



# Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

## Minutes of Halls and Environment Committee Held at Turreff Hall on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2005

**Present:** Councillors J Thompson (Chair), A Baker, Mrs V Brown, B Green, Mrs P Green, Mrs R Gregory, P Norton, G Platt, K Watkins.

**Also Present:** PC Ollie Lawrence, Derek Owen (Telford and Wrekin) and Mr Ken Trumper.

1. **Apologies:** Councillor Ms C Mason (Work).  
**Resolved** – that the apology be accepted.
2. **Declaration of Interest:** Councillor Mrs R Gregory – Letter regarding access to library and Turreff Hall.
3. **Brands Meadow Play Area**  
Derek Owen (Outdoor Recreations Officer, Telford and Wrekin) was invited to speak regarding the ongoing project at Brands Meadow Play Area. After giving a brief history into what had already taken place there, with the siting of goal ends and the partnership formed between the Parish Council, Beth Johnson Housing Association and Brands Meadow Residents Association, Derek Owen explained the plans for the future. This involved providing a play area and a BMX bike track. Finance for this project will be provided by developers with the setting up of a fund, from which the interest generated from this account will cover future management costs of the site. A Service Level Agreement would be drawn up explaining the responsibility of each partner. Councillors were invited to visit other play areas within the Borough where this sort of project had been provided. Derek Owen stated that there would be no request for financial aid toward this scheme from the Parish Council.  
**Resolved** – that the Parish Council continue its interest in the development of this project.
4. **Transport Matters**  
Councillor P Norton reported back to the Council on matters discussed at the transport meetings that he had attended as a representative for the Parish Council with regard to public transport issues within the Parish. He informed the Council that:
  - i. The Wheels to Work scheme and car sharing were going well.
  - ii. That ideas for future public transport had been shared at a meeting with representatives from various towns in England including London.
  - iii. The Borough Council was examining reports that Arriva had suspended some late night transport due to vandalism without informing it.



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- iv. Ideas had been requested for the forthcoming 2006-2008 Transport Strategy Plan one of which Councillor Norton had suggested the introduction of a similar scheme to Dial a Ride for those living in rural areas where there were no buses available.

The Chair thanked Councillor Norton for his report.

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## 5. **Talbot Centre, Lilleshall**

The Chair read a letter from the secretary of the tennis club at the Talbot Centre, Lilleshall which requested the replacement of the tennis nets due to wear and tear, a winding handle and straps for the centres of the nets. Also requested was that an internal door be provided for access into the toilet from the building and that a hand basin be provided in the toilet. The Clerk explained that floodlights for the courts had also been requested. **Resolved** – that two nets be purchased at a cost of £92.00 each and one winder at a cost of £25.00 and that the Clerk arrange a site meeting between the Councillors from Lilleshall, the Chair of this Committee and the secretary from the tennis club.

## 6. **Footpath at Bretton Park, Muxton**

Mr Ken Trumper was invited to speak with regard to the Public Footpath at Bretton Park, Muxton. The owners of Bretton Park have stated that the footpath had been closed during World War 2 when an army camp had been located there and to date had not been reopened. Mr Trumper explained that in November 2003 a group of people which included the Clerk, Andrew Careless (Rights of Way Officer, Telford and Wrekin) and members of the public from that area had walked the footpath in question. However, gates have now been erected and locked blocking the Right of Way which in itself is illegal. Evidence from witnesses was given to Andrew Careless approximately 15 months ago. Mr Trumper stated that his aim was to get a footpath map for Telford, to include a 12 mile loop in the southern and northern parts of Telford. Councillor B Green recalled that previous terms and conditions of the mobile home site stated that the Right of Way had to remain open.

PC Ollie Lawrence suggested that there had been a problem with youths walking through the site around 9 months ago and seemed to think that the residents had locked the gates possibly as a form of security.

**Resolved** – that the Clerk write to Andrew Careless to arrange a site meeting and offer him assistance from the Parish Council.

## 7. **Bus Shelter, Wellington Road, Muxton**

The Clerk informed the Council that the tin bus shelter in Wellington Road, Muxton was in a poor state of repair and needed replacing. **Resolved** – that the Clerk contact Arriva and Borough of Telford and Wrekin to investigate the possibilities of assistance in replacing the bus shelter.

## 8. **Tool Replacement**



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The Clerk informed the Council that after working in the bar before Christmas the Estate Manager had left his drill in the bar. Unaware that functions had been booked over the Christmas period the Estate Manager returned to work in the New Year to discover the drill missing. **Resolved** – that the Clerk purchase the Estate Manager a new drill.

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**9. Play Area off Saltwell's Drive, Muxton**

The Chair read a letter received from Borough of Telford and Wrekin requesting help in financing the replacement of the multi unit play equipment at the play area in Muxton. The old equipment had previously been damaged by arson. The Borough of Telford and Wrekin stated that a replacement would cost around £16,000 and asked if the Parish Council would be willing to match fund the cost of the project. Councillor Andrew baker felt that the request was disproportionate considering the size of this Parish Council's precept with the Borough Council's. **Resolved** – that while the Council supports the replacement of the equipment, the Clerk investigate further and refer this to a future Finance Committee for discussion.

**10. Tree Works, Brands Meadow/Muxton Marsh**

The Clerk informed the Council that whilst arranging for other works to be carried out at Brands Meadow/Muxton Marsh, the Forestry Supervisor for TWS, Mr John Virgo, expressed concern regarding the condition of some of the trees there. To ensure the survival and improve the condition of the trees it was suggested that they be thinned out to favour the long-term species. Mr Virgo had provided a cost for this work which was discussed. The Clerk was asked to request a meeting with the Borough Council's tree officer for a second opinion and to get advice on obtaining quotes to the same specification for this work nearer to the end of the year prior to the setting of the Halls and Environment Committee's budgets. **Resolved** – that whilst the Council recognises the need to preserve the trees it had not considered this work whilst setting this years precept. Therefore funds were not available for this work in this financial year and consideration for provision of funds for this would be discussed at a later date.

**11. Fridges Cordingley Hall**

The Clerk informed the Council that for Health and Safety reasons the two old larder fridges stored at Cordingley Hall had been disposed of.

**12. Operation Clean Sweep**



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The Clerk informed the Council of the forthcoming Operation Clean Sweep which would be targeting Donnington and Donnington Wood from between 23<sup>rd</sup> May and 27<sup>th</sup> May. The Clerk also informed the Council of the dates of the various promotional meetings to be held regarding this and the various work that each member of the partnership would be undertaking.

## 13. Correspondence

### a. **Transfer of Licence – Clock Tower Donnington.**

The Chair informed the Council of an application for transfer of justices' licence at the Clock Tower in Donnington from Katherine Bower to John Edward Charles. The Council had no objection to this.

### b. **School Governance Regulations 2003.**

The Chair informed the Council of the new Regulations regarding the Statutory Reconstitution of School Governing bodies to come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2006.

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### c. **Letter regarding easier access to Library and Turreff Hall.**

The Chair informed the Council of a copy of a letter received from Councillor Mrs R Gregory in her role as the Older Person's facilitator regarding a request made to Borough of Telford and Wrekin for a new entrance door to Turreff Hall and the library. This is due to the fact that it is not in keeping with the Disability Discrimination Act as the door is difficult to open if elderly or in a wheelchair. The Clerk was asked to follow this matter up with the Borough Council.

### d. **Local Transport Workshop**

The Chair informed the Council that a Local Transport Plan Workshop is to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> May should any Councillor wish to attend.

The meeting closed at 2100hrs.

Signed:

Date:

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