

endeavour to pursue the objections made by the parish council by contacting Tesco Stores head office and urging their co-operation in dealing forcefully with the crimes being committed in this store. She would stress the support needed to both their staff and the local community who were affected by their decisions, reminding them of their previous voluntary reduction of opening hours in the past due to excessive anti social behaviour.

ACTION

7. Grant Aid.

Cllr Riordan left the meeting. Following discussion and careful consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** Cllr Hiley, **SECONDED** by Cllr Upton, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to make a grant of £2,000 to Age UK for their Castle Bromwich Library Project. As the project would meet some of the aims of the Parish Plan, it was agreed to use part of the budget and leave monies available for the next round of grant applications. The funding would be granted subject to normal conditions and offered on the proviso that if the project did not proceed the grant would be returned to the parish council. Cllr Riordan was invited to rejoin the meeting.

Clerk
24/12

8. Safeguarding Public Money and Corporate Governance/Accountability.

Members were thanked for attending the recent training which had prompted key points for deliberation. The report was accepted and following discussion, it was **AGREED** that the council should commit to modernising its financial arrangements with options for new signatories to be authorised by council; that Cllr Upton and the Clerk visit Unity Bank for an update of the accounting software and recommended processes; clarification be sought on agreement for bank charges; their recommendations be sought on a basic training for data protection/ personal computer security; a target date for completion to be April 2015.

Council
17/12

Clerk/BU
01/15

9. Review of Internal Audit and Testing.

Members reviewed the discussions from the recent training and accepted the report under consideration. Members wished to review comparative costs for internal audit options before confirming future arrangements.

Asst Clerk
01/15

10. Solihull Gateway TRO.

Members scrutinised the drawings and following consideration, it was **AGREED** to note the changes with interest.

Asst Clerk
15/12

11. Budget Planning 2015/2016.

Following careful consideration and with the aim of setting a zero increase budget wherever possible, members noted the latest information available. It was **AGREED** that figures for projected year end and next years budget be reduced to as low as possible and that changes made to give additional clarity on statutory employers costs linked to salaries. Salary costs would need complete recalculation after the recent national agreement on the 2 year pay award and Cllr Riordan undertook to verify the Clerk's calculations. A revised draft budget would be available at the next meeting and depending on developments, the Council may need to set two alternative budgets for adoption.

Clerk
31/12

JR
18/12

Council
28/1/15

12. Working Parties.

Members noted that Cllr Mrs. Allen had an update from the Buildings and Open Spaces Working Party for the next Leisure Services Committee meeting. Members noted the feedback from the Events Working Party on the Remembrance Parade and the Carol Concert. Cllr Mrs Haywood hoped to provide more information after the Carol Concert review meeting had taken place. Following discussion of marketing Arden Hall as a venue to local undertakers, Cllr Hiley asked the Events working party to meet and agree ways to generate bar income. It was **AGREED** that a date be set at the January Leisure Services Committee meeting formembers and the Hall Manager to meet together, possibly with relevant hirers, to explore options for partnership working and putting Arden Hall marketing strategies into effect.

Events WP
& Hall Mgr
7/01

13. Residents' Concerns.

Members noted the list of concerns previously circulated.

14. Training.

Following consideration, it was **AGREED** that the requests from Cllrs Mrs. Allen, Hayes, Mrs. Haywood, Knibb, Riordan and the Clerk be approved to attend the WALC Employment Briefing on Saturday 7th February, 2015 at 10 am, at a cost of £90; that the requests of Cllrs Knibb, Riordan and the Clerk be approved to attend the WALC Annual Briefing Day on Saturday 7th March at Warwick (costs to be notified later); that the Clerk's request be approved to attend the SLCC Practitioner's Conference as a day delegate on either 5th or 6th March at a cost of £85. (Members were reminded that the previous year the Clerk had paid personally to attend a similar 2 day event.) Following discussion and clarification of the new Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations, valuable advice had been given to Cllr Knibb and the Clerk on specific points for consideration. It was **AGREED** to amend the information notes for members of the public attending parish council meetings and recommend the suggested protocol on recording and filming of council and committee meetings be put to Council. The Clerk reminded members that this should be incorporated into the revised Standing Orders soon to be agreed and members requested a debate at a future full council meeting.

15. Clerk's Report.

ON THE PROPOSITION Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hiley, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Standing Order 1(a) be suspended to allow the meeting to continue for this last item. Members noted the changes occurring at WALC and the agreed action for the Clerk to take. Members endorsed the free use of Arden Hall as a venue for Resilience Training for parish and town councils and local residents in the spring and also for mapping training in the summer with a software company. The Clerk had booked 3 provisional places at the Western Power Stakeholder meeting which was due to be formally considered the following week. Members noted a councillor had attended his initial induction session and a further date would be set. Members also noted the closure of the Council Office on the designated bank holidays over Christmas and the Clerk was asked to clarify information on Arden Hall's booking office hours on Christmas Eve.

ACTION

Members to note dates

Asst Clerk asap
Asst Clerk 01/15

Clerk 01/15

Asst Clerk 19/1

Members 25/2

Clerk asap

Clerk asap

Clerk asap

Clerk 12/12

