

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 14TH MARCH 2012
AT 19.30 HRS**

Those present:

Vice-Chairman: Cllr M Hayes

Councillors: Cllr Mrs. P Allen Cllr J Riordan Cllr J Whelan
[Items 6-end] Cllr Mrs. L Smith Cllr Mrs. B Wilkins
Cllr Mrs. A Haywood

Officers: Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO

Public: None.

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr E Hicks, Cllr J Horne-MacDonald and Cllr A Terry (Chairman) were noted for the reasons given. Cllr Mrs. Allen had been delayed at another meeting.

ACTION

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

Following a correction to page 2, Item 8, 2nd line to read “by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins”, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Vice-Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings held on Wednesdays, 25th January and 8th February, 2012, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

4. Planning Applications.

The Planning Applications received since the last meeting were considered and the following recommendations made to the Borough Council:-

Admin
Asst.
15/03

Application No	Applicant	Location	Type
Recommendation to the Borough Council			
2012/104	Mrs W Nicholson	15A Chester Road, Castle Bromwich	
Could be approved subject to views of the Tree Officer			
2012/297	West Mercia Development Ltd	362-364 Chester Road, Castle Bromwich	
Could be approved subject to any neighbour's comments.			
2012/235	Castle Bromwich Jnr School	Hurst Lane North, Castle Bromwich	
Could be approved.			
2012/270	Mr & Mrs Lawrence	39 Chester Road, Castle Bromwich	
Could be approved subject to any neighbour's comments.			
2012/211	Mr & Mrs McDonough	68a Chester Road, Castle Bromwich	
Could be approved subject to any neighbour's comments.			
2012/256	McCarthy & Stone Retirement	Chester Arms, Chester Road, Castle Bromwich	
Could be approved in principle but concerns exist regarding adequacy of parking arrangements and Parish Council look to Borough Council to ensure and improve road safety (possibly under S.106 arrangements)			
2012/226	St Mary & St Margarets School	Southfield Avenue, Castle Bromwich	
Could be approved.			
2012/200	Mr James Smith	150 Water Orton Road, Castle Bromwich	
Application withdrawn			
2012/209	Mrs Louise Adcock	279 Chester Road, Castle Bromwich	
Recommendation deferred. Request Borough Council to confirm if there have been any adverse effects to occupiers of nearby dwellings (condition 2 of 2011/7) and if any breaches of conditions 3 and 4 of 2011/7.			

5. Review of Charges for Copying and Business Services.

Members considered the information tabled and after discussion of service to parishioners and noting that charges were still cheaper than commercial operators, **ON**

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

THE PROPOSITION of the Vice-Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Smith, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the increased charges be adopted from 1st April, 2012.

6. Report of the Boundary Commission.

Members noted the information available on the Commission’s website that should be read (<http://consultation.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/have-your-say/>). This would be an agenda item for discussion at the next Council meeting.

7. Working Parties and Steering Group.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported on the Opens Spaces working party. The Vice-Chairman reported that the Standing Orders working party had not met but requested that members email him again the results of the individual reviews they had undertaken. He would then endeavour to arrange a meeting, due to the time lapse since the last meeting, as some concerns may no longer be relevant.

8. Residents Concerns.

Members noted details of recent concerns raised by residents. Following the planned review and discussion of the implications of confidential personal data, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Vice-Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that full details be circulated again to parish and borough councillors, with the following statement on the website and on display outside the council office to notify people “To improve our service to you, any concerns of residents are normally shared with local councilors”.

9. Training.

Members noted the Clerk’s withdrawal from the LGA Summit due to another commitment. Following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Vice-Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Clerk’s application to attend the national SLCC conference in October be approved, at the discounted cost of £365 for early booking. It was hoped to present a report at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on the WALC Annual Briefing Day. Cllr Riordan reported that he had attended the Data Protection workshop which had been valuable. The Clerk reported that she had attended the Essential Documents and Policies workshop which had been helpful to clarify retention of paperwork.

10. Clerk’s Report.

Members noted that the Council Office had unfortunately not been open on 16th February, the meeting for the new Nature Reserve at Beechcroft had been attended by Cllr Mrs. Allen, Bor. Cllr Richards and the Clerk; the funding application for the Windsor Room refurbishment would need reviewing and the Grant working party were meeting the following day at 2 pm; the funding application to the Airport Community Fund for the relocation of the office had been acknowledged; information on the war memorial website had been submitted but still not updated; the solicitor had not replied to financial query on the land matters; the Clerk journal had been passed to the Parish Plan Steering Group chairman as there were articles focusing on neighbourhood plans; Castle Bromwich Library had sent grateful thanks for their grant funding and invited parish councillors to attend the storytelling events; WALC were inviting views on possible changes to business rates; a letter had been sent to the Chairman regarding mitigation for HS2 development and this would be an agenda item at council; the NALC Legal Topic Note 8 on Members Conduct and Registration of Interests had been tabled (and would be posted to absent members); the LPU Commanders message had been received from the police with updated information.

ACTIONAdmin
Asst.
Mar.12

Members
28/3

Standing Orders
WP
asap

Admin Asst/
Clerk
April '12

Clerk
15/5