

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLE  
BROMWICH PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH  
ON WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2011  
AT 7.30 PM**

**Those present:**

**Chairman:** Cllr M Hayes

<b>Councillors:</b>	Cllr Mrs. P Allen	Cllr I Hiley	Cllr Mrs. L Smith
	Cllr R Amos	Cllr J Horne-MacDonald	Cllr A Terry
	Cllr Mrs. A Haywood	Cllr E Knibb	Cllr Miss J Ward
	Cllr E Hicks	Cllr J Riordan	Cllr J Whelan

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

**Public:** 1 member of the public [Items 1-11 only]

**1. Apologies.**

The apologies from Cllr M Rashid and Cllr Mrs. B Wilkins were noted for the reasons given.

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

None declared.

**3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Amos, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

**4. Questions from Councillors.**

None.

**5. Questions from the Public.**

In accordance with Standing Orders, the meeting was temporarily adjourned so that members of the public could ask questions. A parishioner from the Park Hall ward asked if members had seen the unnamed letter in the Solihull Times which had echoed the sentiments he had previously expressed to the Council and raised with Bor. Cllr Richards about parking dangers caused by parents outside Park Hall Academy? Members had not seen the letter but recalled the valid concerns stated for some time by the resident. The parishioner then asked if the police could advertise their meetings more as he had been disappointed by only 2 people attending the last Beat Surgery. He commended the local booklets and publications that would freely promote meetings and members suggested alternatives like Facebook, emails and website publicity. The parishioner commended the difference made with local problems following successful arrests more than 9 weeks previously.

The Clerk gave feedback from Sgt. Dalton, who had apologised for not attending this meeting. Latest crime figures were given and details of crime prevention measures that were being taken, with a visible presence during key times for extra public reassurance.

**6. Communications.**

Members noted the information listed. In response to a question from Cllr Riordan, the clerk clarified the letter confirming council tax entry deletion. The Chairman questioned the letter about parking restrictions at Chester Road shops and Cllr Horne-MacDonald clarified the contents of the letter.

**ACTION**

**7. Financial Regulations – increase of Tender Threshold: Proposed Amendment to Parish Council Standing Order 77 section 1 (e), 2 and 3 (a).**

Following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Terry, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to increase the tender threshold from £20,000 to £50,000 with Standing Orders being amended accordingly with immediate effect.

**8. Arden Hall - External Decorations.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Terry, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Wardens complete the repainting of the balcony subject to weather conditions, that quotations be sought for PVC cladding to all remaining fascias to match the front of the building, being funded from the repairs and maintenance budget if sufficient and supplemented by earmarked reserves if necessary.

Hall Mgr/  
Wardens  
asap

**9. War Memorial Renovation and Works.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Terry, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that an additional £2280 budgetary provision be made in 2012/13 for the renovation and recommended works to be undertaken in the spring to the War Memorial, as specified in the report by Brad Steele. The Clerk was instructed to request a date in May for the works, prior to confirming the order in April.

Clerk  
Jan.12

**10. Financial Matters – Budget 2012/2013, Banking Services and Investment of Reserves.**

Following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Amos, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that:

- a) The draft budget from committees be approved, with the Clerk being delegated to revise the year end forecast figures according to known factors and to finalise the list of committee requests should the end of year balance be able to accommodate future projects;
- b) Two accounts be quickly opened with Unity Trust Bank to facilitate paying of suppliers and wages ready for the installation of the new computer network, with a view to opening additional accounts at year end;
- c) The Clerk be delegated authority to proceed, in conjunction with the normal signatories, to place the sum of £50,000 in an earmarked reserves investment account for 12 months with the Co-operative Bank, on the proviso that the interest rate quoted remained the best available and that early access to the funds could be obtained if necessary.

Clerk  
18/1

Clerk  
asap &  
Mar.12

Clerk  
asap

**11. Payments.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments and retrospective salary costs be approved. Members noted the latest budget printouts.

Admin Asst  
22/12

**12. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Mrs. Allen, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hiley, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011, having been circulated, be duly received and noted.

**13. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Terry, **SECONDED** by Cllr Horne-MacDonald, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesdays, 30<sup>th</sup> November and 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011,

having been circulated, be duly received and noted.

#### **14. Representatives to Outside Bodies.**

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December she had attended Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens Christmas Event as a representative of the Parish Council. It had been an enjoyable afternoon which was very busy and she hoped they raised lots of funds. On Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December she had accompanied a Youth Councillor to Coleshill Town Hall for the election of their Youth Council, enjoying a tour of the Town Hall. She thanked them for the kind invitation and hoped they could attend the next youth council meeting in January. On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, she had been delighted to be accompanied by George Rigby to the Castle Bromwich Age Concern Christmas Party on behalf of the council. She thanked them for a most enjoyable time, which had included an early present from 'Father Christmas'.

Cllr Whelan reported that on 22<sup>nd</sup> November, he had attended the Local Development Framework conference in Solihull when new proposals were presented showing challenges and objectives. Castle Bromwich was described as a mature suburb and different parts of the borough had varying concerns on different issues, ranging from 'garden-grabbing' developments, to preservation of green belts and dangers of building on flood plains. Retail development was not viewed equally and the local topical issue was the need to provide accommodation for older people.

#### **15. Report of the Officer of the Council.**

Members noted the tabled information from the Clerk for working parties and building issues.

#### **16. Report of the Chairman.**

The Chairman reported that on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December he had attended the Park Hall Presentation Evening, accompanied by Cllr Mrs. Allen, Cllr Riordan and the Clerk. It had been most delightful to see the progress the school had made in the past 10 years, not just with the physical building but by the incredibly improved ethos shared between staff and parents leading to greater commitment being shown by the students. He added that it was brilliant to see and this sentiment was echoed by others who attended.

#### **17. Hirer Complaint and Issues.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, it was advisable in the public interest, as if members of the public were present during the consideration of such business, there would be disclosure to them of information under paras 1 and 11 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act, that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw. Members discussed the format for the meeting and **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Miss Ward, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the draft outline be accepted in principal, subject to minor amendments only, with the Leisure Services Committee being delegated the authority to approve the final version on 4<sup>th</sup> January in the light of any further correspondence being received on or after 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011. **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Hirer be allowed to make a closing statement after the Council had finished asking questions.

Clerk/MH  
asap

LSC  
4/1