

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2010
AT 19.30 HRS**

Those present:

- Chairman:** Cllr M Hayes
Councillors: Cllr Mrs. A Haywood Cllr E Knibb Cllr A Terry
 Cllr J Horne-MacDonald Cllr J Riordan Cllr J Whelan
Officers: Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO
Guests: Cllr Mrs. L Smith
Public: None.

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr Mrs. P Allen and Cllr Mrs. J Smith were noted.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Whelan, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings held on Wednesdays, 29th September and 13th October, 2010, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the meetings.

4. Planning Applications.

The Planning Applications received since the last meeting were considered by the Committee and the recommendations thereon are set out in the appendix. The Clerk undertook to contact one applicant once the Borough Council planning decision was known.

5. Residents' Concerns.

Members noted and discussed the circulated information. The Clerk undertook to arrange feedback to a resident and supply contact details of a local organization for support.

6. Budget Priorities.

Members considered the issues raised by the Leisure Services Committee and additionally instructed the Clerk to investigate allocations for Jubilee Celebrations (£1000 possible civic event or community tree planting), Community Appraisal review (£200), Pavilion Steering Group (£100). Timing of decisions were discussed.

7. Solihull MBC – Traffic Regulation.

Following consideration of the map and details, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Parish Council support these measures as local residents were chronically affected by parking problems. Members also commended the consideration of establishing a “Walking Bus”, which could operate from Arden Hall to St. Mary & St. Margaret School.

8. Marketing and Promotion.

Following discussion, the Clerk was asked to update the old leaflet in conjunction with Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen. The Asst. Clerk was obtaining information and costs from the Borough Council so that deadlines could be established and met.

ACTION

Clerk
tba

Clerk
19/12

Clerk
asap

Asst. Clerk
Asap

Clerk &
Chairs
17/11
Asst. Clerk
24/11

N.B. All Minutes are deemed as draft until formally approved and signed.

9. East Birmingham and North Solihull Bus Network Review.

Following discussion, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by the Chairman, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Centro be asked to improve frequency of buses along Water Orton Road, to protect existing services, to release punctuality targets and achievements for the area, to explain the constraints they may be facing and to invite them again to a council meeting to discuss their communications and services to passengers and non-passengers in Castle Bromwich.

ACTION

Asst Clerk
18/11

10. Investment Bank Account.

Members listened with interest to background information, and **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Horne-MacDonald, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Responsible Finance Officer progress matters to the account application stage and then return to council for final consideration.

RFO
10/12

11. Training.

In line with the training policy, members noted the reports from members and the Clerk on training events attended – national conference and an employment law seminar (event free of charge). Training papers had been sent to members who had missed the recent whole council training on risk management and budget planning. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for providing this opportunity.

12. Payments.

Following clarification of details by the Clerk, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments as circulated by approved. Members were pleased to note the donation to the Youth Council for their Sensory Peace Garden.

13. Clerk's Report.

The Clerk tabled copies of the new conditions imposed by Solihull MBC Licensing Committee following the Castle Convenience Store application to vary their hours, which had been refused. Members noted that several extremely beneficial meetings had been held to spur on local initiatives and the Clerk thanked members who had been keen to get involved on a practical level. The commission received from Costco for upgrading membership was £111.07, so financially worthwhile. Arrangements were in hand for the Parade Service on Sunday and the Carol Concert (tickets for members £1 each from the Clerk). Members were pleased to hear of the challenge to a skittles evening from the Youth Council taking place after their next meeting on 4th January, 2011 – further details later. The new memorial stone had been laid that day in readiness for Sunday's dedication.

Members
to pay
asap