

Minutes of Finance Committee
Held at Turreff Hall on Monday 20th April 2009

Present: Councillors Mrs E A Clare, B Green, Mrs R Gregory, J Lavery, Mrs B Mason, C Mason, J Thompson.

Also Present: R Morgan (Parish Clerk), WPC N Scott (West Mercia Police).

1. **Apologies:** Councillors A Baker, Mrs V Brown, M Edwards, J Hockin, P Norton.
Resolved – that the apologies are accepted.

2. **Declaration of Interest:** As per Register. Councillor Mrs E A Clare – Item 7.

3. **Grant Applications**

Resolved – in the opinion of the Council it is in the interest of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants that the following grants be approved under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Wrekin Division Young Leaders | £ 135.00 |
| 2. Oakengates Youth Summer School | £ 200.00 |
| 3. Lilleshall Women's Institute | £ 50.00 |
| 4. West Mercia Police* | £1,000.00 |
| 5. Silver Threads Club Donnington | £ 200.00 |

Total **£1,585.00**

* This grant is awarded under Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s31.

4. **Membership/Subscription Fees**

Councillors discussed the renewal of the membership/subscription to the Shropshire Association of Local Councils (SALC).

Resolved - to renew the Parish Council's membership to SALC and pay the subscription fee of £1,547.11

5. **Financial Management**

Councillors reviewed the following documents regarding the Parish Council's Financial Management:

a. The Parish Council's Financial Regulations

Resolved – that the current Financial Regulations for this Parish Council are deemed to be adequate and are to be reviewed again in the next financial year.

b. The effectiveness of its Internal Controls

Resolved – that the Parish Council's Internal Controls are deemed to be adequate and are to be reviewed in the next financial year.

c. The Parish Council's Risk Management.

Resolved – that the current Risk Assessment for this Parish Council is deemed to be adequate and is to be reviewed in the next financial year.

d. The Parish Council's Insurance Cover

Resolved – that the Parish Council's Insurance Cover is deemed to be adequate and is to be reviewed in the next financial year.

F66

6. **Councillor Training**

Each Councillor received details of the following SALC Training Seminars:

- a. Community Engagement on 7th May 2009 commencing at 7pm at Shirehall, Shrewsbury and 13th May at 7pm at Civic Offices, Telford.
- b. Councils as Employers on 27th May 2009 commencing at 7pm at Shirehall, Shrewsbury.
- c. Recruitment and Selection of Staff on 24th June 2009 commencing at 7pm at Telford Civic Offices.

The Chair informed them that should they wish to attend then they are to give their names to the Clerk.

7. Planning Applications

Councillor Mrs E A Clare left the room whilst these were discussed. The Vice-Chair, Councillor C Mason chaired the meeting for this item. Councillors then discussed the following planning applications:

- a. W2009/0259
Barratt West Midlands, Plot 60, Monarch Fields, Station Road, Donnington, Telford, Shropshire.
Substitution of 3 detached houses on plots 60, 61 and 62 for 7 semi-detached and terraced houses and garages.
Resolved – to have no objection to this application.
- b. W2009/0267
Telford & Wrekin Council, Garrison Roundabout, New Trench Road, Donnington, Telford, Shropshire.
Display of 3 500mm x 1200mm non-illuminated advertisement boards (resubmission of W2008/1255).
Resolved – to strongly object to this application as it will spoil the look and character of this landmark roundabout. The Garrison roundabout with its three guns situated on it shows the strong historical link that this parish has with the Brigade Ordnance Depot. The Parish Council feels that by placing advertising boards here would be detrimental to its character and historical standing. Also, advertisement boards distract driver's concentration which leads to issues with traffic safety.
A similar application (W2008/1255) was recently refused by Telford & Wrekin Council for the following reason:
The proposed signs would detract from the visual amenity and character of the existing roundabout which is a local landmark due to its prominent display of artillery. Therefore, the proposals would be contrary to the aims and objectives of "saved" Policy S31 in the Wrekin Local Plan 1995 – 2006.
- c. W2009/0272
Netto Foodstores Ltd, Site of Former Champion Jockey Public House, Wrekin Drive, Donnington, Telford, Shropshire.
Erection of a 946sqm retail unit with car parking and servicing and erection of 2.3m high fence and gates.
Resolved – to object to this application for the following reasons:
Transport Issues.
Contrary to the Transport Statement 2.9 pg6 road parking can be very heavy especially on a Wednesday morning. F67
The site is always referred to as being adjacent to the library. However, if investigations had been carried out thoroughly it would have discovered that there is a well used **community hall and Parish Council offices** which are also contained in the adjacent building. This, therefore, negates

any claims made in the Transport Statement as current vehicle usage of the adjacent building cannot possibly have been taken into consideration or the effect that the proposed store would have on this.

Deliveries of Goods: It is stated that the deliveries will not take place during peak hours. If this is the case then there will be late night or early morning deliveries made by HGV's causing noise nuisance to nearby residents. The increase and noise of HGV traffic on residents living near to the site on Turreff Avenue and Wrekin Drive would be unacceptable. Delivery lorries reversing on Turreff Avenue would also have a detrimental impact on the safety of local children on their way to school in the morning and block a busy residential road and much used bus route.

Business Travel Plan Statement

It is assumed that staff will walk or cycle. No provision has been made for staff parking.

Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

The consultants, Sanderson Associates, have arrogantly assumed that the Willow Tree on which a Tree Preservation Order was placed in September 2008 will be removed. After inspecting the tree Telford & Wrekin Council agreed that the tree was a very good specimen of Willow and agreed to place a TPO on it. Landscape by Design Ltd claims that there is a considerable split in the tree which is deemed dangerous. On inspection it can be seen that the split has been part of the tree for a considerable number of years and probably no danger at all.

A previous planning application by Netto to remove the TPO on the tree was withdrawn by the applicant.

Therefore, the opinion by Mr Peter Jackson is his own personal professional view and consideration should be given to the fact that he was employed by the applicants and that the tree is indeed healthy and does fall into the category of A and B contrary to that stated.

Planning and Retail Statement

Shops in the immediate vicinity of proposed store:

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Alpha Fish Bar | Bagri Fashions | Cantonese |
| Coral Bookmakers | Lil' missy Hair Salon | Opticians |
| Lloyds Chemists | News Express | Lyn's Bakery |
| Post Office | Creases | Lloyds Bank |
| Co-op | Feathers & Fins | |

The Parish Council has concerns that **four** supermarkets in a small district centre is one too many especially where the distance between the three already in Donnington are only within the space of one and a half miles.

F68

This application would have a detrimental effect on the shops already situated here.

Not in the immediate vicinity, but also in Donnington are the following retail outlets:

Janet Middleton Property Lawyer Corner shop Snips Trendy Cuts
Aldi Asda

Albert Place Shops.

Oasis Fish Bar Tandoori Kitchen U:2 Hair dressers
Underlock & Key Sanda Games

This negates the statement made in 4.19, 4.24, 4.29, 4.30, 4.35, 4.36 and shows that there is ample consumer choice already provided by these outlets.

Contrary to that stated in 4.25 there would be an unacceptable impact on existing centres as the development of another supermarket would have a detrimental effect on surrounding retail outfits. Therefore, consideration should be given to Section 3 PPS6. The application does not pass most of the criteria contained in 4.39.

Other Concerns

The proposed building is very close to the adjacent library/Turreff Hall boundary wall.

Consideration should be given to the possible increase in light pollution which would affect nearby residents.

Consideration should be given to the possible noise pollution from refrigeration units which would affect the residents living in close proximity.

If, however, this application does get passed by Telford & Wrekin Council, then this Parish Council requests that under **Section 106 Planning Gain**, money is to be provided from the development to **increase the car parking to the front of the adjacent library and to the rear of Turreff Hall** to remove any possibility of on road parking within the vicinity of the library.

The Parish Council requests that this application is “green carded” and placed before Council for determination.

d. W2009/0288

Mrs S Blower, Land to rear of, 15A, The Humbers, Donnington, Telford, Shropshire.

Erection of 4no. dwellings with associated car parking, landscaping and access.

Resolved – to have no objection to this application.

F69

8. Talbot Centre Lilleshall

The Clerk informed the Committee that the £300 awarded to the Parish Council for damage to the Talbot Centre as a result of vandalism in 2006 had now started to be received albeit in monthly instalments.

9. Correspondence

The Chair informed the Committee that the following correspondence had been received:

- a. **“Thank You” letter from Severn Hospice** – for the grant awarded to it by this Parish Council.
- b. **Photograph of the new bench purchased by the Lilleshall Area Playscheme.** Money to purchase this was awarded by the Parish Council at a recent meeting in the form of a grant.
- c. **Details of a list of Information Seminars to be held in Civic Offices.** The Clerk was asked to forward the details of these to Councillors.

The meeting closed at 1950hrs.

Signature:

Date: