

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES  
COMMITTEE  
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE  
BROMWICHON WEDNESDAY 11TH  
DECEMBER 2013  
AT 19.30 HRS**

**Those present:**

- Chairman:** Cllr M Hayes  
**Councillors:** Cllr Mrs. P Allen      Cllr I Hiley      Cllr J Riordan  
                          Cllr Mrs. A Haywood      [Item 6 – end]]      Cllr A Terry  
    Cllr J Whelan
- Officers:** Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO  
**Public:** None.

**1. Apologies.**

The apologies received from Cllr J Horne-MacDonald and Cllr E Hicks were noted for the reasons given.

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

None declared.

**3. Dispensations.**

None requested.

**4. Minutes of the previous Meeting.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Whelan, **SECONDED** by CllrMrs. Haywood, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings held on Wednesdays, 30<sup>th</sup>October and 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2013, 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 adjourn the meeting to invite questions from members of the publicbut there were none in attendance.

**6. Planning Applications.**

Following extensive discussion, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the recommendations to Solihull MBC should be as followed:

Application No	Applicant	Location	Type
<b>Recommendation to the Borough Council</b>			
2013/1952	Mr R Ainsworth	296 Chester Road	Minor Full Appl
Should be REFUSED as application out of character for the area of Castle Bromwich that did not require 24/7 trading; sufficient availability elsewhere on the Chester Road outside the parish; immediate neighbours would suffer unacceptable noise and disturbance; potential for public disorder if alcohol was on sale 24/7.			
2013/1965	Ms C Plant	7 Listelow Close	Minor Full Appl
Could be approved subject to any neighbours concerns.			
2013/1973	Mr N Chen(CB Hall Hotel)		
Could be approved subject to views of Conservation Officer.			
2013/1974	Mr N Chen(CB Hall Hotel)		
Could be approved subject to views of Conservation Officer.			

**7. Capital Projects 2014/15.**

Following consideration, **IT WAS AGREED** that priority projects (if not completed by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2014) should be new telephone system to incorporate door security

ACTION

improvements, combined with Arden Hall.

#### **8. Budget Planning 2014/2015.**

The Chairman led members line by line through the draft budget plan, reviewing the outcomes from the recent Financial Training Workshop. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the suggestions made should be incorporated into the next draft, ready for preparation to Council for consideration (as appended in minute book). Due to changes instigated in the current year there would be a requirement for some new items, e.g Parish Plan implementation. There were also savings agreed by increasing use of email to save postage.

#### **9. Solihull MBC Ward Action Plan – 2014 Priorities.**

Following consideration and discussion, **IT WAS AGREED** that the absolute priority should be to improve road safety. Particular measures should be put in place to reduce the serious speeding traffic on Water Orton Road; review the parish council's request for a pedestrian crossing that was needed to give safe access to children and visitors using the park/Arden Hall, especially in light of the recent multi-vehicle accident requiring the air ambulance; undertake repairs to potholes, especially those deteriorating at the Village Green; repaint the white lines at black spot junctions in the parish, particularly the Chester Road.

#### **10. Working Parties and Steering Group.**

The feedback had been produced from the Carol Concert and Christmas Tree Lighting and would be circulated to all members.

#### **11. Residents' Concerns.**

Members discussed with interest the information previously circulated

#### **12. Training.**

The Clerk reported that the defibrillator training was partly completed but attendance by staff and hirers was lower than hoped for. Only the U3A organisation had accepted the places offered but two other groups would like to attend in future. Two machines had now been delivered and would be installed once arrangements completed with staff in each building.

#### **13. Clerk's Report.**

The Clerk reported that there would be an inspection visit from HMRC in the new year, focusing on VAT. Preparations were being made to make the requested information available before and during the visit. For the first time this would be accommodated within the new council office and not require facilities to be taken up within Arden Hall. The joint agency parking letter had just been printed in the Castle Bromwich Gazette and calls were being received in response, seeking action to specific identified locations although some were not within Castle Bromwich.

ACTION

Asst Clerk  
20/12Clerk  
urgent