



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

Minutes of a Full Council Meeting held at Turreff Hall on 12th January 2004 at 7.00pm

Present:

Councillors Mrs P A Green (Chair), Mrs V Verster (Vice-Chair), A Baker, Mrs E.A Clare, B Green, Mrs R Gregory, Ms C Mason, C Mason, P Norton, R Pitt, J Roberts, M Skelton, J Thompson, K Watkins.

Also Present: Fiona Moore (Neighbourhood Co-ordinator), PC N Lake, Mr D Thompson, Mr K Bennall.

1. **Apologies:** Councillors Mrs V Brown (Ill).
Resolved that the apologies be accepted.

2. **Declaration of Interest:** None.

The Chair then informed the Council that a previous Councillor Mr Alf Timmins had recently passed away and that the funeral would take place on 13th January 2004 at the Crematorium, Telford. On behalf of the Parish Council the Chair offered its sympathy to his family.

3. **Public Session:**

Mr David Thompson thanked the Parish Council for resolving the problem with the lights at Barclay Court, Wellington Road, Donnington.

Mr Kevin Bennall expressed his frustration with current building legislation that states that for any planned construction within a mining or previously mined area a mining survey is required. This means that a 30 metre bore hole be drilled at the expense of the applicant. Councillor Mrs E A Clare explained that this was the case all over the UK and unfortunately nothing could be done regarding Mr Bennall's personal situation. Councillor C Mason suggested that he approach Land Registry to see if they could help him by perhaps providing old mining plans of the area. On behalf of the Parish Council the Chair sympathised with Mr Bennall but due to the legislation nothing could be done.

4. **Minutes**

(a) **Full Council Meeting of 1st December 2003**

Resolved:

- i. That item 6 of the minutes is amended to include a proposal that Staff Evaluation would be included on the next Halls and Environment agenda.



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

- ii. The minutes were then confirmed and signed as a true record.
- (b) **Finance Committee of 8th December 2003**
Resolved that they be confirmed and signed as a true record.
- (c) **Expenditure Transactions for November 2003**
Resolved that they be confirmed and signed as a true record.

5. Discuss and set the Precept for 2004/2005

Each Councillor had received a copy of the proposed budgets for the forthcoming financial year.

Councillor Mrs E A Clare explained that she had examined them closely in her capacity as Chair of the Finance Committee and felt that with the leasing out of Cordingley Hall and loss of its associated costs the Precept for this year could be reduced. The balance required for the budgets will therefore be found from reserves.

It was therefore **Resolved** that:

1. The recommendations made at the Halls and Environment Committee meeting of 10th November 2003 be agreed.
2. The recommendations made at the Finance Committee meeting of 8th December 2003 be agreed.
3. The budgets for each Committee be agreed.
4. The Precept for the year 2004/2005 be reduced to £162,000, a reduction of £40,000. The Clerk was to notify the press regarding this matter.

6. Christmas Vouchers - Report

The Clerk stated that 956 pensioners of this Parish had claimed their £5 Christmas vouchers given by this Parish Council as a seasonal gesture of good will.

7. Parish Charter

Each Councillor had received a copy of the Parish Charter and **Resolved** that the Parish Council adopt the Parish Charter and that the Chair and Clerk sign on behalf of the Parish Council.

8. Correspondence

a. Letters of Thanks

The Chair read letters of thanks received from:
Mrs D Illing for her Christmas Voucher



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

Lilleshall Primary School for their grant toward buying new staging equipment. Macmillan Cancer Relief for their grant supporting their charity.
The Shropshire and Mid Wales Hospice for their grant award.
Home-Start Telford and Wrekin for their grant award and
Stay Christian Council Newstart Women's Project for their grant award.

b. Street Lighting at rear of Ex-Servicemens Club

The Chair read an email received by the Parish Council from the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator which stated that funds to install two new light columns at the rear of the Ex-Servicemens Club were available. It requested that the Parish Council adopt the responsibility of maintenance of these lights. **Resolved** that the Parish Council adopt the maintenance of these lights at an annual cost of £25 per light.

c. Additional funding for Highway and Environment

The Chair read a letter received from Carl Longland, Head of Mobility and Development, which outlined a strategy for additional funding to be allocated for highway and environmental maintenance across the borough. As the Precept had already been discussed and resolved the Clerk was asked to keep the letter on file and perhaps utilize this offer at a later date. The Clerk was also asked to write to Telford and Wrekin regarding its initiative in working with them in installing a "Puffin" crossing at Barclay Court, Wellington Road, Donnington.

Councillor B Green gave his apologies and left the meeting at 1955hrs as he had another meeting to attend.

d. Community Conference 2nd February 2004

The Chair stated that an invite had been received from Peter Bradley MP regarding a Community Conference to be held at Cordingley Hall on 2nd February 2004 between 11.30am and 1.15pm. Councillors interested in attending were asked to pass their names on to the Clerk.

e. Sheriffhales Civic Service

The Chair stated that an invite had been received inviting members to Sheriffhales Civic Service on 1st February 2004. Councillors interested in attending were asked to pass their names on to the Clerk.

f. Funding for Community Safety/Environmental Improvements

The Chair read an email received from the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator informing the Parish Council that some funding was available for community safety/environmental improvements to spend in the Donnington and Donnington Wood areas before 31st March 2004. The Councillors were asked for their views and ideas on what they thought was required in this area.



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

g. Equine Issues

The Chair read a letter received from Rt Hon Alun Michael MP of which each Councillor had received a copy. The letter provided information on how the Government were dealing with Equine Issues.

The Clerk was asked to write to Telford and Wrekin Council to see if it could pay for planning consultants to attend its Planning Committee meetings.

The Clerk was also asked to write to Telford and Wrekin requesting that dates for the Bus User Group meetings be sent to the Parish Office.