

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

Those present:**Vice-Chairman:** Cllr Mrs. B Wilkins

Councillors: Cllr Mrs. P Allen Cllr E Hicks Cllr J Riordan
 Cllr M Hayes [Items 1-8 only] Cllr Mrs. L Smith
 Cllr Mrs. A Haywood Cllr I Hiley Cllr J Whelan

Officers: Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO**Public:** 2 members of the public.**1. Apologies.**

The apologies received from Cllr J Horne-MacDonald and Cllr A Terry were noted for the reasons given.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or conflict of interests.

None.

3. Dispensations.

None.

4. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings held on Wednesdays, 26th September and 10th October, 2012, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

5. Planning Applications.

None received.

6. Budget Planning 2013/14.

The initial draft budget prepared by the Clerk was considered by members and each line item in the Democratic Services budget was reviewed for year end forecasts and provisional estimates set for next year, with quotes for IT maintenance and council office relocation being referred to officers for clarification at the next meeting.

7. HS2 Consultation – Safeguarding for London – West Midlands.

Members considered the document circulated. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hayes, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the questions circulated should be endorsed for submission to the Borough Council.

8. Boundary Commission – Consultation on revised proposals.

Members noted with disappointment that the submissions made for Castle Bromwich to remain with the Meriden constituency had not been accepted by the Boundary Commission. The Vice-Chairman asked members if they wished to be addressed by the public in attendance and **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that this was welcomed. Therefore, Bor. Cllr Richards explained that he thought it unlikely the Commission would make drastic changes to its proposals and only possibly agree to minor name changes. He did explain that their report stating why Castle Bromwich proposals had not been accepted was technically incorrect in places and advised that this gave the best grounds for it to be challenged. Alternative suggestions were put forward to the Boundary Commission and the statement made that there are clear ties between Castle Bromwich and Shard End. He felt it was owed to the electors to make best endeavours to keep the Castle Bromwich ward within the Meriden constituency. Bor.

ACTIONClerk
28/11Clerk
21/11

Cllr Richards answered questions from the Council and both members of the public helpfully supplied a copy of their published letters.

ACTION

9. Working Parties (Events, Grants, Standing Orders) and Parish Plan Steering Group.

The Clerk reported that she had received extensive feedback on the Remembrance Parade this year, which would be circulated to key participants and a meeting arranged in due course to review . Cllr Hayes reported that the revisions recommended by the Standing Orders Working Party would be circulated to members for the November meeting, and in accordance with changes (see Standing Order 80), would stand adjourned without discussion until the next council meeting.

Clerk
Asap

Clerk
Asap

10. Residents' Concerns.

Members noted details of recent concerns raised by residents.

11. Community Event.

Members agreed that the surplus consumables from the Jubilee event should be donated to a charity that provided workshops for children affected by cancer. The Clerk undertook to arrange this.

Clerk
15/11

12. Training.

Members noted the 2 training modules by WALC, previously approved for the Clerk to attend, was unlikely to take place. Following consideration, the request from Cllr Knibb to attend the Financial Clinic on 17th January 2013 in Alcester, at a cost of £35, should be approved. Two free places had been booked at a workshop by Geldards in Nottingham and the Clerk would be attending a West Midlands Pension seminar on 6th December.

Asst.Clerk
5/12

13. Clerk's Report.

Members noted the serious incident in Arden Hall that had occurred and the measures being considered by the Hall Manager as a consequence, which would be supported by the council. The Clerk continued to prioritise hire issues, Remembrance Parade, the Carol Concert and the budget calculations.

