



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

Minutes of Finance Committee

Held at Turreff Hall on Monday 27th September 2004

Present: Councillors A Baker, Mrs R Gregory, P Norton, R Pitt, M Skelton, J Thompson, Mrs V Verster.

Due to apologies being received from Councillors Mrs EA Clare (Chair of Finance Committee) and C Mason (Vice-Chair of Finance Committee) it was **Resolved** that Mrs V Verster (Chair of the Parish Council) Chair this Finance Committee meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Councillors Mrs E A Clare (Ill), Mrs P A Green (Holiday), B Green (Holiday), C Mason (Hospital).

Resolved – that the apologies be accepted.

2. **Declaration of Interest:** Councillor Mrs R Gregory – Older Person Working Group Grant Application.

3. **Resignation of Councillor**

The Chair read a letter received from Councillor J C Roberts informing the Council that due to obtaining a place as a paramedic on the Shropshire Air Ambulance he felt that he could no longer provide the commitment required in being a Parish Councillor. The Clerk informed the Council that the necessary steps had been taken informing the Borough of Telford and Wrekin and advertising the vacancy. On behalf of the Parish Council the Chair thanked Councillor JC Roberts for the work that he had already put in and wished him well in his future employment.

4. **Grant Applications**

Resolved - in the opinion of the Council it is in the interest of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants that the following grants be approved under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1. Donnington Under 5's Preschool	£274.90
2. Donnington Rainbows, Brownies and Guides	£250.00
3. Victim Support	£200.00
4. Springboard Project	£200.00
5. Older Persons Working Group	£ 50.00
6. Telford Sea Cadets	£200.00
7. Young People Support Scheme	£100.00

Total **£1,274.90**



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The Clerk was asked to put an item on the agenda of the next full council meeting to discuss transferring money from reserves into section 137 budget.

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5. Christmas Vouchers for Pensioners

The Council discussed whether to continue giving Christmas vouchers to the pensioners over 65 years of age that live in the Parish of Lilleshall and Donnington. **Resolved** – that in the opinion of the Council it is in the interest of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants that the following grant be approved under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. That 100 vouchers at £5 each be purchased from the Cooperative Store in Donnington and 900 vouchers at £5 each be purchased from Asda Stores at a total cost of £5,000. These vouchers are only to be distributed between 15th November and 17th December 2004. The Clerk was asked that on the agenda for the next full council meeting provision be made to discuss the best way of distributing the vouchers and to provide alternative methods in which this may be done.

6. Update of Accounts Programme

The Clerk informed the Council that due to the age of the Parish Council's CoWare Accounts Programme, support was being reduced and that it would be advisable to upgrade the programme and the support received with it. The total cost would be £155 + VAT. **Resolved** – that the Clerk purchases the more up to date CoWare accounts package at a cost of £155 + VAT.

7. Community Support Officers Initiative

The Chair informed the Parish Council that a new “buy-in” initiative was being introduced for Community Support Officers (CSO's) in that Parish Councils could help co-fund a CSO who would then be designated to their area. The cost of each CSO is approximately £22,000 per annum. After discussion the Council **resolved** – that this be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next Full Council meeting.

8. Bus Shelter Wellington Road/Jubilee Avenue, Donnington

The Clerk informed the Council that roof tiles from the above bus shelter had recently been stolen and that he had reported the matter to the police. The Estate Manager had replaced these tiles and repaired the roof.



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9. Financial Comparisons

The Clerk produced a report of the financial status of the allocated budgets and asked if the Councillors had any questions regarding the accounts. **Resolved** – that the financial report accepted as a true record of accounts to date.

10. Wrekin and District Sports Advisory Council

The Chair informed the Council that membership of the Wrekin and District Sports Advisory Council was due for renewal at a cost of £10. **Resolved** – that the Council renew its membership at a cost of £10.

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11. Correspondence

12. Rights of Way – Borough of Telford and Wrekin

The Chair informed the Council that a Rights of Way Seminar will be held in Civic Offices on 18th October and should any Councillor wish to attend then please inform the Clerk.

13. Arthritis Support Group

The Chair read out a “thank you” letter from Arthritis Support Group for the grant of £100 recently awarded to them by the Parish Council.

Private Session

Resolved – that under Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that these matters be discussed in Private Session and the Public have been asked to withdraw.

2. Staff Hours and Pay Scales

The Chair informed the Council that the Clerk had received the new recommended pay scales for staff issued by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) from 1st April 2004 and 1st April 2005. The members discussed the pay scales and where possible comparative salaries were produced for staff in similar posts. **Resolved** – that the new pay scales and associated allowances as issued by NALC be approved:

1. The first to be back dated to 1st April 2004
2. The second to be implemented from 1st April 2005.
3. The Clerk shall also be moved up a scaling point to SCP 32 as per his contract of employment with effect from 1st April 2005.



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The meeting closed at 2025hrs.

Signed:

Date: