

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL,
CASTLE BROMWICH ON
WEDNESDAY, 3RD JUNE 2009
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

- Chairman** Cllr Mrs. A Haywood
- Councillors** Cllr Mrs. P Allen Cllr I Hiley Cllr Rashid
Cllr R Amos Cllr M Hayes Cllr J Riordan
Cllr Mrs. B Wilkins
- Officers:** Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council
Mrs. T. Kite, Hall Manager [Items 1-6]
- Public:** 1 member of the public [Item 4 only]

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr Mrs. T Knibb and Cllr Miss J Ward were accepted for the reasons given.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Hiley, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Mrs. Allen and with 7 votes in favour, none against and 1 abstention, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 6th May, 2009, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

4. Manager’s Report and Arden Hall issues.

Members noted the Manager’s Report, including the new Lounge lighting installation, possible steam cleaning of internal brickwork and following clarification, deferred the quotations for foyer ceiling repairs due to the different work quoted for. The Hall Manager was asked to seek independent advice on removal of the existing ceiling and table quotes, with advice received, at the July meeting. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Amos, and with 8 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the existing defunct foyer radiator be removed prior to foyer floor repairs, the matter being delegated to the Hall Manager to conclude. Mrs. Kite reported her investigations into cancellation insurance, as agreed at the last meeting, and had been advised to check existing public liability cover to clarify where liability currently ended and if necessary just extend cover to any part that was missing. She had been told that existing hire regulations advised hirers on the issue and stated the council’s liability. As only a couple of insurance companies offered this type of cover, she had been warned the premium may not be competitive or affordable. Members discussed the matter further and **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Mrs. Allen and with 8 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to jointly contact the insurers and NALC with a few scenarios to clarify existing cover for business and social hirers before further assessing the risk to the council balanced with the needs of hirers. Cllr Hayes referred to feedback for the member of the public.

ACTION

TKite/24/6

TKite/July 09

TKite/Clerk 17/6

5. Bar Stock Reports.

The Chairman requested the member of the public withdraw from the meeting for this item. Under confidential terms, members noted the bar stock report and trading analysis, as detailed in the confidential appendix for members only.

6. Arden Hall Improvements.

The Hall Manager left the meeting to invite the member of the public to return to the meeting. The Clerk tabled the surveyors report for future consideration, which would also be handed to members at the following week's Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting. She apologized that photographs were not all included due to copying problems but members could view the original report by arrangement with the Hall Manager or the Clerk. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Amos and with 8 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Annual Inspection be brought forward slightly to enable members to assess the findings of the survey and decide how to make an informed decision on the future of the Councils buildings, as proposed by Cllr Amos last year. For the benefit of newer members, Cllr Riordan and Cllr Mrs. Wilkins clarified the previous decision on Arden Hall's future. The Annual Inspection would take place at 6 pm on Wednesday 17th June, starting outside the Warden's Office at the Pavilion and members agreed to defer the park inspection as a separate assessment had been requested from the Borough Council.

All members 17/6

7. Residents' Concerns.

Members noted the circulated information. Cllrs Hayes, Amos, Mrs. Haywood, Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Wilkins had noted the usage they had personally witnessed at The Green following the start of installing new benches. Members had noted occasional motorbikes gathering by the empty factory building and an increase recently of quad bikes entering Castle Bromwich from the Water Orton. The Clerk undertook to email Sgt O'Riley with this information. Members briefly discussed the clock signs showing the closure time at Hob Farm which kept being removed. The Clerk suggested it could be beneficial to review/replace outdoor signage.

Clerk asap

8. Working Parties and reports.

Events and Promotions WP - Cllr Mrs. Allen updated members on the next Table Top sale (7th June) and said although fewer advance bookings received due to another event, a display would be done by the Hall Manager to market the availability of Arden Hall.

9. Pavilion Matters.

Members considered the request of the Cricket and Sports Club for a 10m x 10m marquee on New Years Eve to provide additional seating, being erected on 30th December and dismantled on 2nd January. Following careful consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Cllr Mrs. Allen, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Hiley and with 8 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to support the request in principal, subject to ratification by full Council and to seek further written assurances from the Club on the following matters: confirmation from the licensing authority of the regulations relating to marquee usage and specifically one being used in an Alcohol Free Zone; acknowledgement from their insurers that the marquee was being erected in a public park with full liability being accepted jointly by the company/Sports Club; written confirmation from Solihull MBC regarding planning permission for temporary structures; written confirmation from the Club regarding capacity of the marquee, the clubroom and total number of tickets to be sold. The Clerk read the satisfactory references received for new keyholders and would issue keys accordingly. The Clerk relayed a request from the Club for rain covers to be in use during the season and following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the

CBC&SC 24/6

Clerk 8/6

N.B. All Minutes are deemed as draft until formally approved and signed Chairman, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Amos and with 8 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve the request for use on match days, subject to it being chained securely at the rear of the Theatre Workshop and dismantled and stored indoors out of season.

Asst. Clerk
12/6

10. Open Space Matters.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported the memorial donations and planting were going well and suggested that matched funding be applied for to create a raised bed in the Garden of Memory utilising railway sleepers (costing £10 each). She knew that volunteers would assist with the project and if the difficulties in creating a new sensory garden at the Village Green continued, she hoped the Youth Council could be encouraged to get involved. Cllr Riordan asked how the Parish Council contribution would be met and the Clerk felt confident that existing provision could be utilised. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Allen, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, with 8 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that this project be undertaken as outlined. Members noted that a motorbike was witnessed in the Garden of Memory the previous evening.

PA/Clerk
July

11. Payments.

Following discussion, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Hayes, with 8 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments as circulated be approved and that some scrutiny of one account be instigated by the Clerk, assisted by members.

12. Clerk's Report/Open Spaces Report.

The Clerk had noticed the end of the gas works at Bradford Gardens and photographed the ground. She would seek the views of the council's grounds maintenance contractor to assess if the reparation was sufficient. The new Wardens seem to have settled well and no problems been highlighted. One fall had occurred when trying to rectify vandalism but thankfully only minor injuries sustained to a member of staff. Several incidents of ASB and damage had been reported and some support received, although a reluctance to issue log numbers to the Clerk when residents did not report incidents directly witnessed. The insurance renewal documents were available for members to scrutinize and the premium had increased by 7.8% this year. The Junior School Keep Fit week had again been a pleasure to support, with lots of visitors to the park who praised the facilities provided. No charge was levied by the Parish Council for the use of the cricket pitch or the tennis courts. The police had requested staff to monitor a potential dog control situation and Wardens had been receptive to this request. An additional recycling bank had been installed without permission and following information from the Wardens the Clerk had been promised its prompt removal. The faulty electric lights in the pavilion had now been replaced by the Club, to the relief of staff and other hirers. Bench installation had been taking place at the village green but residents and councillors reporting a disappointing police response by the out of area response team to some incidents. Some matters were still pending and the Clerk prioritizing and delegating where possible. Two enquiries had been received from people about joining the Council.

13. Incremental Reviews.

Under confidential terms, the Clerk requested this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

Clerk
27/6

14. Village Green Access.

Under confidential terms, members noted there was no further information available.