

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY, 21ST DECEMBER 2016
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Chairman	Cllr Mrs P Allen	
Councillors	Cllr K Shaw	Cllr E Knibb
	Cllr Mrs Haywood	Cllr J Riordan
	Cllr J MacDonald	Cllr W Horkan
	Cllr R Cupples	Cllr M Rashid
	Cllr Mrs R Shaikh	

Officers: Mrs. D Weir, Acting Clerk to the Council
Public: 2 Members of the Public

1. Apologies.

Received from Cllrs A Terry and Ms J Ward.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or conflict of interests.

None Declared.

3. Dispensations.

None requested.

4. Casual Vacancy – Bradford and Timberley Ward.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

5. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Cupples, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs Haywood, **IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th December 2016, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

6. Questions from Councillors.

Cllr Shaw requested that consideration be given to old literature in the foyer being removed.

7. Questions from the Public. Under Standing Order 3(d), the Chairman temporarily suspended standing orders for this item to invite questions from members of the public. Mr Holland advised that he had been unable to attend the November Meeting, and wished to thank the Council for arranging the remembrance day service. A lot of the public he had spoken to were very appreciative of the service and work which had been put into arranging it. He referred to the Traffic Management Company and the difficulties with volunteers who wished to assist the Company with traffic management. He also advised that he considered the Council should restrict numbers to the reception following the remembrance day service or consider restricting participants invited to take part. Reference was made to Item 9 on the Agenda, Premises Licence Variation for Hickorys Smokehouse. The resident outlined his views on the application, which followed those expressed to the Council by members of the public. The Chairman advised that the application had been received too late to consider at the Finance Committee Meeting and it had been included on the agenda and would shortly be discussed by the members when his views would be taken into consideration.

8. Communications. Recent correspondence and routine bulletins.

Members noted the information listed and reminder to request inclusion of any

ACTION

pertinent items on future agendas.

9. Premises Licence Variation – Hickorys Smokehouse.

Members considered the objections received from local residents to the Premises Licence Variation for Hickorys Smokehouse, formerly Coach & Horses Public House. Local residents also commented to the Parish Council on the improvement to the area since the Coach & Horses had been closed for refurbishment and questioned why they were approached by the Hickory Smokehouse some time ago and told that the proposed closing time would be 10.00 pm. A guidance note on objecting to licensing applications had been circulated to members. Following extensive discussion, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Knibb, **SECONDED** by Cllr Horkan, **IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Parish Council object to the application which it was felt would greatly increase nuisance to adjoining residents arising from the proposed hours of operation, with extended opening hours generating excessive noise emanating from the premises late at night in a residential area and have no regard to the elderly and children living nearby, together with noise from vehicles leaving the premises late at night. Further nuisance would also arise with lighting from the premises at night and increased litter.

10. Results of Elections held at National Council – 13th December 2016.

Cllr Mrs Haywood congratulated Cllr Knibb on being re-elected to the NALC Executive Committee and also the NALC Larger Councils Committee.

11. Council Tax Base – 2017/8.

Members noted details of the provisional council tax base and provisional council tax support grant arrangements for 2017/18 which would be reported to the Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Resources and Delivering Value on 10th January 2017 and that the Parish Council would be notified of any changes after this date.

12. Noticeboards.

The Chairman circulated details of quotations which she had obtained for noticeboards. Cllr Shaw asked whether the noticeboards were going to be big enough. Cllr Mrs Haywood suggested the Hall Manager seek more quotations from other companies and check the sizes to ensure the noticeboards would be big enough for the Council's requirements.

13. 50th Anniversary of dedication of St Clements Parish Church, Castle Bromwich – 5th February at 10.00 am.

Cllr MacDonald advised that he would be interested in attending the 50th Anniversary of Dedication. Members noted that the Chairman would be attending.

14. Solihull Local Plan Review – Draft Local Plan Consultation.

Members noted details of the draft Local Plan Consultation and that comments were requested by 30th January 2017.

15. Castle Bromwich Post.

Members considered the proposed contained in an email dated 7th December from Richard Harwood, Editor of the proposed Castle Bromwich Post. Members felt it was an excellent idea, in particular, to highlight the Council's activities to local residents. The Acting Clerk advised that she would make contact with the Editor of the proposed local publication.

16. Interdirect – Domain Name Renewal.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Horkan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:** that the Council renew the subscription with Interdirect for its domain name.

17. The Local authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 2003 – Parish Basic Allowance.

Following a general discussion with regard to the nature of the members' allowances which were approved by the Borough Council's Parish Remuneration Panel to offset the cost of holding office, Cllr Horkan proposed that members consider increasing the amount of the allowance which the Council currently paid to members and to investigate the local and national average allowance paid to parish and town councillors. He felt it was still the decision of individual members as to whether or not they wished to accept any allowance in accordance with the Regulations. The Chairman advised that she would like to keep the allowance at the present level. Cllr Knibb advocated that the Council should approve the full amount recommended by the Borough Council's Parish Remuneration Panel to offset the cost of holding office. He stated that prospective members should not be put off applying to be a parish councillor due to the cost involved.

Following further discussion with regard to the precept, an increase was not pursued.

18. Arden Hall – Consideration of Card Payment System.

Consideration of a card payment system was referred to Full Council by the Leisure Services Committee for consideration. Members felt that it would be advantageous for a card payment system to be introduced and **IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the cheapest quotation be accepted subject to satisfactory clarification of the terms.

19. WALC – Training Seminars.

Cllr Mrs Haywood advised that she would like to attend the finance training course at Meriden Village Hall, and **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Cupples, **SECONDED** by Cllr Shaw, **IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the fee be approved for Cllr Mrs Haywood to attend the Precepts & Budgeting Seminar on 21st January 2017.

20. SLCC – Subscription Renewal

Members considered the Clerk's letter requesting payment of her subscription to Society of Local Council Clerks. It was agreed that this item be deferred to the January Council Meeting.

21. Access at Small Green.

Members had regard to the quotations and considered it seemed a lot of expense to stop vehicles blocking access to a private drive. It was felt that the Parish Council should address the issue further. Cllr Shaw felt that access to the property in question was not the Parish Council's problem and that any work undertaken by the Parish Council should be funded by the resident.

It was agreed that this item be deferred to the next Council Meeting.

22. Flooding to Arden Hall.

Members noted that the roofing repairs were required to be undertaken as a matter of urgency now that a date had been agreed for the flooring to be carried out. The Acting Clerk drew to member's attention the letter received from the Surveyor regarding the proposed Contract Administration Service and requirement for CDM Consultant, which highlighted the complexity of the proposing roofing work. Also confirming that any additional services requested to be undertaken varying the brief, would incur an additional fee.

23. Finance and Payments.

The latest income and expenditure report was noted, and the latest bank statements and reconciliations signed. Members considered the list of payments and salaries for retrospective approval and following scrutiny of invoices and resolution of queries, relating to the new water boiler for the pavilion and the payment for work to the Windsor Room Toilets and **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Horkan, **IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the payments be

approved.

24. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

No Report was circulated.

25. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

No Report was circulated.

26. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Members noted the report circulated by Cllr Knibb.

27. Working Party Meetings.

Cllr Mrs Haywood advised that the Events Working Party would be arranging a meeting shortly. Cllr Mrs Haywood reported on the Leisure Service's Working Party Meeting she had attended with the Acting Clerk, Cllr Shaw and representatives from the Cricket Club on the 19th December 2016 to discuss the feasibility of the club's proposals for the pavilion kitchen. Discussions were ongoing and a number of issues had been raised and Cllr Shaw was to seek advice from Building Control.

28. Acting Clerk's Report.

The Acting Clerk thanked Cllr Shaw for his assistance with regard to the problems posed by the window contractor and requirement for up to date asbestos survey and associated issues. Cllr Shaw had advised that vent axia fans would be required for the pavilion.

29. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman presented her report outline events she had attended in December. She had also attended the funeral of Mal Levine, the Warden, who had passed away suddenly. Cllr Knibb and the Acting Clerk had also attended. She thanked the Hall Manager for liaising with Mrs Levine over the post funeral reception arrangements.

30. Solihull MBC – Meriden Constituency Ward Action Plan.

A copy of the Ward Action Plan identifying the key priorities for the Neighbourhood Management Team over the next three years, including the priorities for the Castle Bromwich Ward had been circulated to members.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00 pm.