

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2016
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr J Riordan
Councillors: Cllr Mrs. P Allen Cllr Mrs Haywood
 Cllr E Knibb Cllr W Horkan
 Cllr J MacDonald

Officers: Mrs. D Weir, Assistant Clerk to the Council

Public: -

1. Apologies.

Apologies received from Cllr Ms J Ward and accepted for the reasons given. Cllr Terry was absent.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or conflict of interests.

None declared.

3. Dispensations.

None requested.

4. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman **SECONDED BY** Cllr Knibb **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:-** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 14th September 2016 be signed as a true and correct record of the meeting, subject to amendment to item 13) Training – Resolved to be amended to Agreed.

5. Minutes of May Meeting

Members noted advice received.

6. Questions from the Public.

None.

7. Questions from Councillors.

None

8. Planning/Licensing Applications.

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman **SECONDED BY** Cllr Knibb **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:-** that the Parish Council express concern that the proposed development at 286 Chester Road will reduce the number of parking spaces which existed previously, which it is felt will have an ancillary effect on local parking and lead to customers parking at other parking facilities and roads nearby and that the applicant should be providing adequate parking for their own customers.

List dated week ending 22nd September

Application No: PL/2016/02313/PPFL Applicant E H Smith (Builders Merchants) Ltd

Location 286 Chester Road, Solihull B36 0LB Proposal: Demolition of existing building and erection of new Portal framed building. Part cladding of existing single storey building. Removal of trees and shrubs.

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman **SECONDED BY** Cllr Horkan **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:-** that the following application could be approved subject to neighbours' comments:-

List dated week ending 30th September

Application No: PL/2016/02439/MINFHO Application Type Minor Full Householder

Location 26a Cranmore Road, Castle Bromwich, Solihull B36 9HJ Proposal: Single storey detached garage.

9. Parish Plan – topic of the month.

The Chairman led members through a discussion of the chapter in the Parish Plan on

ACTION

Local Government. Cllr Knibb referred to proposals by the West Midlands Combined Authority. The Chairman asked Cllr Knibb if he could keep the Parish Council up to date on any developments. Members considered the crossing points on the Chester Road following recent traffic calming measures undertaken by the Borough Council, in particular pedestrians crossing at the Hurst Lane junction. Cllr Mrs Haywood had been told that the Borough Council had tested the junction with an able bodied person crossing the road, but it was felt that the Borough Council should be advised that the recent traffic calming measures undertaken were not considered successful and the Parish Council were not satisfied with the results and wish to know how the Borough Council measure success.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Acting clerk make enquiries with the Borough Council regarding S.106 funding and Cllr Mrs Allen be delegated to raise the noticeboard with Dr Browne.

8. Unity Bank Arrangements and authorisations.

Cllr MacDonald advised of recent problems with his User ID and temporary password.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- Cllr Horkan replace Cllr MacDonald as authorized signatory with Unity Bank.

For the benefit of new members, the Chairman outlined the process for the online banking system in that a member cannot enter and submit payments and then authorize them.

9. Lloyds Bank – Authorized Signatories.

Members noted that Lloyds Bank had confirmed the changes for authorized signatories. The number of accounts and signatories for each account to be clarified.

10. Public Section Fund – Authorised Signatories.

The Chairman had previously queried the function of authorized signatory as director. Members noted that the form to open or make any subsequent change to the signing authority for the account, is requested to be authorized by a Director or the “equivalent persons” who have the authority to act on behalf of the Council and are authorizing any changes to the account and authorizing the appointed signatories to operate the account on behalf of the Parish Council. In response to a query Cllr Knibb advised that the Council as a Body made decisions, not individual members. The Acting Clerk confirmed that the extent of liability of Councillors was that defined by law.

11. Working Parties.

Cllr Mrs Haywood advised that the Events Working Party had met to consider the arrangements for the forthcoming Carol Concert on Tuesday 29th November 2016. The Working Party had considered the arrangements, including the schools, use of the hall, publicity, tickets and raffle prizes. The Youth Council to be invited to participate. Cllr Mrs Haywood advised that the price of tickets would be increased from £2 to £2.50 which would include a raffle ticket, proceeds to be distributed between local schools participating and the Chairman’s Charity Fund. The arrangements would remain much the same as the previous year with assistance from Castle Bromwich Lions who would also man the carpark and arrange for Father Christmas to be present. The Chairman requested this be considered by Full Council. Cllr Horkan asked for information about the Chairman’s Charity Fund. The Chairman of the Council, Cllr Mrs Allen outlined the aims and objectives of the Chairman’s Charity Fund.

12. Residents Concerns

Members noted complaints received regarding litter which the Leisure Services Committee were dealing with.

13. Training.

a) The Clerk confirmed that Cllrs Horkan and Mrs Shaikh had been booked to attend the WALC training seminar for new members on 24th September and Precepts and Budgeting on 15th October together with Cllrs Shaw and MacDonald.

b) Members considered a request by Cllr Knibb to attend the Larger Local Council's Conference and associated costs of £350 to cover the course fee and expenses. Following due consideration **IT WAS RESOLVED:-** that the Council could not justify meeting the costs for Cllr Knibb to attend the Larger Local Council's Conference.

14. Acting Clerk's Report.

Members noted that Cllrs Knibb and MacDonald had now been added to the authorized signatories.

The Acting Clerk advised that she had received a complaint from a resident regarding the public footpath and forwarded this to the Ward Councillors.

There were no further matters raised and the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.40 pm.