
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2007
AT 19.30 HRS**

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr J Gibbins

Councillors:

Cllr D Feasey
Cllr D Franklin
Cllr A Terry
Cllr Mrs. B Wilkins

Officers: Mrs. C Tibbles **Public:** None

Chairman welcomed Cllr Franklin to the meeting and reminded members to send details of their skills to the Clerk.

1.

Apologies.

Accepted from Cllr A Bull, Cllr E Knibb, Cllr J Riordan, Cllr S Ward.

2. Declarations of Personal or other interests.

None.

3. Minutes of the Meetings held 25th July and 12th September.

Cllr Mrs. Wilkins **PROPOSED** these Minutes be signed as a true and accurate record. **SECONDED** Chairman, **RESOLVED** and signed.

4. Planning Applications.

Planning Applications/Decision Notices received since last Meeting were considered. See Appendix. Application 2007/2122 deferred as members requested more information.

5. Resident's Concerns.

Noted, particularly issue of wheelie bin dangers. Discussion on points raised by Cllr Feasey and members to consider a press release about type of problems raised and correct agency to direct them to.

6. Communications.

Routine communications received since last meeting were noted: Routine bulletins and newsletters / letter from resident about dangers of wheelie bins at kerbsides / CAB request for financial support / new editor appointed for Castle Bromwich Gazette / pension advice on sickness management / work life balance advice / police seminar on Building Blocks scheme / Solihull MBC Listed Buildings advice from Planning Department / CB Cricket & Sports Club Public meeting on 'Sport in our Community' in the Windsor Room on 17th October at 7.30 pm / invitation to Booze Cruise by resident of Fordbridge / WALC Annual Report and AGM notice / NALC Financial Update / NS Fusion holiday activities / SLCC AGM on 27th October / Village Halls newsletter / Town and Council Standard / consultation by Solihull MBC on Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan / WM Pension Report & Accounts 2007 / Ways to tackle climate change by Defra / letter from

Cllr Feasey. Members noted support by Waterloo Housing for holiday activities, hazards of wheelie bins on pavements. Chairman encouraged members to attend the Cricket & Sports Club public meeting.

7. Remembrance Parade.

The Clerk reported that progress had been made. She had negotiated with Highway Traffic Management Ltd to help further by paying for 3 large special road signs to be manufactured and installed, in addition to providing 8 barriers and closed signs on the day, saving the Council approximately £500. A draft service outline and poster was circulated and no objections made to changes. Members supported the recognition in the programme to volunteers, commercial company and asked that the police also be thanked. Chairman volunteered to do reading. New hymns would now be recorded as agreed, again negotiated at no cost. Four high visibility jackets had been bought at a discounted price of £40. Cllr Feasey had supplied a press cutting of one Legion expecting costs of £1500 but fortunately the main cost remained to be time, with other major expenses being avoided. Cllr Mrs. Wilkins was thanked for hand delivering letters to residents/businesses at the Green.

8. Terms of Reference.

Chairman tabled information. Copies to be forwarded to absent members by Clerk. No resolution made.

9. Office Photocopiers.

Cllr Feasey **PROPOSED** the RP3105 Risograph machine from Midshire Business Systems at a quarterly charge of £143.50 for 5 years, with a free photocopier be accepted. **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED.** Cllr Terry enquired about purchasing the old machine.

10. Payments.

The Clerk clarified Voucher no. 687 for the Chairman.

Cllr Mrs. Wilkins **PROPOSED** that the payments be approved. **RESOLVED.** Financial budget summary noted.

11. Clerk's Report.

Chairman had visited several times to progress matters; some completed Youth Council questionnaires received; another induction meeting needed for new councillors but Clerk awaiting replies on preferred times; duties at Arden Hall continued to be time consuming and it was increasingly difficult to cope with demands/priorities requiring attention; pleased to have attended her first Presentation Evening at Park Hall School; Chairman had taken responsibility for Christmas Tree Lighting event and would be contacting schools; bank had refunded over £1400 of interest due to tax error; Cllr Feasey had met with her regarding use of volunteers, accompanied by Bob Amos who was still keen to support Arden Hall further (information received from insurers regarding volunteers); Cllr Franklin suggested help could be given by NACRO or those doing community service; the revised report on the Christmas Party Night requested by the Leisure Services Committee was considered and **RESOLVED** that Mr. Witten to be instructed to use setup 1 but with sales restricted to 200 tickets instead of 250, revised ticket/poster design approved, child's age to be 3-12 with 13+ paying adult price. The Chairman disclosed a quote of £15000 and £12000 received for new frontage designed with lower brickwork or fully glazed as existing. Cllr Feasey hoped the quotes would be for the same specification and the Chairman confirmed that details were given on what was needed. The previous price of £314,000 for extended was a calculated guess.

12. Staffing Matters.

The Clerk reported the valuable support already gained from the new appointment of a temporary Assistant Clerk, working each Friday. She had attended a useful work life

balance training in Solihull but sadly it was the end of a 2 year cycle of meetings, one of which was previously attended by Mr. Watts, the Hall Manager. Under confidential terms, a memo relating to a staff matter was tabled and fully discussed by members but no resolution made. A Staff Panel meeting had been arranged.

ACTION

Members
10/11

Clerk
17/10

Members
31/10

Members
To reply to
CBC&SC

ACTION

Clerk
17/10

Clerk
17/10

Clerk
12/10

Clerk
24/10

New members
ASAP

JG
16/10

Clerk
12/10