

**Minutes of a Full Council Meeting held at
Turreff Hall
on 8th October 2007 at 7.00pm**

Present:

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

Also Present: D Coxill (Telford and Wrekin Waste and Minerals Officer), Mr D Latham, Mr D Thompson, Councillors Mrs A Watkins (Wrockwardine Wood and Trench Parish Council), Brenda Flowers and Sian Walker (Newport Town Council), S J West (Shifnal Town Council), B Walters (Sheriffhales Parish Council).

Public Session

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

Mr D Latham stated that there was a problem on the footpath situated by Lea Autos, Oakengates Road, Donnington. When there was a problem with water leaking from underground at this location, large bags of sand and gravel were placed there to prevent the wall falling over and to soak up some of the water. The problem seems to have now been rectified, but the bags are still there causing an obstruction as well as depositing sand on the footpath. This was exacerbated when Mr Latham was with his wife, who requires a wheelchair, and could not pass. Help had to be sought to enable Mrs Latham dismount the pavement and access the main road to go around the obstruction.

Mr D Thompson suggested that extra street lighting should be provided on Oakengates Road, Donnington especially by the bus stop near to Mr Latham's house.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council would investigate and contact Telford and Wrekin Council regarding these matters. The issue regarding the footpath will be placed on the agenda for the next full Council meeting so that the Borough Council's response could be discussed.

1. **Apologies:** Councillors M Edwards (Parents Evening), Mrs B Mason (Ill), Ms C Mason (Work).

Resolved – that the apologies are accepted.

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

3. **Granville Landfill Site**

Councillor C Mason had requested that this item be placed on the agenda due to concerns over the increasing size of the landfill site and to invite representatives from those Parish Councils within its vicinity. The Chairman then invited Mr Coxill to talk to those present.

Presenting maps to the Council, Mr Coxill gave a brief background history to the landfill site. Planning permission was first given in the early 1990's for what was originally going to be a small landfill site. An extension was applied for shortly after and in 1996 this was granted.

The first application was for a site on Council owned land and the second was for it to be located on privately owned land. In January this year permission was granted to deepen the tipping site. It allowed for a maximum rise of 3m so in terms of visual impact it would be as it was in 1996. The maximum heights are contoured to blend in with the landscape. Over time, as materials rot and deteriorate the height of the dome will decrease in size. Drilling is taking place to release the Methane gas which is then transformed into energy and put back into the community as electricity. A legal agreement was also implemented to allow for planning gain of £50,000 to go to the Granville Country Park Management Board for maintenance of the Park and £15,000 to go toward highway improvements. It is aimed to provide a “green” and “walkable” area for the future once tipping has stopped. This is hoped to be achieved by 2025. The “dome” currently has capping material on it and the Borough Council are monitoring the situation with regard to maximum height restrictions.

Questions were then put to Mr Coxill from Councillors concerning the following:

What happens after 2025 and where will the waste from current and new housing developments be disposed of?

This is a challenge to everyone and why recycling is being encouraged as much as possible. Mr Coxill stated that he is currently constructing a report on the future of waste disposal within Telford and its surrounding areas and investigating alternatives to land waste.

Why take rubbish from other external areas?

Due to previous agreements with Shropshire Waste Management the Borough Council is unable to prevent this. Also the majority of the site is privately owned and there are only two sites within the Borough. Telford and Wrekin Council is trying to encourage other authorities to increase their recycling and trying to impress on them that space is running out. Other appropriate sites have to be found. Government legislation states that the new Local Development Framework has to show how Councils demonstrate their handling of waste. Waste is exported/imported depending on what facilities are required and where they are situated. The design of Telford shows an ability to receive municipal waste.

Have the problems which closed the site now been resolved, what is the timescale for the planning gain to be distributed to those previously mentioned and where is the location of the proposed highway developments?

The tip was originally closed under Regulation 15 which is responsible for concerns regarding water leakage. Each operator now has to have a PPC (Pollution Prevention Control) License. The water problem was partially sorted as a result of this requirement and so the site reopened. The planning gain, now classed as a Unilateral Agreement, should enable the money to be released within five days once planning permission is given. The highway developments are to take place along Grange Lane and Watling Street.

Can local groups/organisations apply for a grant from SITA Environmental Board? SITA receive applications from local groups for grants but they have to be located within a distance of 10 miles of the site.

Mr Coxill stated that any future application to increase the height of the site would be refused along reasons of landscape appearance. The onus on everybody is to divert waste management from landfill.

Councillor B Walters stated that Sheriffhales Parish Council were in regular contact with Mr Coxill and thanked him for the information provided and the Parish Council for inviting him to the meeting.

The Chairman also thanked Mr Coxill for his presentation and those from other Parish and Town Councils for attending the meeting.

4. Minutes

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

- a. Full Council of 16th July 2007.
Resolved – that the minutes be confirmed and signed as a true record.
- b. Planning Committee of 7th August 2007.
Resolved – that the minutes be confirmed and signed as a true record.
- c. Planning Committee of 10th September 2007.
Resolved – that the minutes be confirmed and signed as a true record.
- d. Halls and Environment Committee of 10th September 2007.
Resolved – that the minutes be confirmed and signed as a true record.
- e. Finance Committee of 24th September 2007.
Resolved – that the minutes be confirmed and signed as a true record.

5. Matters Arising for Information

The Clerk updated the Councillors on the Planning Application by Asda Stores Limited for a mezzanine floor stating that despite the Parish Council's objection and concerns due to road safety issues, the application had been discussed by the Borough Council and passed.

6. Expenditure Transactions

Each Councillor received a copy of the expenditure transactions for:

- a. June 2007.
Resolved - that the expenditure transactions for June 2007 are accepted as a true record.
- b. July 2007
Resolved - that the expenditure transactions for July 2007 are accepted as a true record.
- c. August 2007
Resolved - that the expenditure transactions for August 2007 are accepted as a true record.

7. Bank Reconciliations

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

- a. 30th June 2007
Resolved - that the bank reconciliation as at 30th June 2007 is accepted as a true record.

- b. 31st July 2007

Resolved - that the bank reconciliation as at 31st July 2007 is accepted as a true record.

c. 31st August 2007

Resolved - that the bank reconciliation as at 31st August 2007 is accepted as a true record.

8. Notice of Conclusion of Audit

The Chairman informed the Council that the annual return for the year ended 2006/2007 has been received back signed by the district auditor. The Clerk explained that comments made regarding extending the Fidelity Guarantee Insurance had already been acted upon and a note had been made by the Insurance Company on its system.

9. Adoption of Policy Documents.

Each Councillor received a copy of the following policy documents:

- a. Parish Council Standing Orders – to include new additions Items No 69A and 69B regarding the new Code of Conduct. Some Councillors had concerns as to being called Chair and stated that the full title should be used.

Resolved – to adopt the revised Parish Council Standing Orders.

- b. Equal Opportunities Policy.

Resolved – to adopt the amended Equal Opportunities Policy for this Parish Council.

- c. Arson Policy.

Resolved – to adopt the Arson Policy for this Parish Council

- d. Fire Risk Assessment.

Resolved – to adopt the Fire Risk Assessment for this Parish Council.

10. Telford and Wrekin Local Development Framework, Central Telford Area Action Plan – Consultation on Preferred Options 25th September to 6th November 2007.

The Chair informed the Council that the aforementioned document is in the parish office and that the consultation process finishes on 6th November 2007. Members of the Council were concerned that when the ice rink is re-sited it would no longer be a municipal facility but an expensive privately owned facility thus limiting access to those coming from poorer backgrounds. The new ice rink should be built and operational prior to the old rink being demolished/refurbished to prevent any inconvenience to those regular users.

Resolved – that the Clerk write to Telford and Wrekin Council highlighting its concerns regarding this matter.

11. Correspondence

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

- a. **Political Speed Dating Event 16th October 2007.**

Councillor Mrs E A Clare explained to the Members present why these meetings were held and the format they took. Groups of around six youths were placed on tables and then Councillors were allocated a

certain amount of time to discuss any issues with them before a bell sounded and the Councillors had to move to another table. She said that it was an enjoyable event from which a lot could be learned regarding the problems youths are experiencing.

- b. SALC Courses for New Councillor Training to be held on 30th October at Shirehall, Shrewsbury, 31st October at The Community Centre Craven Arms, and 8th November at Meeting Point House, Telford.**

Councillors wishing to attend these courses should give their names to the Clerk.

- c. Introduction to The Lilleshall Collection**

Councillors are invited to attend an Introduction to The Lilleshall Collection which is to be held at Telford Library on Wednesday 24th October 2007 between 5.30pm and 7pm.

- d. Ceremony of Light**

Councillors are invited to attend the Ceremony of Light at The Place, Oakengates on Sunday 11th November 2007 commencing at 8pm.

The meeting closed at 2045hrs.

Signed:

Date:

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION