



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

**Minutes of a Special Full Council Meeting held at
Turreff Hall
on 18th September 2006 at 7.00pm**

Present:

Councillors: A Baker, Mrs V Brown, B Green, Mrs R Gregory, C Mason, P Norton, R Pitt, G Platt, J Thompson, K Watkins.

1. Election of Chair

Due to the fact that the Chair was unable to attend the meeting and that the Vice Chair had informed the Clerk that he would be slightly late Councillor J Thompson was nominated to Chair the meeting.

Resolved – that Councillor J Thompson Chair this meeting.

2. Apologies: Councillors Mrs E A Clare (Meeting), Mrs P A Green (Ill), Ms C Mason (Work), M Skelton (Injured ankle), Mrs V Verster (Holiday).

Resolved - that the apologies be accepted.

3. Declaration of Interest: As per Register of Interests.

4. Parish Plan

The Chair introduced Caroline Oakes (Community Regeneration Officer) to give a talk on the aspects of initiating and creating a Parish Plan. After giving a brief background into the aspects of her job Caroline handed out hard copies of a power point presentation (attached) for Councillors information and to provide discussion topics. During the discussion the following points were raised:

Involvement

Compiling a Parish Plan requires the support of the community. Steering groups are set up made up of normal community people with their own secretary, treasurer and with some Parish Councillors as representatives. The Borough Council should be informed as well as The Rural Community Council, Shropshire Association of Local Councils and other organisations such as the Emergency Services, Wrekin Housing Trust and local landowners. Consultation with these should take place in the early stages of the implementation of a Parish Plan.

Funding

Finance for a Parish Plan can be obtained from various grants such as the National Lottery Awards for All. The Borough Council and the Community Council of Shropshire have small amounts of money which also could be made available for the construction of a Parish Plan. An average plan would



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cost in the region of £2,000 and as the Parish Council is the accountable body then it is the one that would have to apply for the grants and control the distribution of money to the steering groups. The money is to be used for hiring of meeting places, stationery, production of questionnaires, design statements, action plans and other like costs.

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Benefits of a Parish Plan

The production of a Parish Plan brings the community together with a common goal. It can also influence local decision making through Community Strategies and Local Development Plans and provide evidence of need for future funding opportunities. A Parish Plan should include everything that is important to the Parish, including aspects of social, economic and environmental issues.

During the discussion Councillors were able to look at Parish Plans from other Parish/Town Councils. Caroline Oakes explained that copies could be obtained by the Parish Council if desired.

The Chair thanked Caroline Oakes for providing useful information regarding the development of a Parish Plan.

Resolved – that the Clerk include an item on the agenda for the next full Council meeting to allow further discussion regarding initiating a Parish Plan.

The meeting closed at 2030hrs.

Signature:

Date:

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