

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH  
ON WEDNESDAY 11TH JULY 2012  
AT 19.30 HRS**

**Those present:**

**Chairman:** Cllr A Terry

**Councillors:** Cllr Mrs. P Allen Cllr E Hicks Cllr J Riordan  
Cllr M Hayes Cllr I Hiley [except Item 8]  
Cllr Mrs. A Haywood Cllr J Horne-MacDonald Cllr Mrs. L Smith  
Cllr J Whelan  
Cllr Mrs. B Wilkins

**Officers:** Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO

**Public:** None.

**1. Apologies.**

None.

**2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.**

Cllr Riordan declared a personal interest in Item 8 and would withdraw from the meeting to avoid a conflict of interest.

**3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hicks, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2012, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**4. Planning Applications.**

The Planning Applications received since the last meeting were considered and the following recommendations made to the Borough Council:-

Application No	Applicant	Location	Type
<b>Recommendation to the Borough Council</b>			
2012/724	Mr John Hunt	34 Castle Hills Drive	Minor Full Appl
	Could be approved subject to any neighbours' comments.		
2012/909	Mrs N Ramsey	32 Danzey Green Road	Minor Full Appl
	Could be approved subject to any neighbours' comments.		
2012/1022	Mr Chris Wheeler	Tamarisk 12 Rectory Lane	Trees in Conservation Area
	Should be approved subject to views of Tree Officer.		

**5. Parish Council Information Leaflet.**

Following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that subject to minor corrections and design amendment, that 250 copies of the leaflet be produced as a means of promoting the parish council to the local community, starting with the business breakfast meeting.

**6. Budget Review.**

Following consideration by members, the budget printout was reviewed and **IT WAS NOTED** that variances were within acceptable margins and would be reviewed again after period 6.

**7. Data Transparency.**

Following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED**

**ACTION**

Admin  
Asst.  
12/7

**ACTION**

Clerk  
Asap

FGP  
Oct 12

**N.B. All Minutes are deemed as draft until formally approved and signed.**

Clerk  
Nov 12

by Cllr Hayes, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the formation of an Action Plan be deferred due to delays in expected legislation. Other policy updates would be prepared when new technology was more established.

**8. Fordbridge Town Council – request for support to CARA.**

Clerk  
30/7

Cllr Riordan withdrew from the meeting. Following discussion, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Allen, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hayes, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the council knew of the valuable work undertaken by CARA and should endorse the support given by Fordbridge Town Council by requesting Solihull MBC review the decision to cut the funding. **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Parish Council offer further assistance to CARA within its own constraints. Cllr Riordan re-joined the meeting.

Clerk  
30/8

**9. Working Parties (Events, Grants, Standing Orders) and Parish Plan Steering Group.**

Cllr Hiley reported to members on the recent meeting of the Events Working Party that had also been relayed to the last meeting of the Leisure Services Committee. Recommendations were endorsed for further research and the Business Breakfast meeting would be a new means of promoting the parish council and supporting the business community further. The idea of holding a Beer Festival also received initial support for further information.

**10. Residents' Concerns.**

Clerk  
25/7

Members noted details of recent concerns raised by residents. Following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by the Chairman, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the concerns of the resident regarding financial costs of council services be noted but the council believed that the budget set was needed for this year and stands by the services provided and being improved for local residents and community groups.

**11. Training.**

Asst.  
Clerk  
13/7

Members considered the application from Cllr Knibb and **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that a place be booked on the Chairmanship training course on the proviso that a report be fed back to the council, in accordance with the policy.

EK  
5/9

**12. Clerk's Report.**

MH  
25/7

The Clerk tabled copies of the latest Code of Conduct papers, now adopted by Solihull MBC and urged that members complete the forms and return them to Cllr Hayes who had volunteered to collate them before the deadline of 28<sup>th</sup> July. The Clerk had distributed copies of the North Area Update newsletter from SMBC, which she hoped would be regularly received in future and she had received an undertaking to correct the erroneous reporting of the Jubilee Picnic In The Park. There had unfortunately been some disruption to processing action points and views were sought from members on some matters. Sgt. Mirza would be the guest speaker at the next council meeting so the additional request from a hirer could not be accommodated. Instead he would be invited to utilize part of the public session to ask a question of the council if wished, rather than stating their case regarding council policy, although no direct answer/decision might not be possible. A briefing session on automatic pension enrolment for all staff which had required urgent research to supply data to West Midlands Pension Fund. Information for the Grant WP had been received from Alan Crawford of Sustain, an Employment Law bulletin noted, the war memorial website update acknowledged with additional information also sent, the Youth Council grant application for their next project had been successful and their recent skittles evening reported upon.

Clerk  
18/7