



Richards to reply on behalf of SMBC. He answered that on 7<sup>th</sup> November a site meeting had been held with the Highways Officer at school finishing time and they had witnessed cars parked the length of the highway, some cars parked on grass verges and some using the bus layby. Concerns remained that some solutions referred to previously could displace the problem rather than solving it. Therefore the school would discourage parking by planting shrubbery outside the main entrance. Unfortunately parents were no longer permitted into the car park and installing bollards would be too costly. Bor. Cllr Richards then provided feedback on numerous recent Castle Bromwich matters. A resident from the Park Hall ward asked if a decision had been made on a planning application in Green Lane and was informed that this had been withdrawn. A resident from the Bradford ward thanked the parish council and its employees for the work undertaken to plan and hold the Remembrance Service at the village green. Members discussed the forthcoming Christmas Event at Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens Trust and the Chairman wished this local charity well with its endeavours. It was suggested that local radio could be a helpful medium in promoting events. The Clerk reported that she had been accompanied by Cllr Mrs. Allen at a meeting with Bor. Cllr Richards at Solihull MBC to request permission for alternative design stickers for wheelie bins in an attempt to promote traffic calming. A report would be given to the parish Council in due course.

#### **6. Boundary Changes.**

Members noted the information made available to parishioners since the last meeting, the representation made by Cllr Whelan at the Boundary Commission hearing on 3<sup>rd</sup> November, the views of the MP and the encouragement to parishioners to put forward their own views by the deadline of 5<sup>th</sup> December.

#### **7. Communications.**

Members noted the information listed. The Chairman felt that short notice for some events made it difficult to attend. Cllr Knibb said that the litter pick by the Junior School in the Spinney and West Avenue had discovered numerous items of concern.

#### **8. Proposed Amendment to Parish Council Standing Order 77 section 1 (e), 2 and 3 (a).**

Following **THE PROPOSITION OF** the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Amos, the proposal to increase the tender threshold from £20,000 to £50,000 would stand adjourned without discussion to the December meeting when, in accordance with Standing Order 80, it could be considered.

#### **9. Members Allowances 2012/2013.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Smith, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that no change be made to the sum allocated for Basic Allowance of £103 per year for elected members and £1288 for the Chairman's Allowance. It was noted that, historically, members rarely made claims.

#### **10. Payments.**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Cllr Hiley, declared a prejudicial interest in this item by reason of one invoice for works undertaken by his company requiring approval, left the meeting and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon. Cllr Mrs. Wilkins and Cllr Riordan asked for additional information on some payments, which were clarified by the Clerk. **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments and retrospective salary costs be approved. Members noted the latest budget printouts. Cllr Hiley rejoined the meeting.

Members  
21/12

Admin Asst  
1/12

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

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Allen, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2011, having been circulated, be duly received and noted.

**12. Report of the Staff Panel.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Staff Panel held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November be duly received and noted.

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

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Terry, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesdays, 26<sup>th</sup> October and 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011, having been circulated, be duly received and noted.

**14. Representatives to Outside Bodies.**

Cllr Mrs. Haywood reported that on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, Cllr Mrs. Allen and herself had attended the Dame Mary Bridgman Trust meeting when a new member was welcomed, donations awarded to applications received, a replacement cheque issued for a prior donation and then a request by the Secretary for someone to consider taking over his role. Cllr Mrs. Haywood paid tribute to the very efficient way that Mr Jerry Dutton had fulfilled his post, always having all documentation clearly prepared. She felt he would be a difficult act to follow.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October, there had been a working party meeting of the Youth Council in the Pavilion, with paperwork from that meeting being circulated to members already with proposals for the Jubilee Picnic in the Park on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012. On Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> November the Youth Council had their normal meeting, when the Picnic in the Park was discussed further. On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November, Cllr Mrs. Allen had attended the Dame Mary Bridgeman Trust when the Youth Council were awarded a £250 donation towards their Jubilee project.

Cllr Riordan reported that on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November he had attended the North Solihull Partnership Forum meeting held in the Pavilion. Nick Tromans, SMBC Partnership Cohesion Manager, presented information about hate crime reporting centres which had been established in the area. Such crimes tended to go under reported. Hence, last month 22 non police organisations had been recruited to provide an opportunity for victims and third parties to report incidents in confidence and receive advice. This was particularly aimed at people who, for one reason or another, were reluctant to approach the police in the first instance. In the north of Solihull, Centres would be provided in Chelmsley Wood CAB, You-Plus shop, Children's Centre, and Solihull ENABLE (based at St Andrew's Church). The next part of the meeting comprised a presentation by Jan Philips, SMBC Head of Income & Awards, and Tom Dixon, SMBC Senior Employment Officer. Information was presented about things that were being done to reduce poverty in the Solihull area. Research had shown that poverty existed in all areas of this borough, and had significantly increased in the last three years. Details were given about support to help people to get into work, winter warmth campaign, multi agency advice roadshows, promoting credit unions, tackling loan sharks and looking at the possibility of introducing a more responsive claiming system for free school meals. A copy of the presentation & meeting notes could be obtained from the clerk. The next meeting would be on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

Cllr Riordan also reported that, as Vice Chairman, he had attended the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial, Solihull on Sunday 13th November where he laid a wreath on behalf of the Chairman, Councillors & Officers of this Council.

[A written report had been sent to the Clerk by Cllr Whelan on his attendance on 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2011 at the Local Development Framework Feedback Conference. ]

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

Members noted the Police Surgery being held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December between 6 – 8 pm in the Windsor Room, the invitation to Community Carols at St. Clements Church on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December from 6 pm, the NALC legal briefing on the future of Standards of Conduct of Members, the successful application for free trees from the Woodland Trust which would require the Council to devise a voluntary planting scheme. The Clerk reported that quotations were still being obtained for safety works in the boiler room, which would be actioned in accordance with her delegated powers.

### 16. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman reported that on Remembrance Sunday he had attended the annual act of remembrance, along with the majority of councillors, at the Village Green. He had been honoured and proud to lay a wreath at the memorial and take the salute at the march past, which had been seen by about 800 people. He expressed his thanks to everyone that enabled this important event to take place and all of those that attended. Lest we forget. He also reported that, as Chairman, on 22<sup>nd</sup> November he had visited a resident who had questioned if some parish land in the Timberley ward had been sold to a developer. Following quick reassurance from the Chairman that this was not the case, the resident was grateful for the visit and undertook to dispel the rumours from spreading further. On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, the Chairman had officiated at the Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Concert at Arden Hall. The proceeds from ticket sales raised £130.32 for Age Concern and a raffle raised £89.10 for the Chairman's Charity Fund. The Chairman did hope that next year the audience would be able to sing as well as the children, who certainly outperformed the adults this year.

### 17. Hirer Complaint and Issues.

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS 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. Following careful and full consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Horne-MacDonald, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Council invite all members of the General Committee and all members of Section Committees and sub-Committees to attend an extra ordinary council meeting (on the first feasible Wednesday) on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 7.30 pm that is convened to resolve all outstanding issues. The Council sees this as a final opportunity to work together for the mutual benefit of Castle Bromwich. These matters will be discussed in confidence but all full members of the hire group are welcome to attend as long as the confidentiality of the meeting is accepted. [Clerk's Note: The Finance and General Purposes Committee would need to meet at 7 pm to consider urgent planning and licensing applications only.] **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the outstanding arrears be settled within 14 days and the demand for payment, with a new statement should be sent by the Hall Manager.

Clerk  
asap

Hall Mgr  
asap