

**Madeley Parish Council**

**LEISURE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Leisure & Community Committee of Madeley Parish Council held on  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Jubilee House, 74 High Street, Madeley, Telford and  
commencing at 6.30pm

---

**PRESENT: Councillors: D Davies, R Evans, J Jones (Vice Chair), M Swift.**

**06/01 Apologies for Absence**

Councillor D Edwards	- out of the area	- accepted
Councillor G Ashcroft	- work commitments	- accepted

Absent – Councillor R Coldicutt

**06/02 Remarks from the Chair**

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair presided.

**06/03 Public Discussion Time**

No members of the public were present.

**06/04 Declaration of Interests**

There were none.

**06/05 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meetings held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March and Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2006 were confirmed and approved for signature.

**06/06 Madeley Living History Project**

The Clerk presented the annual report from the Living History Project Manager (Appendix A) which highlighted the achievements of the last twelve months, among which were: -

- Supporting the Local Studies Group with their restoration of the Turner Memorial (funded by Heritage Lottery Fund)
- The education pack for the Brooke Memorials at St Michaels Church
- Madeley Town Trail
- National Archaeology Day
- Heritage Open Days
- Spirit of '45 Concert

New and ongoing projects include: -

- The Beeches Project
- Woodside Project
- Graveyard Trail
- Lee Dingle restoration.

## **06/07 Finance**

No financial transactions have taken place in this financial year. The clerk distributed the 2006/2007 budget for Councillor's information.

## **06/08 Grants**

### **08.1 Feedback from Previous recipients**

The Clerk gave a verbal report on previous grant recipients, two of which caused some concern, being outstanding for almost twelve months.

The Wrekin Star Judo Club had been contacted to ask for a progress report on their projected move to the TCAT Sports Academy; we had been informed that the grant would be spent as soon as the move had taken place. The group had replied that the arrangements with TCAT had fallen through and that they would be remaining in their current premises.

#### **Resolved**

That as the group were unable to use the grant for the purpose for which it was awarded, they would be asked to return it to the Parish.

The Youth Football Scheme had failed to provide any receipts in spite of repeated reminders. Councillors understood the difficulties of obtaining such items from the financial departments of large institutions – in this case West Mercia Constabulary. They also were aware that the Football Scheme is operational, meeting every Friday as planned. However, they felt that a level of accountability was expected and the Clerk was asked to invite their representative to give a presentation at the next Leisure and Community meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2006.

### **08.2 Applications**

Councillors commented on the difficulty of making objective decisions on funding applications. The current criteria are deliberately broad, to encompass as wide a variety of groups and organisations as possible, however, this does not assist the decision making process.

#### **Agreed**

That this issue would be brought forward and considered at Strategy Review.

### **08.2.1 Borough of Telford & Wrekin – Children & Young People's Active Involvement Service**

*To provide off site visits and specialist activities for children attending the summer playschemes at Sutton Hill, Woodside, John Randall and the detached scheme at Hills Lane Park.*

Madeley Parish Council has provided financial support for the summer playschemes since 1992. Members agreed to continued support in order to provide a greater variety of activities for local children.

**Resolved**

That an award of £1,500 be made to the Borough of Telford and Wrekin to provide trips and specialist activities for the summer playschemes.

**08.2.2 Telford Sea Cadets**

*Funding requested to assist with the cost of yacht hire for up to 6 senior cadets.*

The Telford Sea Cadets are based in Donnington and take young people from across the district, although only two of their members are from Madeley Parish.

Members felt that the requested £250 could not be justified but wished to indicate their support of an organisation that provides constructive activities for young people. To demonstrate this a donation of £50 was suggested.

**Resolved**

That an award of £50 be made to Telford Sea Cadets.

**08.2.3 Telford Fun (Gay) Day**

*Donation sought to assist with the costs of staging the annual fun (gay) day.*

This event is relatively new and is in its third year of operation. Councillors support the principles of equality and diversity and so agreed to a donation to support the event.

**Resolved**

That an award of £100 be made to Telford Fun (Gay) Day.

**08.2.4 Stonedale Neighbourhood Watch**

*Support requested to cover the stationery costs incurred by the co-ordinator.*

Councillors wished to demonstrate their interest in Neighbourhood Watch Groups and their support of individuals who work to improve the local living environment. The Stonedale Group has been supported in the past, it has none of its own resources to draw on and Councillor agreed that the support should continue.

**Resolved**

That goods (printer cartridges and paper) be purchased for the Stonedale Neighbourhood Watch Group to a value of £60.00, with a request that copies of any leaflets or publicity be forwarded to the Parish.

**08.2.5 Telford Amateur Boxing Club**

*Funding requested to upgrade toilet facilities*

The Telford Amateur Boxing Club is based at Lumley Hall, an old building requiring extensive refurbishment to bring it up to the required standard. Labour could be supplied by Shropshire probation service but fixtures, fittings and materials have to be purchased by the club.

Councillors felt that the club provides an important facility for people both locally and across the district. They are well established and have carried out their own fundraising in addition to the request from Madeley Parish.

**Resolved**

That an award of £600 be made to Telford Amateur Boxing Club to purchase fixtures and fittings for the refurbishment of the of the toilets

**08.2.6 Axis Counselling**

*Funding requested to support the service.*

Axis Counselling are a tenant of Jubilee House and provide counselling for adults who have been abused as children, either physically, sexually or emotionally. Such is the demand that there is currently a three month waiting list of 32 people. Given the nature of the need, Axis are very keen to reduce the waiting time and requested funding to enable this to happen.

**Resolved**

That an award of £500 be made to Axis Counselling to support the service.

**08.2.7 Fletcher Methodist Church Centre**

*To contribute toward the cost of supplying a new heating system in the community facilities (resubmission).*

Councillors recognised the problems that are faced by a small group of people, trying to maintain and manage an old and important building that is in need of significant investment. However, in spite of meetings with the clerk and requests for detailed information, this had not been forthcoming and the picture was no clearer than it had been when the committee first considered the funding application in September 2005. Councillors felt that this group need significant help and that a partnership arrangement could be more appropriate to the circumstances.

The clerk was asked to contact the Minister to set up a meeting with Councillors Mike Swift, Rae Evans and Janice Jones.

#### **08.2.8 Telford & Wrekin Senior Citizens Forum**

*Funding requested to cover venue hire and catering for meetings.*

Councillors were aware of the valuable work carried out by the Senior Citizens Forum from the regular feedback provided by Cllr David Edwards. However, they felt that as the Forum has a district wide catchment it was not reasonable to ask Madeley Parish to cover the entire meeting costs for a year. After some debate a lower level of funding was proposed.

#### **Resolved**

That an award of £300 be made to Telford and Wrekin Senior Citizens Forum, to be used to assist with the rental charges for the public forum meetings at Oakengates Theatre (The Place).

#### **08.2.9 MWS Credit Union**

*To train Credit Union Officers in the new computer package for Credit Union accounting.*

The Credit Union is based at Jubilee House; it is well established and well supported, providing vital financial services to over 2,000 people, 95% of whom are residents of the Parish. All Credit Union staff are volunteers. Whilst wishing to show support for the organisation councillors felt that training provision should be accounted for within their own budget and therefore elected to part fund the request.

#### **Resolved**

That an award of £350 be made to assist with the costs of providing accounting training for volunteers.

#### **08.2.10 Black History Working Group**

*Funding requested for Coach Hire to the 'Rise Festival' in London*

This group has been funded twice previously for the same purpose. In 2005 Councillors had been dissatisfied by the financial information supplied and had informed the group that no further funding requests would be considered unless accompanied by properly examined and certified accounts. The information provided with the current application was not satisfactory and the Clerk was asked to contact the group to request that more detailed accounts be supplied.

#### **08.2.11 St Michael's Church**

*Funding sought for the restoration of the clock*

Madeley Parish Council has supported St Michaels Church in a number of ways over the past few years, principally through funding the grass

cutting at the cemetery but also with regular litterpicking. The Living History Project Manager has also worked closely with the Church and provided invaluable assistance and advice that has helped the church apply for and access other funding streams.

Councillors considered that the clock, although part of the fabric of the church, belonged to the community as it is visible to all. As such, they felt that the request should be funded in full

### **Recommendation**

That Madeley Parish Council fully fund the restoration of St Michael's Church clock at a cost of £3, 330.13. This sum could also be viewed as Madeley Parish Council's contribution toward the 250 anniversary celebrations for Thomas Telford.

## **06/09 Community Events**

The Clerk presented the Business Plan (Appendix B) for Councillors information. Of particular note were: -

- A very successful Spring Clean in April and May involving the local schools, uniform groups and community groups in green space litterpicks. The drama workshops were also very successful in eight primary/infant/junior schools.

Councillors suggested that next year there should be Councillor involvement and commented that this is an event with good PR potential which could be used more effectively.

### **09.1 Christmas Lights**

The Clerk presented a paper requesting guidance for the future development of the Christmas Lights event and outlining the suggestions from the 2005 feedback.

A general discussion was held in which it was several ideas were put forward.

The lighting contract will be put out to tender by the end of the month, the meeting would like to see some upgrading of the displays, including the purchase of additional units.

The prospect of redevelopment at Madeley Centre causes difficulty in planning the event. Having no information as to timescales, public space at Madeley Centre may or may not be available.

Numbers attending Christmas Lights have been falling, and Councillors were asked to consider all ideas for reviving public enthusiasm.

Initial ideas were to consider re-routing the parade around Madeley Centre, to keep the firework display as long as a suitable site is available, and to provide a pig roast.

The permutations and possibilities of the event were too great to consider in the available time and the meeting: -

**Agreed**

To re-convene at a later date to consider this single issue. All Council members would be invited to attend.

**06/10 Community Groups**

The Clerk presented the business Plan (Appendix B). Work is developing in priority areas, namely older people and young people.

**06/11 Community Safety**

Councillors asked for clarification regarding central government funding for additional Community Support Officers

**06/12 Correspondence**

There was none

**06/13 Information**

There was none

**06/14 Date of Next Meeting**

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed.....Dated.....  
(Chair)