

**Minutes of Halls and Environment Committee**  
**Held at Turreff Hall on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

**Present:** Councillors A Baker, Mrs V Brown, B Green, Mrs P A Green, Mrs R Gregory, J Lavery, C Mason, P Norton, K Watkins.

**1. Election of Chair**

Nominations were requested for Chair of the Halls and Environment Committee. Councillors P Norton was nominated. No other nominations were received.

**Resolved** - that Councillor P Norton is Chair of the Halls and Environment Committee for this Parish Council.

**2. Election of Vice-Chair**

Nominations were requested for Vice-Chair of the Halls and Environment Committee. Councillor Mrs P A Green was nominated. No other nominations were received.

**Resolved** - that Councillor Mrs P A Green is Vice-Chair of the Halls and Environment Committee for this Parish Council.

- 3. Public Session:** A representative spoke on behalf of the applicant for planning application W2008/0712 which was to be discussed later in the meeting. The representative stated that issues raised on previous applications had been discussed with the planning and highway departments of Telford and Wrekin Council and had now been redressed. The Chair thanked the representative for his comments.

- 4. Apologies:** M Edwards (Work), J Hockin (Work).

**Resolved** – that the apologies are accepted.

- 5. Declaration of Interest:** As per Register. Also Councillor P Norton – Item 7b.

**6. Granville Energy-from-Waste Centre**

The Council received a presentation regarding concerns about the proposed erection of an incinerator at Granville recycling and waste management site from Robert Saunders and Mandy Edwards – Friends of the Earth. Mr Saunders and Ms Edwards highlighted the concerns and perceived dangers of the proposed incinerator and stated that in areas where incinerators were already operational figures for recycling had dropped dramatically. After the presentation Mr Saunders and Ms Edwards answered questions put to them by Councillors and left further information with the Clerk.

The Chair thanked Mr Saunders and Ms Edwards for their time and presentation to the Council.

## 7. **Planning Applications**

The Committee discussed the following planning applications:

a. W2008/0701

BCJ Building Contractors Ltd. Land adjacent to 86 Church Road, Donnington, Telford.

Erection of 2no. two storey semi-detached houses.

**Resolved** – to object to this application as Councillors considered the proposal to be an overdevelopment of site and that there was an unsuitable access road leading to the proposed development.

b. W2008/0712

M G Handley, Haddington, Barrack Lane, Lilleshall, Shropshire.

Erection of 1no two storey dwelling.

The Committee sympathised with the applicant in that it was the third time that a planning application had been submitted for approval to the Council. During this time a large dwelling had been erected on the opposite side of the road together with plans for another large dwelling next to it. Concerns were raised regarding traffic safety issues and overdevelopment of site. The Committee considered the fact that the applicant had worked with Telford and Wrekin Council on this latest application together with the reduction in the size of the proposed dwelling and the extension to the size of the plot on which it was to be built. The following proposals were received:

- That the Committee defers any decision until a site visit has been undertaken.
- That the Committee reaches a decision regarding the application at this meeting.

**Resolved** – that the Parish Council makes its decision at this meeting, the decision being to have no objection to this application.

c. W2008/0327

The Chair informed Councillors that a Notice of Appeal had been submitted against the decision made by Telford and Wrekin Council to refuse the planning application W2008/0327 for the erection of a 16,000 bird free range egg laying unit and installation of a new access and driveway at Honnington Grange, land adjacent to Kynnersley Drive, Lilleshall, Shropshire.

## 8. **Cordingley Hall**

a. **Interior partition doors.**

The Clerk informed the Committee of the ongoing dispute regarding the interior dividing doors at Cordingley Hall. As a result, the Clerk had written to the Financial Ombudsman for advice regarding this matter and a response would be received within the next six weeks. It was stated that the Parish Council had not been informed prior to the removal of the doors nor was there any correspondence giving its permission.

**Resolved** – that no further action is taken until a response from the Ombudsman had been received and that the Clerk checks Cordingley Hall to ensure that there are no issues regarding Health and Safety as a result of the removal of the dividing doors.

b. **Community Cafe.**

The Committee discussed a request to set up a cafe in Cordingley Hall on Wednesdays from 11am to 1pm which will be run by students learning skills for working life with a view to getting them into proper employment.

**Resolved** – that there is no objection to this.

9. **Street Lighting**

The Committee reviewed options and costs available for the routine maintenance, other maintenance, energy and management of the Parish Council street lighting. The Clerk informed the Committee that he had investigated this matter with other parish councils and had received numerous emails on the subject. It was stated that:

- Other Parish Councils have had bad experiences of maintaining their own street lights.
- The Clerk has no experience or qualifications in this field and therefore would be totally reliant on the power company employed to maintain its lights.
- The increased workload of maintaining its own street lights may result in the Parish Council having to employ someone to carry out this task.
- A Parish Council would not have the same influence or purchasing power as the Borough Council.
- The majority of large Parish Councils within Telford have their street lights maintained by Telford and Wrekin Council.

**Resolved** – that the Parish Council continues the use of Telford and Wrekin Council to maintain its street lights.

10. **Bus Stop, Queen's Road**

Concerns were raised that when buses stopped to collect passengers outside the shops at Queen's Road, Donnington the road is blocked. It was stated that previous investigations into this matter had occurred and it had been suggested that the bus stop opposite the shops is moved further down the road.

**Resolved** – that the Clerk writes to Telford and Wrekin with these concerns inviting its Officer to conduct a site visit and discuss the issue with the Clerk.

11. **Consultation regarding the sale of Borough Council Assets**

The Committee discussed an email received from Telford and Wrekin Council's Scrutiny Commission for Environment & Regeneration with regard to a review of Council policy for sale of Council owned assets. The email requested answers to the following questions. The Councils answers are in **bold**:

1. Have you previously been consulted about the sale of Council assets in your parish or town? **No.**
2. If so, what are your views on the consultation process? **As there was no consultation process it was extremely poor.**
3. If any aspects of the process fell short of your expectations, what changes would you recommend? **That Parish Councils are actually consulted.**

4. If you have not been consulted about the sale of Council assets, please clarify whether this is because the Council has not sold any assets held in your parish or town, or because the Council did not consult with you.  
**There are areas that have been sold within this Parish Council but Telford and Wrekin Council did not consult with it.**

It was stated that if planning permission had been obtained prior to the sale of the land then more revenue could have been raised from it and Telford and Wrekin Council actually ensures that the land belongs to it prior to trying to sell it.

**Resolved** – that the Clerk sends its response to Sarah Morris and copy it to Councillor E Carter requesting that it is discussed at the forthcoming Assets Meeting believed to be scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> July 08.

**12. Police Resources, Muxton**

The Committee discussed concerns regarding the Police Resources for Muxton. The Chair explained that he had written to the police directly as a result of a complaint made to him by a local resident who had received no response from the police after an emergency phone call. It was stated that there were not enough Police Officers available and that the Police were severely under resourced throughout Telford.

**Resolved** – that the Clerk writes to the Home Secretary highlighting the concerns of the Parish Council and copy the letter to the Divisional Chief Inspector and the Chief Inspector at Telford.

**13. Ewart Road, Donnington**

The Committee considered a request to plant daffodils/bluebells on the green at Ewart Road. It was stated that a grant may be available from Action Earth to cover costs involved.

**Resolved** – that the Clerk investigates the costs involved in planting flowers on the green at Ewart Road.

**14. Correspondence**

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

**a. Review of the NHS in England known as *Our NHS, Our Future*.**

Councillors were informed that Public Engagement Events regarding the above will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> July at The Holiday Inn Hotel, Telford and at Shrewsbury Town Football Club on 16<sup>th</sup> July 08.

**b. Guide to the Sustainable Communities Act.**

A guide to how to use the aforementioned act had been received and was available to Councillors from the Parish Office.

The meeting closed at 2100hrs.

Signed:

Date:

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