

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE  
HELD IN ARDEN HALL,  
CASTLE BROMWICH ON  
WEDNESDAY, 7TH OCTOBER 2009  
AT 7.30 PM**

**Those present:**

- Chairman**      Cllr Mrs. A Haywood
- Councillors**    Cllr Mrs. P Allen      Cllr M Hayes      Cllr J Riordan  
                          Cllr R Amos      Cllr Mrs. T Knibb      Cllr Miss J Ward  
                          Cllr I Hiley      Cllr Rashid      Cllr Mrs. B Wilkins
- Officers:**      Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council  
                          Mrs. T. Kite, Hall Manager [Items 1-6]
- Guest**            Cllr A Terry
- Public:**            None.

**1. Tour of the Pavilion and Theatre Workshop**

Members took the opportunity to tour the areas they wished to see.

**2. Apologies.**

No apologies received from members. Two guests had sent apologies.

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

Cllr Hiley declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 7 as a quotation had been submitted by his company (but the matter was later deferred).

**4. Minutes of the previous Meeting.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Amos, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Mrs. Wilkins and with 8 votes in favour, none against and 2 abstentions, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2009, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

**5. Manager’s Report and Arden Hall issues.**

Members noted the Manager’s Report and the increase in conference bookings being received, making the diary very busy until Christmas. Cllr Mrs. Haywood asked about New Year’s Eve and the Mrs. Kite confirmed that an event was planned. Hirers were noticing the improvements being made and were frequently complimentary, with new customers being pleased to return for more events. Mrs. Kite reported the success of the Macmillan event. The Chairman regretted not being able to attend but thanked the staff and Cllr Mrs. Allen for raising the profile of the parish council and hoped another event would be held next year, as so many people had enjoyed attending. After discussion and consideration of options for a way forward and refurbishment required for residential or hirer’s use, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Rashid, and with 10 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to apply for planning permission for change of use for the former Manager’s accommodation from residential to become part of Arden Hall and for the chartered surveyor to provide business valuations (according to sizes) to enable the parish council to explore further.

**6. Bar Stock Reports.**

Members did not object to the guest remaining in the meeting during this confidential report. Under confidential terms, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hiley, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, with 10 votes in favour, none against and no

ACTION

FGP  
14/10

N.B. All Minutes are deemed as draft until formally approved and signed abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the report be noted, as detailed in the confidential appendix for members only.

### 7. Quotations and future work.

The Hall Manager tabled the two quotations received for consideration. On the recommendation of the Chairman, members deferred the decision until the next meeting and asked Mrs. Kite to obtain more quotations on a like for like basis, for the two options under consideration. Members stressed that a clear picture was needed before a decision could be taken.

T.Kite  
Nov mtg

### 8. Pavilion Matters.

At the invitation of the Chairman, members and guests were invited to share their views on the operation of the pavilion and associated buildings in the park. Cllr Amos had witnessed equipment being left in the room overnight by a hirer and the Clerk confirmed this would not be insured and was not in accordance with hire regulations. He was also dismayed that alcohol was sometimes consumed outside when the park was an alcohol free zone. Members had seen the unauthorized electrical installation by a hirer and an extra written undertaken would be sought when removal was instructed. Cllrs Mrs. Allen, Hiley, Hayes, Mrs. Wilkins, Miss Ward, Rashid, Amos and Mrs. Haywood confirmed their availability to attend the special meeting at 2 pm on 24<sup>th</sup> October with the Development Group from the sports club. Members considered some options for storage facilities that could replace the existing garages and future opportunities for the space that would remain when the resulting demolition took place. Legal advice was still awaited regarding the re-wording of the lease/licence and the Clerk would write again stipulating a deadline. The Chairman thanked Cllr Terry for suggesting there would be benefit for all if the Club shared the regulations with their helpers, perhaps as a training opportunity.

Clerk  
8/10

Clerk  
to confirm

Clerk  
8/10

### 9. Residents' Concerns.

Members noted the circulated information and Cllr Rashid raised two matters that parishioners had alerted him to: dog fouling problem outside resident's house in Park Hall Crescent and 7/8 large pot holes still remaining on Parkfield Drive on the Beechcroft estate. Although not on parish council land, the matters would need referring to the Borough Council and the Clerk offered to supply relevant contact numbers. Cllr Mrs. Knibb volunteered to pass the information on to Steve Crook when she next saw him at a personal meeting. Cllr Amos reported that an area of turf had been removed from Hob Farm. Cllr Mrs. Wilkins had examined trees at the village green to assess damage that had been reported and asked if frost may affect them where small pieces of bark were missing. Members agreed that footballers normally played in the centre of the Green and not often against the trees in question.

TK  
Tba

Clerk &  
tree  
surgeon

### 10. Payments.

Following discussion, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Amos, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, with 10 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments as circulated by approved.

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

Members noted the report tabled, including emergency inspection report on 3 playground items that needed prompt rectification; possible contract renewal for quarterly inspections, quotation for tree work following residents concern at Whateley Green and she recommended undertaking crown lifting (as option 2) costing £230; the Club's New Year's Eve Event had been detailed in the Temporary Events Notice approved by Solihull MBC, although clarification would be sought on capacity detailed. The offer of a Memorial Bench from parishioner referred by council last week, would be pursued, subject to location and design being agreed. It was reported that the website

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

was overdue for updating due to illness so the consultation has not yet appeared. Members still wished to proceed with the banner and hoped that the two events may coincide in sufficient time. Temporary fencing had been arranged to prevent access to garage areas in the park, dressing room brickwork had been repaired in accordance with surveyors instructions; Cricket team success and promotion was congratulated but the request for additional weeks in season for Saturday matches and bank holidays would need consideration; costs of false activation of alarm was being recovered but second false alarm has since occurred; football season underway with no issues thus far; concerns regarding grass cutting frequency were tabled and planned for later discussion; tennis fence been reinforced; staff meeting taken place with wardens; current staff shortage due to illness and members were grateful to Martin Lance for working additional hours to keep park operating.

Asst clerk  
asap

Clerk  
Oct.09

Asst. Clerk