

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL,
CASTLE BROMWICH ON
WEDNESDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER 2011
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Vice-Chairman Cllr I Hiley

Councillors	Cllr R Amos	Cllr E Knibb	Cllr J Riordan
	Cllr M Hayes	Cllr M Rashid	Cllr Miss J Ward

[Items 1-9 only]

Officers: Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO
Mrs. R Gorton, Assistant Hall Manager [Items 1-5 only]

Public: None.

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr Mrs. P Allen and Cllr Mrs. A Haywood were noted for the reasons given.

2. Declarations of personal or other interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 6th July, 2011, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

4. Manager's Report and Hire issues.

Members noted and considered the circulated report and supplementary information. Members noted the lower bar takings in this period but realised this was compounded by the planned partial closure at weekends for refurbishment works, which had been delayed by suppliers. The Clerk informed members that the agreed land sale had been completed with the income anticipated shortly. She therefore undertook to put the topic of capital projects on the next council agenda for members to prioritise existing and potential projects. At the suggestion of the Clerk, members agreed that a November date be investigated for another Hirers Liaison Meeting so that any questions from hirers could be put directly through this forum as the proper channel. The Vice-Chairman explained the supplier problem with the new windows but hoped this would be resolved the following week, subject to hall availability. The Assistant Manager informed members of a high profile forthcoming booking and members endorsed the endeavours to improve the stage fronting and curtains, with a review of backstage operations to follow. Members noted the previous delegation of Spencer Hall refurbishment plans to the Hall Manager and the Clerk, in consultation with three members. After considering the existing staff capacity, members noted the tabled job description and reported provisional costings for the required vacancy. This had been previously considered necessary at the last council meeting and could be met from within existing budget. Details would be finalised by the Clerk and the Hall Manager.

ACTION

Clerk
21/9

Asst Hall
Mgr - asap

RG - TK/
CT asap

TK/CT +
MH, PA, JR

TK/CT asap

5. Bar Stock Report.

Under confidential terms, members noted the stock report by the Hall Manager

N.B. All Minutes are deemed as draft until formally approved and signed. and the surplus in stock at period end. The problems with the aging software remained and members asked that remedial action be taken as a priority.

TK/CT

6. Residents' Concerns.

Members noted the tabled information. As requested, members gave consideration to the request to re-open Delamere Gate and to keep closed the Hungerfield gate, with an alternative location suggested by a resident. After careful consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Amos, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that present access arrangements were sufficient and that in the light of security problems and multiple staff assaults this year it would not be safe or appropriate to make any changes. This topic would be reviewed at the annual inspection in July 2012.

Clerk
notify
residents

Council
07/12

7. Working Party Reports.

Cllr Amos, on behalf of the Grants working party, tabled information on funding criteria guidelines and wished to meet with an advisor to prepare grant applications in accordance with the priorities previously discussed by the Buildings working party. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Cllr Amos proceed to fully explore all funding avenues and report back with his findings.

RA
asap

8. Tree Planting.

Members discussed at length the Clerk's report of the recent assessment of trees on open spaces. Although the specific quotation was still awaited, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Miss Ward, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the council endeavour to establish a Diamond Jubilee Planting project with publicity to invite residents and local groups to make donations/trees, to apply for funding, to invite neighbours near to planting locations to 'adopt' a tree and water it weekly and that, pending the quotation, that use of current budget and earmarked reserves for tree planting be utilized for a November/December planting if possible. **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the offer of David Adams of Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens to nurture young trees for later planting be gratefully accepted and that a number of 'whips' be purchased. Residents may also be invited to plant acorns and conkers at home for later donation to the council for planting on parish land.

Clerk
Sept.11

CT/PA
Sept.11

9. Open Spaces Matters.

Members noted that boundary issues at the Village Green remained outstanding, with a letter to be sent to a resident, that the transfer of part title to the access road at the Village Green had been completed and that the condition of the war memorial and pathway slabs needed professional investigation.

Clerk
Asap

Clerk
Asap

10. Clerk's Report/Open Spaces Report.

The Clerk reported that since the last meeting there had been some problems with youths on the roof, a large iron bar had been found in the park and quickly disposed of, she had upheld a complaint on the poor standard of grounds maintenance on the goalmouth areas and Cllr Amos volunteered to accompany the Clerk at a later meeting with the hirer. Details had been received about an awareness training on illegal lending and members were invited to request further details from the Clerk if required. Tesco Stores had donated a voucher to the Parish Council and Cllr Knibb volunteered to collect it. Members were most pleased to hear that the Youth Council entry in the Solihull in Bloom competition had reached the final round, with results expected soon.

RA/Clerk
14/9