

Lilleshall and Donnington Parish Council

**Minutes of a Full Council Meeting held at
Turreff Hall
on 10th March 2008 at 7.00pm**

Present:

Councillors: P Norton (Vice Chair), A Baker, Mrs V Brown, Mrs P A Green, Mrs R Gregory, J Hockin, J Lavery, G Platt, J Thompson, K Watkins.

Also Present: Mrs C Baker, H Broadbent, Mrs S Brotherton, Mrs K Foster, Mrs S Harris, P Hawkins, Mrs A Platt, B Simms, D Stiles, D R Thompson, R Tiller, Mrs K Turner, Newspaper Reporters x 2, PC D White.

Public Session

The Chair invited questions/comments from the members of the Public present.

D Thompson complained about the condition of the footpaths in and around Donnington with regard to dog fouling and litter. The Chair informed Mr Thompson that this issue would be investigated.

Mrs K Turner read an extract from a speech made by John Healey MP regarding powers to create Parish Councils and asked via this Council meeting that bearing in mind, together with the content of the Local Government White Paper, the Community Empowerment Action Plan and the setting up and running costs of a new Parish Council, can the advocates for an independent Lilleshall Parish Council give a benefit statement to justify its formation describing precisely what the future vision for Lilleshall village is and what the anticipated goals and performance targets will be to substantiate the cost of an additional five or more parish councillors and a parish clerk. Mrs Turner stated that she was unable to see how an informed decision can be taken unless this question is answered, especially bearing in mind the loss of the present financial support to Lilleshall village given by the existing Parish Council.

The Chair thanked Mrs Turner for her contribution to the meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Councillors Mrs E A Clare (Ill), B Green (Ill), M Edwards (Meeting), Mrs B Mason (Holiday), C Mason (Holiday).

Resolved – that the apologies are accepted.

2. **Declaration of Interest:** As per Register.

3. **Minutes**

To confirm the Minutes of the meetings of the Council held on:

- a. Full Council of 14th January 2008.

Resolved - that the amended minutes are confirmed and signed as a true record.

- b. Planning Committee of 4th February 2008.

Resolved - that they be confirmed and signed as a true record.

- c. Halls and Environment Committee of 4th February 2008.

Resolved - that they be confirmed and signed as a true record.

d. Planning Committee of 25th February 2008.

Resolved - that they be confirmed and signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising for Information

Councillor Hockin informed the Council that one of the gates at the Talbott Centre had been installed the wrong way round contrary to that stated in the minutes of full Council 14th January 08 and requested that the Clerk investigate this matter.

The Clerk informed the Council that there is a delay to the planning application for the allotments due to the fact that there is a dispute as to the boundary of the land with the adjoining house and until this is resolved then nothing further can be done.

5. Expenditure Transactions

Each Councillor received a copy of the expenditure transactions for:

a. January 2008.

Resolved - that the expenditure transactions for January 2008 are accepted as a true record.

6. Bank Reconciliations

Each Councillor received a copy of the Bank reconciliations as at:

a. 31st January 2008.

Resolved - that the bank reconciliation as at 31st January 2008 is accepted as a true record.

7. Awards For All.

The Chair informed the Council that a grant of £6,424 has been awarded to this Parish Council from the National Lottery Awards for All Programme.

8. Laptop Computer and Projector.

Telford and Wrekin Council recently notified Parish Councils that toward the end of 2008 planning applications would be sent electronically. The Planning Committee discussed this matter and its implications at a meeting held on 4th February 2008 the result of which was to recommend to full Council that the Parish Council purchase a laptop computer and projector.

Resolved – to ratify the recommendations made by the Planning Committee but to defer the purchase of the computer and projector until Telford and Wrekin Council planning department had initialised the sending of applications electronically.

9. Bus Shelters at High Mount, Donnington

The Chair informed the Council that two new bus shelters are to be erected on St George's Road, Donnington, one near to High Mount and one on land adjacent to Bradley Road Industrial Estate.

10. Donnington Rail freight Terminal.

The Chair provided the Council with an update on the proposed Donnington Rail Freight Terminal.

11. Allocation of Officer Time.

Councillor Lavery stated that he was concerned that a lot of officer time had been taken up in producing information regarding the income and expenditure for Lilleshall and that 10% of the electorate within the parish was occupying 90% of parish office time.

12. Independent Lilleshall Parish Council.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting each Councillor received a letter which informed the Parish Council that a group of residents from Lilleshall had set up a Lilleshall Parish Council Forum. Councillor P Norton expressed concern that the name of the group would cause some confusion and requested that the name be changed.

Councillor K Watkins asked if the meeting could be adjourned so that he could ask those in the audience a question.

Resolved – that the meeting is adjourned.

After the question and response from the members of the public the meeting was reconvened.

The Lilleshall Ward Councillors then informed the Council of responses they had received from local residents concerning an independent Lilleshall Parish Council.

13. Highway and Traffic Issues at Asda, Donnington.

The Council discussed the problems regarding the traffic and road structure in and around Asda, Donnington. Concerns were raised that it would get worse with the development of Nom Dairy, the commencement of use of the new office blocks and the road works scheduled for the junction of St George's Road and Wrockwardine Wood Way. Also delivery lorries to Asda were still parking in bus stops and on the road whilst waiting for access into the loading bays.

Resolved – that the Clerk writes to Telford and Wrekin Highways Department highlighting these concerns requesting that a major review of the road structure in and around Asda is carried out.

14. Lilleshall Memorial Hall Committee

The Chair informed the Council that Councillor Clive Mason has resigned from the Lilleshall Memorial Committee. On behalf of the Committee Councillor A Baker offered a vote of thanks to Councillor Clive Mason for the work that he has carried out.

15. Register of Declaration of Interests

The Chair informed Councillors that it is their responsibility to ensure that their own Register of Interests is up to date and correct.

16. Financial Regulations

The Council reviewed the current Financial Regulations for this Parish Council and discussed if any amendments were required.

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

17. Risk Assessment

The Council discussed and reviewed the current Risk Assessment for this Parish Council.

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.

18. Parish Council Auditors

The Chair informed the Council that the external auditors for this parish council for the year 2008/2009 will be Mazars LLP based in Southampton.

The Chair stated that if these auditors act for any Councillor on this Parish Council in a personal capacity then they are required to notify them so that alternative arrangements may be made regarding the audit of this Parish Council's accounts.

19. Correspondence

The Chair informed the Council that the following correspondence has been received:

- a. LDF Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). A consultation event will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 11th March 2008 at Civic Offices.
- b. Invitation to an Information and Launch Event For The New Telford & Wrekin "Local Involvement Network" (LINK) on Monday 31st March 2008.
- c. Dates and venues of SALC Courses on Being a Good Councillor.

The meeting closed at 2015hrs.

Signed:

Date: