



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held at Turreff Hall on 10th May 2004 at 7.00pm

Present:

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

Also Present: Fiona Moore (Neighbourhood Co-ordinator), Sgt S Scott, PC N Lake, D Thompson, Mrs A Douglas and daughter, D Thomas, Mr Wycherley, G Platt.

1. Apologies : Councillor Mrs P A Green (Hospital), B Green (Visiting Wife)
Resolved - that the apologies be accepted.

2. Chairman's Report:

Due to the Chairman being unable to attend the Vice-Chair read out her report which is as follows:

May I first of all offer my sincere apologies for not being with you this evening, but unfortunately I have had to go back into hospital for further treatment.

Although I have not been able to attend as many functions on behalf of the Parish Council as I would have liked, I did go to those I was able to.

I was fortunate enough to be able to go to see the Queen when she visited Telford, this was a most enjoyable day, especially seeing and listening to all the children perform.

I very much enjoyed helping to judge the gardens competition at Breton Park, the gardens were really lovely, and of a very high standard.

I also managed to attend a number of Civic Services on your behalf.

I was somewhat disappointed at the overall attendance for the Service of Thanksgiving at St. Matthews Church in March, it would have been good to see more local people come along, but I am sure that those who did come thoroughly enjoyed it. Who can possibly forget Father Davids rendition of 'Dem Bones'!! Many thanks to Rose and her team for a magnificent buffet – as always.

One very important event that has happened this year has been the ending of all the disputes with regard to the Life Long Learning Centre etc. A line has now been drawn under all that and we can at last move on.

It is good to see our Web Site up and running, although some of our photos look a bit like a rogue's gallery! Thanks to the office staff for all their hard work on this project and also for the excellent Newsletter, really good for the area as a what's on and who's who.

A lot of hard work is going on at the site opposite the school at Muxton,

The area is being tidied up, the trees have been made safe and the bushes cut back.

The planting will not be carried out until the Autumn, the school are helping with this,



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

it should be an asset to the people of Muxton, and I look forward to seeing it next spring.

I feel sad that we have had our Delegated Planning Authority removed, the planning meetings led to some enjoyable and sometimes lengthy discussions during which we all learned a lot about our area, I for one shall be sorry to lose them.

The work on the new Traffic Lights System at the Four Ways goes on – and on – and on!! Eventually it will be completed – but will it be any better? We can only wait and see, time will tell. They may even get round to cutting back the overhanging trees around the area.

The refurbishing of the gates on the War Memorial Island has been a great improvement as have the gates at the back of St. Matthews Church.

Work is under way on the repair and general improvement of the bus shelters, Lilleshall has been first to have theirs completed and the others will follow in due course.

On a negative issue, I am appalled at the condition the roads and footpaths have been left in following the work carried out by Severn Trent Water. Surely in this day and age the Utility Companies could endeavour to work together and do their necessary works at the same time to reduce the number of times the roads and paths are dug up.

I would like to record my thanks to Ralph and Sue for all their hard work and for the support they have given me over the past year, I am very grateful to them both.

Thanks also to Helen for the excellent standard she maintains at Cordingley Hall, It as a credit to her and to the Parish council.

Thanks also to Derek for all the hard and often very dirty work he carries out in the area, cleaning some of the bus shelters and the toilets in the state they are left in is above and beyond the call of duty.

Finally, I would like to offer my congratulations to my successor as Chair of this Parish Council and wish them a very enjoyable year of office. I regret that am not able to be there in person to hand over the chain of office.

I offer my good wishes to the Parish Council and all the staff for the forthcoming year and hope to see you all soon.

3. Questions from Parishioners:

Mrs Douglas mentioned problems with youths at the bus shelter in School Road and asked why there is a bus shelter here when there is another only 200yds down the road at the bottom of Coronation Drive. The Council decided to review the bus shelter programme and include it as an agenda item at the next Halls and Environment Committee meeting together with conferring with the police regarding the problems with the youths.

Mr Wycherley spoke regarding the traffic lights at the “four-ways” asking why they had been placed there. Councillor Mrs E A Clare explained that there had been an ongoing traffic survey there for the last 15 years and it is as a result of this that the Parish Council supported plans to install the lights. Also mentioned was the fact that whilst work was underway the lights would be a 4 way system but once the work is



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

completed it would be a 2 way system with sensors on the lights to change as traffic conditions determined. Complaints were made regarding people “jumping” the lights especially the police and that people were ignoring the “yellow box” by the ambulance station and the “keep clear” road sign outside the medical centre. This in turn caused problems for residents living at 26 to 32 Wrekin Drive as they are unable to turn into or out of their road. He felt that the Community Support Officers were ignoring the people waiting in the “yellow box”.

Mr Wycherley also mentioned the fact that youths were banging on the Perspex sheets of the Arriva bus shelter at all hours of the night disturbing the residents nearby and that Heavy Goods Vehicles were still travelling through Donnington to get to Hortonwood Industrial Estate. He requested that extra trees be placed by that area of Wrekin Drive to help cut some noise pollution. Councillor C Mason stated that the Parish Council was still in the process of getting Telford and Wrekin Council to place signs at the Asda roundabout to direct HGV’s down the by-pass and would look into placing more trees as requested.

Mr Thomas expressed grave concerns over the total disregard for Health and Safety shown by the contractors working on the traffic lights at the “four-ways” not only for themselves but for the public. The contractors are:

- a. Parking their vehicles on the footpaths and not on the agreed site thus causing pedestrians to step out into the road.
- b. Not wearing the required hard hats.
- c. Continuing to use the diggers when pedestrians are walking past.
- d. Disregarding the environment by getting vehicles stuck in the mud and having to be towed out, and by using a digger to “prune” the blossom trees for better access.
- e. Leaving tarmac piled up instead of removing it from site
- f. Leaving containers with hazardous oily substance outside 32 Wrekin Drive which results in youths smearing it all over the railings and tipping it in the road and paths.

Mr Thomas also mentioned the HGV’s causing deterioration of the roads and that the refuse collectors were not collecting the bins at 92, 94 Queens Road and 26 to 32 Wrekin Drive using the work on the traffic lights as an excuse. The Council requested that the Clerk inform Telford and Wrekin of this and follow complaints up.

Mr D Thompson felt that the residents of Wrekin Drive should be given compensation for every week over the stated 6 weeks that the work carries over on the traffic lights. Mr Thompson also mentioned the lack of disabled access on the paths whilst this work was being carried out.

Sgt Steve Scott informed the Parish Council that this would be his last meeting as he was being transferred to Malinsgate Police Station. He thanked the Parish Council for working with the police and mentioned that a replacement for him should be in post by the following week. On behalf of



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

the Parish Council the Vice-Chair then thanked Sgt Scott for all his hard work in the area.

Mr Platt asked when the grass at the Talbot Centre was going to be cut and the trees that were pruned tidied up. The Vice-Chair explained that there had been problems with the mower but as soon as it was repaired then the grass would be cut and the trees tidied.

The meeting closed at 1940hrs.

Signed:

Date: