

DONNINGTON PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 17 November 2011 11am
Turreff Hall, Donnington

Present:	Albert Biggs	Chair
	Fiona Moore	T&WC
	Kate Giblin	Acting Treasurer
	Amanda Hall	CSO WMC
	Dennis Offland	Friends of Granville (Part of meeting)
	Rose Gregory	Secretary
	Adrian Covey	T&WC
	Sharon Price	T&WC
	Wendy Breakwell	T&W PCT
	Ben Murphy	Trustee Chair
	Maurice Kirby	T&WC
	Jean Gulliver	Vice Chair
	Chris Newman	Minute Sec
	Nigel Dugmore	LDMPC
	Rev Andy Smith	St Matthews Church + resident
	Josie Edwards	Resident
	Aaron England	T+WC
	Graham Arrowsmith	Resident
	Diane Morris	D+T Learning Trust

Apologies: Nikki Scott, Lisa Jones, Revd. Paula Smith, Stewart Pickering, Robin Glover, Steve Wall Scott Jones, Natasha Locklin, Sarah Durnall.

Welcome:

Albert welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending today's meeting and also for their commitment during the past 12 months.

2. Minutes of AGM held 11th November 2010:

All present agreed that the minutes were a true and accurate recording of the event. These were then accepted, approved and signed as a true record by Albert.

3. Chairs Report: Albert Biggs

Here we are again at the end of another year.

First of all I would like to thank Fiona Moore (advisor) and Rose Gregory (Trustee) for the application to the charity's commission to which we have been successful and been recognised as a registered charity.

The Partnership had now had to elect a board of Trustees to look after the charitable status. We have created a financial committee and a Roles and responsibilities committee and I would also like to thank Ben Murphy who has agreed to be chairman of the Trustee Board.

I am sorry to inform everyone about our loss of Kevin (Treasurer) who has moved to Nottinghamshire but I welcome Kate Giblin as our new treasurer. Our website is developing well and my thanks go to Kate for updating this; www.donnington-wood-community-cafe.co.uk

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Over the year we've had some very good guest speakers at our quarterly open public meetings;

- Our own vice-chair, Jean Gulliver: "The future of Shropshire's hospitals"
- June Walker, Asda: "Asda and its charitable projects"
- Deb Morrison, Wrekin Housing Trust: "Money Matters"
- Emma Walton, Project worker: "Telford's Green Gym"

The PACT (Partners and Communities Together) meetings that were held in the evenings had to be cancelled because of poor attendance by local residents, but if demand is required, special meetings have been and can be arranged.

I would like to encourage the Partnership members to invite local residents to our quarterly meetings and also my thanks to all the Partnership for their hard work over this last year. We have lots to look forward to in the coming year and developing our role as a registered charity.

In 2012 there are two events that I will be looking forward to receiving ideas and suggestions about; 1. Open day and launch of the new skate park at Donnington Rec. and 2. The Queens Golden Jubilee.

My best wishes to the future.

Albert Biggs, Chair of Donnington Partnership Executive members

Trustees Report: Ben Murphy

As Chair of the board of Trustees I'd like to begin by recognising the commitment of a number of people.

Firstly, Rose as vice chairperson, and Albert and Jean the other two Trustees'. I would like to thank you for your time, support and dedication over the last 6 months.

The four of us are ably assisted by two other people and I would also like to thank them for their time on behalf of the board – they have very much been our support mechanism, through some quite challenging times.

Chris has continued his administrative duties in supporting the Trustee board as well as the Executive committee and general partnership. I'd also like to recognise the contribution of Fiona, who has really pulled us together as a board, and without her help, I hope the rest of the board would agree – we would not be nearly as cohesive and organised as I feel we are.

I think its safe to say that our key priority to date was to get us organised and make that transition from members of the Exec to a board of Trustees'. It was very important that in doing so we created a board that compliments the Executive committee of the partnership and not an additional hierarchy, and I think that we have achieved this.

As a board we have met monthly since June and began to develop, its fair to say, slowly and not always without issues. At times its felt that we've take one step forwards and several back.

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We've had to deal with a particularly negative letter from the taxman that initially suggested we would not be able to achieve what we hoped to do. We have also had to deal with conflicting advice from a number of outside bodies and had to choose what we believe to be the right pathway for us. Important decisions were made that carried quite a degree of risk to them.

Also during this period we have made inroads into sourcing a financial software package that will assist in keeping accounts in a new and necessary format.

We have begun to develop the website that is used to publicise the partnership

We have also reviewed the constitution of the partnership and made the necessary amendments to reflect the changes in our structure.

At the end of November the Trustee's will be attending training with the Community Council of Shropshire. The training is specifically designed to cement our roles and responsibilities as Trustee's, and as such we believe it will speed up the progress that we make as a board.

Looking further ahead there seem to be many opportunities for the Partnership

In terms of activities there will be the official opening of the skate park and we are also likely to want to do something around the Queens Jubilee.

Fiona has made a number of bids to the Fairshare Trust related to the café – one to try and improve the facilities and another to recruit an assistant manager. If successful, then there is clearly some work to do to embed these changes. If unsuccessful, then we will no doubt have to decide what other options are available to us.

We've had quite a turnover of members in comparison to previous years and the need to continually look for new people to join and support is paramount. In a similar manner, we will need to look at funding mechanisms to help support us. In addition to this, Fiona and I are meeting Cap Gemini in a fortnight's time to discuss a business mentoring scheme that can only be of benefit to the partnership.

Finally, we must keep an eye on the way we engage and communicate with the community. The development of the website will be paramount in this. With the reducing numbers at Community Engagement Sessions and the cancellation of the evening session, this must be seen as a priority?

Ben Murphy, Chair of Donnington Partnership Trustees

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4. **Treasurers Report: Kate Giblin** (see attached)
Kate outlined the report for the period 1.10.2010 to 30th September 2011 which depicted a final balance on all accounts of £22,304.
It was also reported that the accounts had been audited by an independent Accountant and approved against the requirements of the Charity Commission and found to be acceptable.

5. **Election of New Committee:**

Albert stood down as chair and the meeting was handed over to Rose Gregory to read through the nominations for officers and member of the Donnington Partnership executive committee.

The nomination and election of officers and committee members were elected as the following:

Chair: Albert Biggs
Vice Chair: Jean Gulliver
Treasurer: Kate Giblin
Secretary: Rose Gregory

Committee Members:
Fiona Moore
Maurice Kirby
Ben Murphy
WPC Nikki Scott
Wendy Breakwell
Sharon Price
Sarah Durnall
Nigel Dugmore
Revd. Paula Smith

6. **Year End Reports:**

• **Older Persons Project – Rose Gregory**

The older persons group staged their first event in September at the Silver Threads hall, we had several stall holders and speakers but not many of the general public but those who took part welcomed the idea because a lot of networking took place with exchange of ideas and phone numbers.

We hope to be able to repeat the event in the new year.

• **Children & Young People's Project – Maurice Kirby**

Although the group no longer meets providers of local activities and facilities continue to share information and work co-operatively on local initiatives and developments.

The development of Donnington Rec has been an on-going initiative this year. Further consultation and work with regard to the Skate Park has taken place and it is now hopefully going to be built in the near future.

The BMX track is well used and its development has been enhanced by regular coaching sessions throughout the year.

Both of the above facilities are important facilities within the area.

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The T&W Youth service provision has continued to operate successfully with good engagement of young people throughout its regular sessions. An additional evening session has commenced on Wednesday evenings, meaning that there is now 4 evening sessions operating each week.

In terms of creating additional activities the outcome of a bid to Fairshare is awaited. If successful this will see an increase in provision for children and young people in the area, including a particular focus on weekend and holiday activities. Young people will be involved in the design and delivery of these activities.

Children and young people's work is regularly reported on via Donnington Partnership General Meetings and information is also distributed widely.

Overall, the provision for children and young people across the area continues to offer a range of positive and developmental activities.

For more information or to discuss any issue related to children and young people's activities and provision please contact:

Maurice Kirby- Tel 385320 or email maurice.kirby@telford.gov.uk or Fiona Moore- Tel 382245 or email fiona.moore@telford.gov.uk.

- **Health +Young Families Project Wendy Breakwell**

The Donnington health & young families working group no longer meets, however the health visiting team do have regular meetings with sure start to coordinate provision for young families. These meetings ensure we offer a universal cohesive service for the families of Donnington. This service is achieved by a monthly activity calendar that provides groups and activities for all families with under-fives.

This year the health visitors and sure start will concentrate on working together with families to continue with and extend further support as required by the families and children in the Donnington area.

The order of the groups naturally starts with the bumps group where moms can attend any time during their pregnancy. The group is held in the Silver Threads Club, an ideal venue as the club has two rooms, where pregnant moms can have a one to one chat with the midwife in one room whilst moms and children can play in the second room. The group has become very popular and has now extended its age range to 0 - 18months.

The group is run by 'Best volunteer's', Sure Start and the midwife. Together they offer peer support and guidance on antenatal care, breast feeding and all that is connected with pregnancy and young babies.

We then follow on with the Minis group and the newly named Playing Together group (previously called Minors and Majors Group). These groups continue to be very well attended, with the minis group offering tea and toast on arrival followed by an interesting rolling programme of activities including Baby massage, weaning and first aid. All for just 50 pence per family.

The Playing Together group has changed its times to 9.30 11.30 and has extended its age range from 0-5 years. This is a well-established group often having over 20 families attending the session, the children and parents/ carers can have fun whilst playing together with our toys and activities often learning many parenting skills through play.

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We also have the Donnington wood family group which meets at Donnington wood sure start room. This group again continues to be very popular for Donnington families by offering support, play and a chat in a warm friendly atmosphere.

Musical Movers has proven to be a very popular group, which is a very lively group of song and dance for anyone aged 0 to 5 with any age family member!! This session is charged at £1 a session and is term time only.

The Toy library and story sacks, which runs on a Wednesday's Am or Pm from Donnington health centre baby clinic. We would like to say a very big thank you to Jean who has put a lot of hard work into the library and has raised funds enabling the library to extend its toys for hire.

Donnington also offers a group for child minders, a popular group offering support for the child minders of Donnington.

Group	Age	Cost	Where	When	Time
Minis	0-1yr	50p per family	Health Centre	Mondays	10.00 – 11.30
Playing together	0 to 5yrs	Free	Silver Threads	Tuesdays	9.30 – 11.30
Musical Movers	0 – 5yrs	£1	Silver Threads	Wednesdays	1.30 – 2.30
Toy library	0 - primary		Donnington Health Centre	Wednesday	9.00 – 11.30 & 2.00 – 4.00
Bumps	0 to 18 months	Free	Silver Threads	Thursdays	9.30 – 11.30
Child minders		£1	DW Sure Start	Thursdays	9.00 – 11.30
DW Family Group		50p	DW Sure Start	Fridays	9.15 – 11.30

Term Time only

Please contact the health visiting team / Sure Start for any further information on 01952 616284 / 387183

- **Community Safety, Housing & the Environment working group: Fiona Moore, WPC Nikki Scott and Ben Murphy**

This working group continues to meet every 2 months to share information and coordinate a range of activities and action that helps resolve the main community safety priorities for Donnington. The group has very good commitment from local service providers and residents.

A brief look at the work that we have been busy doing over the past year is shown below.

1. PACT / Community engagement sessions:

The group decided to stop evening community engagement session due to low public attendance at more than two consecutive sessions. Daytime sessions have continued to be incorporated into the Donnington Partnership open public meetings, held 4 times per year.

6 PACT meetings took place between October 2010 to September 2011 with 4 taking place in the daytime and 2 in the evening. These sessions allow residents and a range of agencies to identify key community safety concerns that they have in the community and prioritise the top 3 concerns that they would like addressed. Feedback about the agreed priorities is provided at the following meeting and through a 'You Said, We Did' newsheet.

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Over 2010/2011 the range of issues brought to those meetings and addressed includes:

- a) Incidents of anti-social behaviour including trespassing on property, dog fouling, and dangerous/illegal motorbike riding., young people congregating in large groups intimidating residents.
- b) Criminal damage to property and fencing
- c) Irresponsible parking
- d) Damage by buses to Wrekin Drive memorial land
- e) Overflowing bins
- f) Irresponsible cyclists
- g) Speeding traffic

Whilst we have had many successes some problems don't disappear due to a whole range of factors including lack of resources, lack of evidence and repeat/new offenders. However, the PACT meetings continue to provide the opportunity for on-going communication between service providers and residents.

2. Environmental Visual Audits (Street walkabouts):

20 street walkabouts took place during the year. The walkabouts aim to pick up on any visual defects or unsightly environmental problems that might have been missed as well as giving local residents the opportunity to meet us and talk over problems They are led by a Wrekin Housing Trust Housing Executive, take no more than one hour, and anyone working or living in the area can attend. Donnington is divided into 5 areas for these walkabouts so residents can attend the one closest to them and each area has a walkabout every quarter.

The areas are: Monarch Fields & Lioncourt homes, Donnington West, Donnington East, Donnington Wood above St Matthews Rd and Donnington Wood below St Matthews Rd.

Sadly the number of residents participating in these walkabouts is very low and sometimes none-existent. We can't emphasise enough the importance of residents to come along so that they can direct officers to the situations that they have concerns about.

3. Joint operations and initiatives

a) Tackling anti social behaviour

The area of Columbine Way experienced a high level and volume of anti social behaviour, in the main with illegal motorbike riding and congregation of youths in an adjacent alleyway. All these incidents at the start of the year, required input from several agencies (Donnington Local Policing Team, Council officers including the Rights of Way & Anti Social Behaviour officers, local elected ward member, and Parish Council) working alongside support from the local residents in order to reduce problems.

5 actions were agreed and took place and the overall result was positive with offenders caught, reported incidents dramatically reduced and prevention measures implemented. An example of these measures was using Smartwater, by

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the Local Policing team, who marked residents property and valuables in their homes. Signs were also mounted on lamp posts giving a warning to thieves
This initiative was welcomed and well supported.

b) Tackling fly tipping

The Common and St Matthews rd flats had fly tipping problems and both the Wrekin Housing Trust and T&W Council worked together with local residents to help reduce the problem. A new system has been introduced with the residents locking the bin stores, which has helped a lot, and new signs have been installed. The two organisations are monitoring this area and are prepared to shift focus on more enforcement action.

c) Scout Community Challenge

The Police joined a national partnership with the Scout Association to give Scout Groups an opportunity to work with their local police force and make a difference in their community. In Telford, the Donnington Local Police Team was one of the first LPT's to run this challenge and they worked with the 2nd Donnington Scout Group in summer 2011.

The Community Challenge Award allows Scouts to get involved in the work that local policing teams do with residents and partner agencies, to improve their local area. The 2nd Donnington Scouts were guided by the Donnington Local Police team based at Donnington Police Station and were involved in two community challenges in the local area.

Their first challenge involved work with the local Parish Council to carryout some graffiti removal and their second challenge involved carrying out some speed enforcement work with the Police team on Wrekin Drive.

Both the Scouts and the local community got a lot out of this; messages seemed to 'hit home' a bit more harshly when local people experienced young people cleaning the area and explaining the dangers of speeding in residential areas.

A presentation evening was held in July at Turreff Hall and the Scouts spoke about the work they did and what they learnt before being presented with their community challenge badges.

d) A sensory garden

Lilleshall, Donnington and Muxton Parish Council, last year, worked on a joint project with the Green Wood Trust and Green Gym to establish a sensory garden next to Barclay gardens. This year, the Parish council obtained some additional funds to enhance this area with benches, raised beds, bug hotels, plants and fruit trees from which local residents can benefit from, this work is continuing.

e) Donnington allotments

The Parish Council were pleased to finally complete the long-awaited development of 26 allotment plots in Donnington, which have added to the overall long-term development plans of leisure activities on the Donnington Rec.

All 26 plots were snapped up by budding home growers and plans are in place to host a formal launch / fun day celebration of the allotments, play area and

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skatepark developments on the Rec. in 2012.

The outlook for 2011/2012

This year has seen some significant structural and operational changes occur within some of our key local service providers, as a general result of national budgetary cuts. This has, at times, been a challenge to the way this working group works and the resources that are available to help resolve local community problems. These challenges will continue but the working group will do its best to continue delivering actions that strive towards meeting our aim and we will continue to welcome residents' involvement to direct our work.

To get involved:

- Come along to the quarterly open meetings held at Turreff Hall
- Come along to one of the street walkabouts

If you can't attend the formal walkabouts but would like to bring matters to our attention on an individual basis then please do so, our contact details are at the end of the document. Also, if there are ideas as to how we could improve the attendance then please let us know.

For more information please contact:

PC Nikki Scott, Local Policing Team	01952 216542
Ben Murphy, Wrekin Housing Trust	01952 217143
Fiona Moore, T&W Council Priority Action Team	01952 382245

- **Lifelong Learning Centre – Sharon Price**

The last 12 months at the Learning Centre has seen a drop in courses being put on due to cuts in funding for TCAT and other agencies, so this has led to less students coming into the centre.

We have managed to fill some of the spaces by getting in touch with WEA who have put on several short courses and also booked for the New year.

The pre-school little blossoms who have been at the centre for the last 4 years will also be closing due to lack of numbers.

As the room will be empty from the 25th November any suggestions for the use of the room will be welcome, we wish to focus on the needs of the Community to fill this room.

The Centre volunteers have put on fundraising events and the volunteers have raised £320 for the Macmillan Nurses, Next year's charity will be the Alzimers society.

- **Community Café Project – Rose Gregory**

The Café has had a reasonable year but less buffets probably due to the present financial climate, we continue to cook healthy option meals most days and the volunteers keep changing as they have found employment, we lost 3 last year and 2 more are leaving soon so we need to recruit more members as a priority.

The Christmas dinner was once again a success we which intend to repeat again.

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Any other business:

Adrian updated the meeting with regard to Winifreds drive Parking issues and the traffic damage to the kerbs around the memorial have now been resolved.

Adrian also reported that New signage and orientation boards have been erected at Central hall.

Amanda reported that the ASB issues around Bradley road are being investigated and followed up.

Albert raised the concern about the lack of resident involvement it was emphasised this was an issue which needed to be targeted next year.

7. Date of Next Meeting:

The next AGM will be on 22nd November 2012, 11.00am at Turreff Hall