

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL,
CASTLE BROMWICH ON
WEDNESDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER 2012
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--------------|---------------------|
| Chairman | Cllr Mrs. P Allen | | |
| Councillors | Cllr R Amos | Cllr E Hicks | Cllr M Rashid |
| | Cllr M Hayes | Cllr I Hiley | Cllr J Riordan |
| | Cllr Mrs. A Haywood | Cllr E Knibb | Cllr A Terry |
| | | | Cllr Mrs. B Wilkins |
| Officers: | Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO | | |
| | Mrs. R Gorton, Assistant Hall Manager [Items 1-5 only] | | |
| Public: | None. | | |

1. Apologies.

The apology from Cllr Miss J Ward was noted for the reason given.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Rashid, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Amos, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 4th July, 2012, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

4. Manager's Report and Hire issues.

Members noted the tabled report and the new hirer who offered martial arts and self-defence classes, waiting for more sessions if they became available. No further quotes had been received for installing new fascia to Arden Hall, despite contacting all companies who had been suggested for the job. This would still be pursued. The Chairman asked the Assistant Hall Manager to check if the hirer of the Workshop had signed a new agreement and paid the monthly storage charge. Mrs. Gorton confirmed that an overhaul was taking place of stage equipment and some lights had been recovered. One hirer had disputed an additional charge as beyond their control but **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the hirer was absolutely responsible for vacating the premises at the end of the hire period (Hire Regs. Clause 3(ii) and Clause 4) and the charge for extended hire had to be paid. Staff had been severely inconvenienced and delayed from going home when the hirer left the premises with the DJ and his equipment remaining behind. The Chairman asked for a date to be set to resolve the internal building damage by a hirer. After discussion, it was **FURTHER AGREED** that quotations be sought for the safe installation of two replacement windows and re-decoration of the Clubroom.

5. Bar Stock Report.

Under confidential terms, members noted the two satisfactory stock report and the trading figures for the latest period. Mrs. Gorton explained the percentage figures would vary depending on the level of sales and one funeral function had very low bar takings.

ACTION

RG 19/9

TK 19/9

TK 7/11

6. Farebrothers - Roof Survey.

Members noted the contents of the report and asked for the missing quotation of costs, requesting also for the works to be put in priority order. The Council wished for a ladder inspection of the Theatre Workshop roof to be done, rather than a ground view.

ACTION
RG
3/10

7. Hob Farm Usage.

Prior to the discussion, the Clerk provided a breakdown of estimated annual maintenance costs for Hob Farm as £2918 grass cutting, £2748 security, £1650 staffing costs, £350 waste collection, (total of £7666) and confirmed there was no income generated from Hob Farm. Members acknowledged there were opportunities to better utilise Hob Farm as it was underused and discussed historical matters, views of members, residents and visitors, reduction of anti-social behaviour, grass and shrub problems, access gates, sport provision of athletic track and/or football pitch, cost of pitch markings, car-parking, part-closure if organised activities took place by schools or teams, partnership opportunities. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Amos, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the council investigate further and seek views from visitors to Hob Farm (via poster on gate), via website, via specific local groups.

Clerk
Dec 12

8. Memorial Bench.

Members considered the request from a resident to donate a bench to be located at Bradford Gardens and, subject to site location and agreement of terms, under Section 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, members **AGREED** that this gift be kindly accepted.

Asst Clerk
21/9

9. Castle Bromwich Playing Fields – dog attack.

Members noted the terrible incident in August with a dog on dog attack, details of which had previously been circulated. Members discussed the wider implications for park visitors and staff and other dogs. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Rashid, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Amos, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Council should instruct the owner of the attacking dog to keep his dog on a lead or fitted with a muzzle at all times on parish council land. A copy of the byelaws would be sent and a courtesy copy of the letter to the police.

Clerk
Asap

10. Complaint – Hire Issues.

Members noted the complaint that had been sent to Caroline Spelman MP in July and raised with the Clerk on 30th July. As there was a recess in August, an initial response had been sent by the Clerk and **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Amos, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Committee fully endorse the response sent. The hirer had since asked to amend the booking times so the problem should not happen again. However, the maintenance of the sports pitch was not the responsibility of the council and had been fully in the hands of the hirer for several years, at their request and instigation. A letter of thanks from Castle Bromwich Cricket and Sports Club had been received on another matter and this was noted by members with appreciation.

Clerk
asap

11. Residents' Concerns.

Members noted the information circulated and discussed the concern of shop refurbishment into a takeaway, which did not have planning permission. This would become an enforcement issue if it started trading in Hurst Lane.

12. Football Pitches.

Members noted the Clerk's verbal report on the unexpected difficulties at the start of this season and in light complaints received, the Clerk would report further at the next meeting after more investigations. In the meantime, members instructed the Clerk to only consult with the Castle Bromwich United on their requirements.

Clerk
27/9

Clerk
6/9

13. Working Party Reports.

Members noted the report of the Open Spaces working party who had finished the work in the Garden of Rest with the help of 12 work experience students from Park Hall Academy. Both this Garden and the Sensory Peace Garden on the Village Green have got through to the finals of the Solihull in Bloom competition. Sadly 3 plants had been stolen from the Garden of Rest and the Chairman would replace them if the Council gave permission.

Slabbing work had also been completed at the War Memorial Garden and she hoped members had seen the work undertaken. Re-planting would take place in the next couple of weeks and she hoped members would be able to help, particularly with the heavy digging. Some daffodils would be planted alongside the walls where the hedges used to be. The Chairman and Cllr Mrs. Haywood had met with the contractor to seek quotes for replacing the broken slabs outside the memorial garden and also posts to stop parking and driving on that area.

Following discussion, the Clerk was asked to send thanks to the Academy for the help of their students, to congratulate the Academy on their outstanding examination success that had been recently announced, to send a press release highlighting the refurbishment work undertaken at the War Memorial in this Diamond Jubilee year.

No dates were set for further working party meetings.

14. Solihull in Bloom - Invitation.

Following consideration, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Cllrs Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Haywood should represent the Council for the Community Garden at the presentation ceremony.

15. Clerk's Report/Open Spaces Report.

The Clerk reported that in addition to matters already considered, there had been an accident in the park in August with the casualty requiring hospital treatment. Other areas of work included the sign post at the Village Green being relocated by the Warden, draft letters prepared for residents/businesses to consult on parking problems, clarification about parking boundaries at the Village Green cover for staff holidays and absences, checks on new slabs and Village Green pathways, waterlogged grounds and grass cutting delays, inspection of further excavation trench by Western Power, fence repair at Hob Farm, arranging reception for Solihull in Bloom judges. She had instructed the extra sign at Hob Farm to be taken down, noted a conflict of interests document for trustees of village halls (not relevant at this council) and tabled an invitation from Castle Bromwich Singers to attend their show. Members noted the interesting information and advice on playground safety (BS EN 1176-1:2008) that had been circulated. Standing Orders information was passed to a member of the working party.

Clerk asap
Asst Clerk
asap

Clerk asap

Members
asap

PA/AEH
25/9