Also, I am delighted to announce that this Parish Council has successfully achieved its re-accreditation of Quality Parish Status.

I look forward to the Christmas Festival on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at Cordingley Hall to celebrate the switching on of the Parish Council Christmas lights. Previously this has taken place on The Parade, Donnington with only a handful of Councillors and a few residents. It is planned to have school choirs singing, stalls, tombola etc to make the event more entertaining.

I would also like to welcome all the new residents into the parish especially those in Lions Court, Monarch Fields and the new developments in Muxton.

My congratulations go to the Parish Clerk Ralph Morgan on passing the Certificate in Higher Education in Community Engagement and Governance through the University of Gloucestershire and thank him for his support which has been very much appreciated. Also, many thanks to all the staff, Angela (Assistant Clerk), Derek (Estate Manager) and Helen (Caretaker) for their support and hard work throughout the year. I would also like to take this opportunity in thanking all the Councillors for their support, hard work and contributions at the Council meetings.

### **3. Questions from Parishioners:**

Mr D Thompson thanked the Chairman and Councillor Mrs E A Clare for their work in obtaining new street lighting in Oakengates Road. The Chairman stated that it was a good example of the Borough Council and Parish Council working together in partnership.

Mrs R Gregory stated that the Skate Park Consultation event held on the Donnington Recreation Ground on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May was very well attended.

The meeting closed at 1907hrs.

Signed:

Date: