

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY, 7THMAY 2014
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Vice-Chairman Cllr I Hiley

Councillors	Cllr Mrs. P Allen	Cllr E Hicks	Cllr Miss J Ward
	Cllr M Hayes	Cllr M Rashid	Cllr J Whelan
	[Items 1-15 only, except part Item10]	[exceptItem 11]	

Guest Speaker: Representatives of Community Energy Warwickshire [Items 1- 6 only]
Representatives of Vision Sports Academy [Items 1- 7 only]
Mr. W. Brownhill, Bromford Lions Youth Football Club

Officers: Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO
Mrs.T Kite, Hall Manager/Licensee[Items 1- 10 only]

Public: No members of the public.

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr Mrs. A Haywood and Cllr E Knibb were noted for the reasons given.

2. Declarations of personal or conflict of interests.

None declared.

3. Dispensations.

None requested.

4. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

Subject to clarification at the next meeting of the length of hire agreement with for the dance school, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Mrs. Allen, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd April, 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 suspend standing orders to invite questions from members of the public but there were none in attendance.

6. Guests: Community Energy Warwickshire.

Barbara Cooper introduced her colleagues from Community Energy Warwickshire – Chris Begg and Paul Huband, who were fellow directors of the organisation established in 2010. A detailed explanation was given of their aims and structure which was to encourage efficient use of energy that consequently would also save carbon and money. Although solar panels certainly seemed feasible for Arden Hall, which they had seen was clearly a very popular building with enviable facilities that had amazed them, their preliminary advice was to better understand the consumption, change behavior to improve efficiencies/controls and then assess the potential for alternative energy. Grants were available to help with costs and the council could explore changes to low energy light bulbs, replace faulty thermostatic radiator valves, standardize light fittings, fit spray taps, fit insulation and draught proofing, use lighting sensors and replace old boilers for modern technologically efficient ones. Savings of up to one third of fuel costs could help fund part of the investment needed. Biffa grants could be used towards the cost of heating replacement, double glazing and insulation but recommended getting independent professional advice to help the

ACTION

Clerk
4/6

council understand and manage its fuel use. Then it could be possible to explore using roof space to generate power for daytime use and their organization would be willing to work with the council on all aspects of that process. Following discussion, members were interested to hear that a ground source heat pump could help produce hot water, with possibly one system doing both the pavilion and Arden Hall. Literature and a checklist was left for members to peruse and a return visit was offered at a future date. The Vice-Chairman expressed thanks for their most helpful information and their time taken that afternoon in touring buildings to make their initial assessment.

ACTION

Clerk
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7. Guests: Vision Sports/Bromford Lions Youth Football Club.

At the invitation of the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Brownhill explained he had suggested Vision Sports could help the parish council fulfil the aim in the Parish Plan of a summer sports camp being held in the playing fields, which he thought Bromford Lions did not have the capacity to undertake. Dan Aplin explained he was a director of Vision Sports Academy that had been established as a business a year ago but he and his two colleagues, Patrick Fanning Snr and Patrick Fanning Jnr had over 30 years' experience of sports coaching, being a co-founder of Lyndon Colts and establishing leagues that were still running. They had regularly worked for many years with schools in Acocks Green to support the PE curriculum and after school clubs. This had led to Vision Sports being formed with a social mission to harness experience and give cost effective provision for children to have outdoor sports training. Following questions from councillors, some details were discussed on capacity, ratios, operating times, facilities needed, costs and possible sibling discounts but it was agreed that prompt action would be needed if a scheme was to be run in the summer to arrange publicity quickly. Members clarified the activities they would like to explore and Vision invited them to visit the scheme being run at Acocks Green. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Vice-Chairman, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Hicks, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Vision Sports provide outline plans by 16th May, for a possible 3 week scheme in the summer, with the Hall Manager being asked to check the pavilion diary for availability. **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Committee ask the Council to consider the matter further at the meeting on 21st May and Vision were invited to return and attend that meeting also.

Vision
16/5
Hall Mgr
20/5

Council /
Vision
21/5

8. North Solihull Cup Football Tournament.

Members noted the grass cutting for the agreed tournament dates should take place as normal by the contractor and **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Hicks, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** the kind offer by Castle Bromwich Cricket & Sports Club to assist with extra cutting of junior pitch areas at no charge be accepted if it was necessary. Mr. Brownhill expressed his thanks to Mr. Robinson, the Open Spaces Supervisor, who had played a very good role in facilitating a drastically improved relationship between Bromford Lions and Castle Bromwich Cricket & Sports Club, stating Mr. Robinson had been instrumental in setting up meetings and working for positive outcomes. Mr. Brownhill was asked to keep Wardens informed of arrangements for the tournament.

Clerk
asap

Mr.
Brownhill
on-going

9. Manager's Report and Hire issues.

Members had received the Hall Manager's report detailing the new regular evening dance hirer and their decorating of the York Room for conversion to a dance studio. The former council office would be renamed the York Room when the few remaining items of equipment had been relocated, which the Hall Manager would arrange. The Vice-Chairman asked if the old photographs of hire facilities could be updated on the website to better promote the many improvements made. The Windsor bar refurbishment had been completed, with new beer pipes and T bars installed by the

Hall Mgr
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Hall Mgr
07/14

brewery. Staff however would not be refitting opticsto avoid spoiling the look. A member of staff had obtained her personal licence. A hirer cancellation of a booking later in the year was noted and the appropriate refund would be given. A query was raised whether the Hall Manager was required to provide written clarification of her process for offering discounts to A rate customers for part sessions.

ACTION

Hall Mgr
4/6

Clerk
4/6

10. Bar Stock Report.

The report and trading analysis was noted by members. In response to a question about a fall in income, the Hall Manager said that many of the weekend dance shows were not using the bar, so income was affected and there were no licensed bars over the Easter holiday.

11. Quarterly Playground Inspection Report.

Following consideration of information that members requested at the last meeting, it was **AGREED**that Rampmentalshould undertake the next 4 quarterly inspections of equipment in the park at a cost of £125 each, with additional essential repairs being completed at the same time if possible, subject to agreement of charges/cost of parts. A query was raised by a member about Machine No 3 of the adult fitness equipment and the Clerk would ask staff to look at it.

OSS
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OSS
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12. Pavilion Community Café.

Cllr Whelan reported that the working party had explored other avenues but without much success. A hirer had previously asked if they could overlap booking periods in the Pavilion with another existing hirer and were advised to speak to the other hirer andput any agreed proposals in writing to the council for consideration about shared responsibility. The Clerk undertook to ask both hirers if this would be forthcoming.

Clerk
16/5

13. Heritage Festival at Bradford Gardens.

Members noted the site inspection would take place on Friday, prior to the event.

Clerk
9/5

14. Emergency Tree Work and future Tree Planting.

Members noted the priority part of the Tree Survey had taken place, with urgent work being notified to Solihull MBC, as Bradford Gardens was in a conservation area, and successfully completed prior to the Heritage Festival. Members considered the Clerk’s suggestion of a major tree planting scheme in commemoration of WW1 and **AGREED** that £6,812 set aside in earmarked reserves should be used. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that £500 be spent on replacing the Peace Tree at the Village Green Sensory Peace Garden now, with larger stakes to protect it from harm and prevent people jumping across the bench. **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** to seek advice on whether oak/sycamore trees had a longer term survival rate and obtain a quote for a number of hardy, sturdy trees of a recommended species, in preparation for possible test planting in the autumn and a major scheme for 2017.

Clerk
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Clerk/OSS
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15. Grounds Maintenance Tender 2015-2019.

Members of the working party had received the necessaryinformation and would be arranging to meet as soon as possible.

PA, EH, IH,
MH
tba

16. Castle Bromwich Cricket & Sports Club.

Following discussion, members deferred consideration of the report/requests as they wished to receive an indication of the Club’s intention regarding the new licence that had been provided to their representatives on 17th April. The Council would be asked to consider their response on 21st May.

Clerk
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Council
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17. Residents’ Concerns.

Members noted the summary of recent concerns. A member referred tothe researcher’srequest for help in locating the ownership of a historical photograph and thought the picture had appeared in Alex Henshaw’s book “Sigh For A Merlin”.

Asst Clerk
30/5

18. Working Parties.

There were no recent meetings with recommendations for consideration. Following discussion, members of the Buildings Working Party (Cllrs Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Haywood, Hicks, Hiley, Horne-MacDonald, Riordan, Whelan) would be asked to meet on Wednesday, 28th May at 7.00 pm. Cllr Mrs. Allen reminded members that she wished to see the wildflower meadow done.

ACTION

Buildings
WP 28/5

19. Clerk's Report/Open Spaces Report.

The Clerk reported the Warwickshire County Cricket Board had booked their annual school tournament for 30th June, with only one date being available this year due to other hire events. A high utility bill had been noted by her with concern and relevant staff alerted. A report on a meeting with a contractor had been given to members as requested by the Open Spaces Supervisor. Members noted the information being supplied by the volunteers locking Hob Farm each night, which was most helpful. Following a request by a resident, the Clerk asked members who were examining the summary of responses of the earlier Hob Farm survey when they would be reporting back to the Leisure Services Committee. A residents request to have vehicle access to Hob Farm had been passed to the Warden on duty on Good Friday.

OSS
05/14

Members
tba

