

10. Training.

The Clerk reported no new requests for training had been received. As the training papers from the Visionary Leadership event attended on 21st February by Cllr Knibb and Cllr Mrs. Knibb were still outstanding, the Chairman offered to pursue this matter. The Clerk informed members she was attending a free Planning Portal training event on 16th June at Birmingham Council House and that there were still vacancies. She hoped that this would help her with understanding the new pilot scheme for councils to view planning application using new technology.

11. Grant Aid.

The Chairman reminded members of the need to declare any interests. The revised NALC Legal Topic Note on Section 137 expenditure had been distributed to members. After careful consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** the Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, with 5 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfied the requirements of that section, the Council approved expenditure in the sum of £250 in respect of the application from Solihull Community Furniture to help maintain their furniture van or a replacement vehicle and support volunteering costs to enable the shop to open longer hours. The Clerk would request a poster to help publicise the work of the shop within Arden Hall and the pavilion.

Clerk
15/6

12. Payments.

Following scrutiny by members, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, with 5 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments, as listed, be approved. Members also received a current budget printout.

13. Clerk's Report.

Following completion of the audit after the last meeting, work had continued on the year end accounts. Preparations were well in hand for the external auditor although a request had been made by Cllr Harris for information about questioning the auditor, which the Clerk had posted to him. In response to a separate matter, the bookkeeper had confirmed that accruals year on year were not necessary for parish councils provided bills were proportionate for a whole year, contrary to commercial enterprises who did need to record this information in year end accounts. Cllr Mrs. Haywood had offered to help monitor the council website and alert the Clerk when updates were needed. Park Hall school had telephoned her to say that there were no new co-option forms for the Youth Council and membership remained very low. The police had supplied new information leaflets which members were urged to take and the new Joint Suggestion Box was in place at Arden Hall (by front desk) with slips for people to use. A change to membership was under consideration for Costco to a commission basis. The Parish Council had been independently certified as acceptable for student work placements. Fusion had confirmed the summer scheme proposals and in response to a direct request from the Clerk, had agreed to name the Parish Council as a partner in these activities due to the support given. Under confidential terms, members were updated on a land matter that would be considered further by the Council. The Clerk declared that a gift had been received from one hirer before she went on holiday but a further gift had been declined. Following her report, members discussed the low membership of the Youth Council and as the Finance and General Purposes Committee was responsible for the Youth Council, the Chairman offered to attend the next meeting to explore future options.