



Lilleshall & Donnington Parish Council

Minutes of Finance Committee Held at Turreff Hall on Monday 5th July 2004

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

1. Election of Chair

Nominations were requested for Chair of the Finance Committee. Councillor Mrs E A Clare was the only person nominated.

Resolved – that Mrs E A Clare be Chair of Finance Committee for this Parish Council.

2. Election of Vice-Chair

Nominations were requested for Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee. Councillor C Mason was the only person nominated.

Resolved – that C Mason be Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee for this Parish Council.

3. Apologies: Councillors Mrs P A Green (Ill), B Green (Caring for Wife)

Resolved – that the apologies be accepted.

4. Declaration of Interest: A Baker – Lilleshall Play Area Scheme grant application.

5. Budget Comparison

Each Councillor received a copy of the Budget Comparisons dated 01/04/2004 to 31/05/04 and this was discussed.

6. 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. West Mercia Police	£2,300.00*
2. Lilleshall Area Play Scheme	£1,500.00**
3. Telford and Wrekin Arthritis Care Group	£100.00
4. Lilleshall Memorial Hall	£3,500.00***
5. Samaritans in Telford	£100.00
6. Crucial Crew	£250.00
7. Kids Krazy Klub	£300.00



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Total £8,050.00

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* West Mercia Police – The Council discussed whether or not in the long run it would be cheaper to purchase a small car for the Beat Manager over a couple of years. Sgt Scott / PC N Lake were asked to make inquiries regarding the cost involved and report their findings to the Clerk by November 2004.

** Lilleshall Area Play Scheme – The Clerk was requested to write a letter of authorisation guaranteeing that the Parish Council will pay the sum of £1,500 as and when they near their target.

*** Lilleshall Memorial Hall – The Clerk was requested to write enquiring as to who the Hall's Committee had approached to aid in future funding and to encourage the use of external organisations eg. National Lottery Awards for All etc. The Clerk was also asked to enquire into the legality of the Council's ability to provide extra money to help Lilleshall Memorial Hall.

Donnington Ladies Bowling Club – A grant of £200.00 was allocated by this Parish Council to the Bowling Club last year to aid in the purchase of a new Bowls Mat. However, due to the high cost of such a mat it was felt that the Club could manage for a while longer with their present one and to this extent requested that the Parish Council reduce the previous grant to between £50 and £100 toward a coach trip instead. **Resolved** – that the Donnington Ladies Bowling Club is granted £100 toward the cost of a coach trip and that the previous application for £200 now becomes void.

7. Lights at The Fields, Donnington

The Chair gave a brief history of the problems with the lights at The Fields, Donnington and read an email received from Nick Gibbons (Telford and Wrekin Lighting Officer) stating the costs involved in repairing them. The Clerk was asked to write to N Gibbons to request that he attend the next available meeting to explain what the costs involved to the Parish Council.

8. Insurance Update

The Clerk informed the Council that he had received the Insurance Invoice for this year and at £5,784.24 it was higher than previously budgeted for. The Clerk explained why there was such a difference and as to how the cost had been



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allocated in the budget headings. **Resolved** - that the Insurance Cost of £5,784.24 and its budget allocations be accepted.

9. Write-off Equipment

The Clerk requested that the Parish Council write-off the Stihl and Partner leaf blowers. This was because neither of them worked and each was in a poor state of repair. After depreciation over the years their present value is as follows:

Stihl Leaf Blower - £19.20
Partner Leaf Blower - £9.60

2.

Due to their poor state of repair it was not possible to sell them on.

Resolved – that the Parish Council write-off the Stihl and Partner Leaf Blowers.

10. Office Sharing and Setting of Rent

A request from the Donnington Neighbourhood Co-ordinator on behalf of the Community Foundation for Shropshire and Telford to share office space in the room that she currently occupies with the Donnington Fair Share Trust Manager had been discussed at the Annual General Meeting on 10th May 2004. It had been decided at that meeting to discuss the setting of rent at the next Finance Committee Meeting. The Committee discussed the setting of rent. **Resolved** – that the rent for the use of the office by the Donnington Fair Share Trust Manager be set at £20.00 per week giving a total weekly rent income for this office as £55.00.

11. Funding for Capital Projects

The Clerk asked if funds for Capital Projects could be set up to cover the cost of replacing expensive machinery such as the mowers and van. This would be a more prudent way to replace machinery as the cost would be spread over a number of years. It was decided to discuss the setting up of an Assets Committee at the next Full Council meeting which would monitor the Council's assets and the requirement for a Capital Projects fund.

12. Correspondence

a. "Thank you" letter from Princess Royal Hospital

The Chair read a "thank you" letter received from The Princess Royal Hospital for the grant from this Council toward an Ultrasound Machine.

b. Fundraising for Cancer Research UK



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The Chair read a letter received from Zara McDonagh explaining that she was undertaking a trek through the Torres del Paine National Park in Chile for Cancer Research UK and requested a donation from the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to reply to the letter and inform her that although the Council could not give a donation to a person, if she would like to contact the Council once she had completed the trek then it would consider making a grant directly to Cancer Research UK.

c. Local Government Pension Scheme

Letters had been received from Shropshire County Pension Fund regarding its funding strategy statement and internal dispute resolution procedures. Due to the amount of information included in these letters it was decided that the Chair of Council and Chair of Finance attend the office and read through them on behalf of the Council.

3.

d. British Telecommunications Payphones

The Chair read a letter received from British Telecommunications (BT) informing the Council that due to the reduction in use of payphones nationally because of increased mobile phone ownership, it was removing one payphone from the Parish of Lilleshall and Donnington. The proposed payphone to be removed is the phone at the junction of Church Walk and Turreff Avenue in Donnington. The Council asked the Clerk to write to BT and inform them of a possible new development at Church Walk so would it be possible to leave the payphone.

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.

13. Staffing

The Assistant Clerk requested that she be allowed to reduce her working hours from 30 to 26hrs per week. **Resolved** – that the Assistant Clerk be allowed to reduce her hours and adjust her wages accordingly.



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The meeting closed at 2045hrs.

Signed:

Date: