

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH JANUARY 2015
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Chairman Cllr I Hiley

Councillors Cllr Mrs. P Allen Cllr E Hicks Cllr J Riordan
Cllr M Hayes Cllr E Knibb Cllr Miss J Ward
Cllr Mrs. A Haywood Cllr M Rashid

Officers: Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO
Mrs. TKite, Hall Manager [Items 1- 11 only, except Item 6]

Public: None.

1. Apologies.

Cllr A Terry was absent.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or conflict of interests.

None declared.

3. Dispensations.

None requested.

4. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

Subject to the amendment on page 3, Item 13, 7th line to read seconded by ‘Cllr Hayes’, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd December, 2014, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

5. Questions from the Public.

Under Standing Order 70, the Chairman prepared to temporarily suspend standing orders for this item but there were none present.

6. Budget Planning 2015/2016.

Members **AGREED** to defer discussion until after item 11.

7. Manager’s Report and Hire issues.

The Hall Manager’s report was tabled and members noted that a recent hirer of a live music event had felt the sound was too loud. The Hall Manager said that the NYE event had not been as busy as expected and that January was very quiet for bookings, as anticipated. A hirer had now booked Sunday afternoons at the Pavilion with Sky matches now available to members, which the Wardens had been pleased about. A burst pipe in the Windsor cellar had been fixed by a Warden, saving call-out costs. The Hall Manager would not attend the next meeting and confirmed she would arrange for the Asst Manager to attend in her place. Concern was expressed about social media comments on the council’s refusal to allow 21st birthday bookings but members reminded everyone that this was a condition imposed by the licensing authorities some years ago and was now common practice within Solihull. The sewer pump in the park was recommended for replacement as the bottom sensor was no longer working, although alternative solutions would be tried by wardens first. A member asked the Hall Manager to assess which was the quietest day at the Hall for bookings and she replied this was either Mondays or Fridays, although this varied.

8. Bar Stock Report.

Members noted the bar stock report and the takings were again discussed and year end forecasts considered.

ACTION

9. New Year’s Eve 2016.

Following discussion,it was **AGREED**that the Chairman should contact Beebee Productions and meet to invite their views on the renewal of the previous agreement, together with future opportunities for events (including New Year’s Eve) at Arden Hall. The Hall Manager and 3 members of the Events working party would be invited to the meeting.

ACTION

IRH/Hall Mgr asap

10. Garage – building of replacement and demolition of existing.

The Chairman presented information to members, who considered the alternatives that could be accommodated to replace the existing garages (26’ x 18’ x 11’ high) by extending the workshop on the side or rear (up to 35’ x 18’ x 9’ high).Costs of plans were estimated but following extensive discussion, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Hayes, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Hall Manager speak to two hirers about storage and any decision about a planning application and budget provision be deferred to the March meeting. Cllr Knibb asked for his vote against this proposal to be recorded in the minutes.

TK asap LSC 03/15

11. Marketing.

Following previous discussions, the Hall Manager suggested the Council organize an entertainment event for Valentines night. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Hicks, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Hall Manager utilise the marketing budget. The Clerk provided contact details for potential entertainment. Cllr Hayes undertook to investigate 3 additional quiz nights per year to provide event income for the Hall. The Hall Manager then left the meeting.

Hall Mgr asap

MH asap

6. Budget Planning 2015/2016.

Cllr Hayes **PROPOSED**that initial discussion take place under confidential terms. Following a suggestion by Cllr Hayes, members discussed at length the historic operations of Arden Hall. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED BY**Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Standing Order 3(aa)be suspended for 30 minutes to enable the meeting to continue. The Clerk endeavoured to explain customer needs and working patterns but after some opposing views, members felt that a decision could not be made without more information and time. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED BY**Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the matter be deferred. It was **AGREED**, as the budget had to be finalised, that the Clerk’s suggestion of another Leisure Services Committee meeting being held in place of the Standing Orders training event on 21stJanuary be accepted. Cllr Hayes and Cllr Riordan undertook to meet with the Clerk and discuss budget figures of concern.

Clerk asap LSC 21/1 Clerk/MH/JR 14/1

12. Working Parties.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that bulbs had been planted to create flower displays. More information would follow in due course from her enquiries.

13. Residents’ Concerns.

Members noted and discussed some of the recent concerns, including a call for assistance to Cllr Mrs. Allen on Boxing Day who alerted the Hall Manager about a park security problem.

14. Clerk’s Report.

Members noted that the Clerk had paid an overdue invoice for £868.04 to a supplier, under her delegated powers, and details would be on the next payment list to council. She sought advice from members on an access request for parking on the village green. Members concurred that parking should not be allowed but that up to two containers could be accommodated, as this was in the best interest of the resident affected and helped work take place safely. She had made initial contact with residents about a memorial bench but further information needed to be sent. Information was still awaited on tree cages. Papers had been distributed to members for information or later discussion.

Clerk 28/1

Clerk asap