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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE  
HELD IN ARDEN HALL,  
CASTLE BROMWICH ON  
WEDNESDAY, 2ND JANUARY 2008  
AT 7.30 PM**

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**Those present:**

**Chairman**      Cllr J Riordan

**Councillors**

Cllr Mrs. P Allen  
Cllr A Bull  
Cllr E Knibb  
Cllr Mrs. T Knibb  
Cllr Mrs. A Haywood

Cllr Miss J Ward  
Cllr Mrs B Wilkins

**Officers:**      Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Bull, as Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and Cllr Mrs. Knibb, as Chairman of the new Arden Hall Management and Promotion Committee to their first meeting as members of this Committee. He wished members a Happy New Year.

**1. Apologies.**

The apologies from Cllr M Rashid and Cllr Mrs. J Smith were accepted for the reasons given.

**2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.**

None declared.

**3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Knibb, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2007, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

**4. Manager's Report and Arden Hall issues.**

Members considered the December report written by Mr. Witten/Ms Ratcliffe, in the absence of the Hall Manager, and noted the contents. The Clerk reported the flood damage to the Spencer floor had still not been assessed for repair due to companies being closed for Christmas. Mr. Witten had provided a brief breakdown of the successful Party Night on 22<sup>nd</sup> December with a provisional profit of nearly £500 and bar sales of over £1000. The raffle raised £37 for the Chairman's Charity Fund. The Clerk had notified a hirer of the decision to retain New Year's Eve for a Parish Council event and the low bar takings at their event this year supported the business decision proposed by Cllr Knibb.

**5. Bar Stock Reports.**

Under confidential terms, members noted the stock reports and bar trading analysis.

**6. Residents' Concerns.**

Members noted the circulated information. Cllr Mrs Knibb referred to the commendation by a parishioner of her neighbour's litter picking and thought the Parish Council could establish a 'Good Citizen' award to recognise good work in the community, both in this way and with other commendable service. **IT WAS RESOLVED** to place this suggestion on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

#### 7. Communications.

Routine communications as listed on agenda were noted.

#### 8. Budget Plan 2008/09.

Amended information was tabled and reasons for minor alterations explained by the Chairman. Figures were tabled to suggest a 5% increase on some hire charges but after discussion and **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **SECONDED** by Cllr Bull, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that all Hire Charges be increased by 5% from 1<sup>st</sup> April. After detailed and lengthy consideration of valuable suggestions by members, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the figures as agreed for Arden Hall and Open Spaces be presented to the Council for approval. Revised printouts would be circulated prior to consideration of the precept for 08/09. Cllr Mrs. Knibb would endeavour to prepare costings on provisional projects for consideration by the new Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> January.

#### 9. Payments.

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments as set out in the enclosure, be approved.

#### 10. Clerk's Report/Open Spaces Report.

The Clerk reported on the outstanding action points from the last meeting: no update on quote for the recommended silver protection painting (scaffolding quote also needed); Crockery still awaiting disposal

Contact to be made with artist regarding display of work.

Letter of thanks sent to local garden centre regarding donation of plants

Officer from West Midlands Police to be invited to attend Parish Council Meeting

Tree Inspection - Report awaited

Complaint re hire - Written apology sent

Staff absences - Arden Hall duties were still extremely time consuming

Caretaker vacancy - No applications had been received from Job Centre, adverts or website.

Hire of Hall to - Level of booking enquiries dropped, considered possibly due to hire bond enforcement.

Voluntary Workers - No information received regarding proposed work by voluntary Workers to Council's open spaces

The Clerk also reported that no news had been received from Record/Groundworks on possible playground development; or any reply to the query raised by Insurance Inspector on Aerial Runway zipwire although this had not been queried by Rospa Inspectors. There was no further news to report on CCTV maintenance/improvements but Cllr Mrs. Wilkins offered to supply information on a company she could recommend. The terms of reference

would require amendment to membership details and were therefore deferred to the next meeting.

ACTION

Clerk  
9/01

ACTION

Clerk  
01/04

Clerk  
09/01

TK  
09/01

Asst. Clerk  
18/01