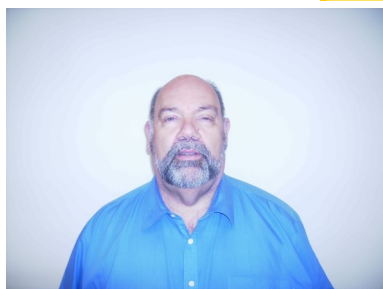




# Donnington and Muxton Parish Council *Annual Report 2018/2019*



## **Chairman's Report 2018/2019**

It has been my honour to serve a second term as Chairman of Donnington and Muxton Parish Council during 2018/2019 and I am delighted to say that this Council has undertaken a great deal during this reporting year. The Parish Council has been actively lobbying the local MPs to try and keep the Accident and Emergency department open at the Princess Royal Hospital and tried to prevent the closure of Lloyds Bank in Donnington, even offering to host a mobile bank at Turreff Hall. However, the offer was not taken up by Lloyds Banking Group and sadly the banking facility on Wrekin Drive has now closed, much to the disappointment of this Council and the community.

Donnington and Muxton Community Library continues to thrive and I cannot thank the volunteers enough for helping to ensure that this facility remains open. The car park at the front of the library was completed in July 2018 and the Council has received nothing but positive comments about it.

Telford & Wrekin Council has now employed an Environmental Officer, Kay Grice, to cover the northern area of Telford which includes this Council's parish and it has been a pleasure to work with her to date and look forward to working with her in the future.

On a personal note, I was privileged to have been nominated by this Council to be put into a lucky dip with other Shropshire Parish and Town Council's Chairman/Mayors to attend one of the Buckingham Palace's Garden Parties. I was delighted, surprised and honoured to be chosen and will now represent this Parish Council and Telford at one of these parties later this year.

The flood alleviation scheme for Donnington is now approximately 70% completed and it is hoped that the whole scheme will be finished by the end of May. I would like to thank the community as a whole for its patience and understanding during this essential work.

The Christmas festival held on The Parade, Donnington was a great success with the only negative being the poor Christmas lights. I am delighted that the Parish Council has now included in its budgets money to improve the lighting for this and future years.

The Speed Indicator Display Signs (SIDS) are being a great success and a permanent one has now been installed on Wellington Road, Muxton near to Breton Park.

Another defibrillator has been installed at St John's Church, Muxton and I would like to thank the Church for allowing this Council to place one here. It is planned to put another defibrillator somewhere along Marshbrook Way, Muxton near the outdoor gym but a suitable location has not yet been found.

The Parish Council has also become part of the Dementia Friendly Community which means that people with dementia are understood, respected and supported. In a dementia friendly community people will be aware of and understand dementia, and people with dementia will feel included and involved.

I would like to thank all the Councillors for their support during my tenure as Chairman and wish those not standing in May's elections all the very best for the future. For those standing again as Parish and Borough Councillors I wish you all the very best and hopefully I will be working with you again. I would personally, and on behalf of the Councillors, like to thank Ralph and Kate for all their work this reporting year especially in ensuring the Parish Council is now GDPR 2018 compliant, our accounts are kept in line with the required legislation and the work involved with the Neighbourhood Plan, along with the general running of the Council and library. I would also like to thank Helen who continually maintains the library and Turreff Hall to the highest standard.

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# Annual Report 2018/2019

## **Brands Meadow, Muxton**

The Parish Council has purchased a new litter bin for Brands Meadow Play Area as Telford & Wrekin Council removed the one that was there due to it not being on Telford & Wrekin Council land. This new Invicta Bin has the Parish Council logo on it and has now been installed.



## **Soldiers Bench Seat**



Two Soldiers Benches have recently been purchased. One has been installed at the bus stop near to the War Memorial on Winifred's Drive, Donnington and one off Marshbrook Way, Muxton near to the junction with Lytham Green. Two recycled plastic benches have also been purchased and have been installed at Donnington Recreation Ground and one between the entrance to Donnington Medical Practice and the "four ways" junction. Councillors Mrs E A Clare, and C Mason have purchased the benches through Telford & Wrekin Council's Borough Councillor Ward Fund with the Parish Council purchasing the Soldiers Bench for Muxton.

## **Re-dedication of Memorial Gates**

To commemorate the end of World War 1 the Parish Council organised a Memorial Service to re-dedicate the War Memorial gates on Donnington Recreation Ground. The Parish Council would like to thank all those that attended the service especially Rev'd Paula Smith who helped conduct the service.

## **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Evidence Review document has been distributed to residents of the Parish and comments have been received. These will now be analysed and the information collected will be used to create a draft Neighbourhood Development Plan which itself will go out to residents seeking comments and views on the document.

## **Community Public Access Defibrillator (CPAD)**

This Parish Council has recently purchased three CPAD which have been installed at the Donnington Community Hub, Haygate Vets, Wellington Road, Muxton and at St John's Church, Saltwell's Drive, Muxton. This now takes the number of CPAD purchased by this Council to four with the other defibrillator being located at the public toilets at Hawthorn Road, Donnington. Due to a crowd funding page raised on Facebook the Parish Council is working with the organisers to purchase another defibrillator to be located preferably near to the outdoor gym on Marshbrook Way, Muxton.



## **Highway Matters**

This Council has been extremely active this year with regard to issues surrounding its roads and discussions with Telford & Wrekin Council. As a result: Traffic counts will be collected on roads requested by this Council to have 20mph speed limits installed on.

The Parish Council has purchased two Speed Indicator Display Signs (SIDS) which will be erected at various intervals and points around the parish in order to help reduce speeding in the area. A permanent SIDS has also be installed near Breton Park on Wellington Road, Muxton.



This Council has also installed six Gateway Signs in the Parish. Three have been purchased by the Parish Council and two by Councillor A Lawrence's Borough Ward Fund and one by Telford & Wrekin Council. These can be found along Station Road, The Humbers near to the entrance to the military barracks; Wellington Road, Donnington by the Territorial Army Centre; School Road by the Clocktower Roundabout; St George's Road, Donnington by Asda, Donnington; entrance to Wellington Road, Muxton and by entrance to Muxton from the direction of Honnington Grange.

## **Flooding Alleviation Scheme, Donnington**

Severn Trent Water is now nearing the end of the flood alleviation scheme in Donnington. The work is designed to stop flooding along Wellington Road, Donnington during inclement weather. The Parish Council would like to thank all the residents and visitors for their patience and understanding.

## **Christmas Festival 2018**

The Christmas Festival held on The Parade, Donnington was a great success. The Parish Council would like to say a big thank you to everyone involved and all the hard work put into making the event such an enjoyable occasion. However, the poor Christmas lighting did incur a few negative comments. As such, Councillors have approved an increase in the budget to provide for purchasing new LED lights. It is hoped to roll this programme out over the forthcoming years and gradually replace the old existing lights.



## **"Quiet Lane" Muxton Lane**

A lot of work has been carried out during this reporting year regarding designating a specific stretch of Muxton Lane as a "Quiet Lane". Quiet Lanes are minor rural roads or networks of minor rural roads appropriate for shared use by walkers, cyclists, horse riders and other vehicles. The aim of Quiet Lanes is to maintain the character of minor rural roads by seeking to contain rising traffic growth that is widespread in rural areas. The appropriate signage is due to be installed in the near future.

## **Poppies for Lamp Posts**

Due to the shortage of lamp post poppies last year, this Council has already purchased, and received delivery of, 100 poppies for the lamp posts around the parish. These will be put up in time for Armistice Day.

## **Bollards, Muxton**

Due to the issues surrounding parking at Muxton Primary School, with parents parking on grass verges when collecting or dropping off the schoolchildren, the Parish Council has had wooden posts installed along Holland Drive to prevent vehicles churning up the grass and obstructing the road.

## **Staff Training**

Congratulations go to the Assistant Clerk who has passed Level 3 Advanced Diploma in the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) exams. She has now started her studies for Level 4 which will give her a Professional Diploma in Accounting. This will assist her in her job role and benefit this Council greatly.

## **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR 2018)**

The Parish Council is now GDPR 2018 compliant which means it complies with the regulation that requires businesses to protect the personal data and privacy of EU citizens for transactions that occur within EU member states. This Council's Privacy Notice and Privacy Policy can be found on its website along with other policies relating to this Council.

## **Staff and Personnel Committee**

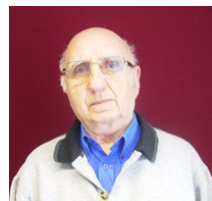


*Committee Members: Chairman Mrs L Dugmore (pictured), N Dugmore, Mrs R Gregory, J Lavery, P Loughlin and J Thompson.*

Its membership consists of no more than six members of the Council (Vice-Chair only included). This is to ensure that any redress against decisions made by this committee will be dealt with on a non-bias basis headed by the Chair of the Parish Council. Members are selected at the Annual Council Meeting of the Parish Council.

The Committee's objective is to ensure that any issues relating to the staff and personnel of this Parish Council are dealt with fairly and legally. The Staff and Personnel Committee met twice during 2018/2019 to discuss employing an additional member of staff as a Community Engagement and Events Officer. The decisions made regarding the above can be found in the minutes from these meetings at the Parish Council office or on the Parish Council's website [www.donningtonmuxtonpc.org](http://www.donningtonmuxtonpc.org)

## **Planning Committee**



*Committee Members: Chairman V Rainsford (Pictured), Mrs L Dugmore, Mrs L Edwards, Mrs R Gregory, J Lavery, and J Thompson. Ex-officio members M Edwards and P Loughlin.*

The Parish Council is a statutory consultee on planning applications. This means that it has the right and responsibility to give an opinion on all applications made to the Borough of Telford and Wrekin (the Local Planning Authority) that occur within its parish boundaries.

The Planning Committee met twelve times during the year 1st April 2018 and 31st March 2019. Between these

dates the Council received a total of 43 planning applications for discussion and comments. These were made up as follows:

Donnington 17 applications (up 5 from last year), Muxton 15 applications (down 6 from last year) and 11 other applications, the majority of which were mainly from Grange Lane, Red Hill.

The Parish Council continues to resist large scale development, predominantly in Muxton, and recently objected to an amended application by Shropshire Homes Ltd to demolish a Sutherland Style cottage along Wellington Road, Muxton in order to gain access to land at its rear to develop 85 homes. This has also recently been refused by the Borough Council.

The Planning Committee is also the steering group for this Parish Councils Neighbourhood Development Plan and has been busy discussing and adopting the Evidence Review, Consultation and Early Engagement document in order for it to go out for Public Consultation. The consultation period finished on 29th March 2019 and the results from this will be used to create a draft Neighbourhood Development Plan.

This Council's decisions regarding all applications can be found on its website [www.donningtonmuxtonpc.org](http://www.donningtonmuxtonpc.org).

## **Library Committee**

*Committee Members: Mrs E A Clare, Mrs L Dugmore, N Dugmore, J Lavery, V Rainsford and J Thompson. Ex-officio members M Edwards and P Loughlin.*

With the Parish Council now entering its third year of taking over the responsibility of running and managing Donnington and Muxton Community library, the Parish Council has completed all work required to the premises culminating with the completion of the extension to the front car park. This has received numerous compliments and was obviously something that was required.

As a result the Library Committee had no reason to meet during 2018/2019 but its main functions still remain as suggesting tasks and projects relating to the continued improvements that could be made; assisting with the recruitment of volunteers to run the library and ensure parishioners enjoy the continued use of this facility.

Once again, the Parish Council would like to give special thanks to the volunteers for their help running the library.

## **Donnington and Muxton Youth Council**

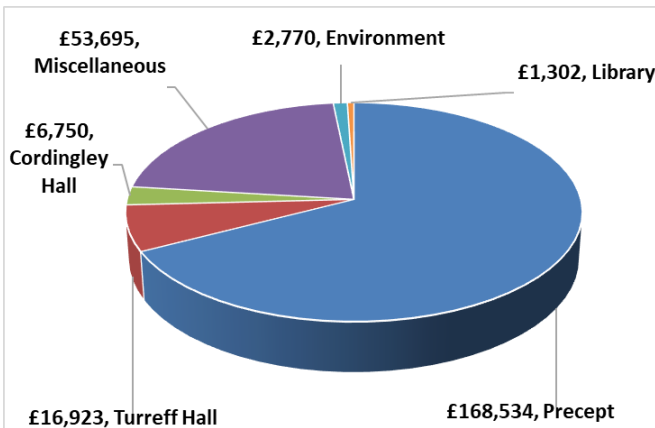
The Youth Council held its first meeting in September with a film show, when it had about 25 adults and children attending. During the year it: hired an artist to make Christmas tags and tree decorations to sell and make money at the Parish Christmas Festival; made sweet cones, hot chocolate and reindeer food to sell at the Christmas festival at which the adults helped with a tombola, and serving tea, coffee and soup; a games night along with a planning session for February's Valentine disco which was very successful. In March the artist returned and made Easter cards. There are currently 13 to 15 children attending regularly. There was no meeting in April as the group was taking part in the sponsored litter pick for meningitis. Ideas for the future: Karaoke workshop, trip out, healthy eating cooking session.



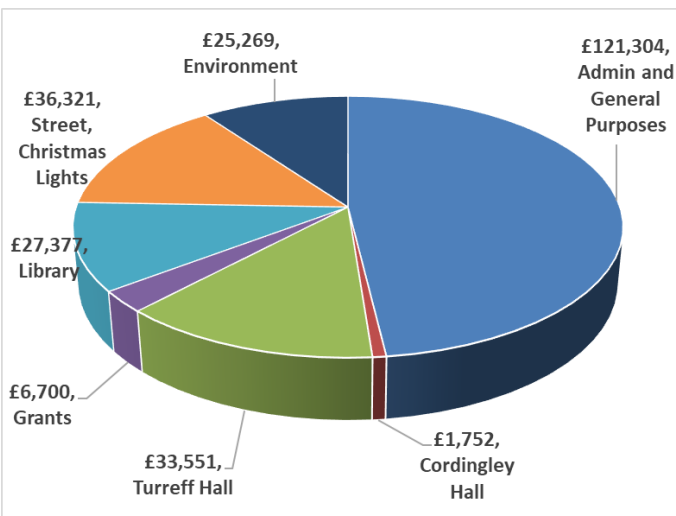
## Finance

The Council's precept for 2018/2019 was set at £168,534. This maintains a cost of £44.71, per annum on Band D equivalent houses within the Parish as part of the Council Tax for the fifth year running. This figure was set according to the number of Band "D" equivalent properties in the parish which was given at 3,769.5.

### Income 2018/2019



### Expenditure 2018/2019



Grants totalling £6,700 were awarded to 12 groups and organisations that benefit the inhabitants within the Parish and Telford & Wrekin.

The Parish Council received its Annual Return for the year ended 2018 back from its new Auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP based at Canary Wharf, London which, once again, has been successfully signed off.

The Parish Council was also successful in applying for grants in 2017/2018. It received £8,100 from Groundwork UK to assist in its creation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

## Parish Council: Councillors 2018/2019

### Donnington West Ward

Elizabeth A Clare  
David Hayward  
Jim Lavery  
Clive Mason  
John Thompson

### Muxton Ward

Lisa M Dugmore  
Nigel A Dugmore  
Philip Loughlin  
Adrian Lawrence  
Victor Rainsford

### Donnington East Ward

Gladys Rose Gregory

### The Humbers

Lesley A Edwards  
Martyn Edwards

## Parish Personnel

Clerk: Ralph Morgan Assistant Clerk: Kate Watson  
Caretaker: Helen Whitehouse

All can be contacted at the Parish Office in Turreff Hall, Turreff Avenue, Donnington, Telford, TF2 8HG.  
The contact telephone number is 01952 608001  
Email address is: [clerk@donningtonmuxtonpc.org](mailto:clerk@donningtonmuxtonpc.org)  
Website address is: [www.donningtonmuxtonpc.org](http://www.donningtonmuxtonpc.org)

## Parish Council Website and Social Media

The Parish Council website is proving to be a great success. All Agendas and Minutes of meetings are published together with a list of Councillors, activities for young and old and links into the history of Donnington and Muxton. The Council's [Facebook](#) is also proving to be very popular with local residents sharing information placed on it. Lately, the Parish Council has launched its own [Twitter](#) Account (DonningtonMuxt1) where updates are supplied of Council activities so you can follow this Council via these forms of Social Media.

## Parish Council Assets

The assets held by the Parish Council are as follows:

<u>Fixed Assets</u>	<u>Estimated Value (£) as at March 2018</u>
Turreff Hall	450,159.05
Cordingley Hall	763,684.97
Street Furniture:	32,211.36
14 x Bus Shelters	
15 x Benches	
426 x Street Lights	

The Parish Council also has £22,642.58 of equipment with which to carry out its duties.

### Land

Land opposite Muxton Primary School, Marshbrook Way, Muxton  
Brands Meadow Play area and woods, Muxton  
Land from Muxton Primary School on Marshbrook Way to the junction of Winchester Drive, Muxton.  
Land off Saltwell's Drive to the rear of Thornton Park Avenue.  
Land for allotments at Donnington Recreation Ground.

**Disclaimer:** The opinions expressed by the various contributors are not necessarily those of Donnington and Muxton Parish Council. The inclusion of an article in this publication does not necessarily imply a recommendation of its aims, policies or methods. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information in this publication; however, no liability can be accepted for loss or inconvenience caused as a result of error or omission.