

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 12TH MAY 2010
AT 19.30 HRS**

Those present:

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

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr E Knibb were noted.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by the Cllr Terry, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings held on Wednesdays, 31st March and 14th April, 2010, having been circulated, be signed as a true and correct record of the meetings.

4. Planning Applications.

The Planning Applications received since the last meeting were considered by the Committee and the recommendations thereon are set out in the appendix. Cllr Mrs. Allen referred to a recent press article about a planning development within the parish that she did not recall being considered by this Committee. She would make further enquiries and supply information to the Clerk.

5. Parish Council Risk Schedule.

Members considered the risk schedule, noting two overdue matters which the Hall Manager and the Clerk would pursue again. The fidelity cover was already noted by the clerk to be increased at the next insurance renewal.

6. Solihull MBC – Consultations.

a) Traffic Calming Proposals – Junction Chester Road/Beechcroft Road. After consideration, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that support be given to this measure to reduce the speed of traffic at this junction.

b) Solihull Partnership – establishment of local forums. After consideration, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that full endorsement be given to this long overdue development. It was noted that action would be required by representatives and therefore if a councillor was to take an active part, agendas would be required by Council well in advance of meetings to allow a mandate from council for the representative to follow. Members asked how many representatives would be welcome and if Youth Councillors could also be invited to attend. Depending upon requirements of the Partnership and availability, Arden Hall could be offered as a potential venue.

7. Standards Board for England.

Members studied further the advice and **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the previous advice of the Monitoring Officer to the Clerk would be followed, pending the review of Standing Orders which contained further information on this

ACTION

Clerk
14/4

PA
asap

Clerk/
Hall Mgr
asap

Clerk
13/5

Clerk
21/5

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

subject. It was hoped the review would be completed by the Working Party within a specific timescale, yet to be agreed.

8. Training.

The Chairman asked what response had been received from the Standards Board regarding training clarification but the Clerk said this matter was still being processed. The staff request for training was duly considered and **IT WAS RESOLVED** to approve the request at a discounted net cost of £320. New members were reminded of the deadline for WALC induction training applications. In line with the policy and conditions of training, the Clerk again requested some members to pass on their papers from the WALC event so that copies could be available to others. A free training opportunity had been attended by the Clerk on 23rd April on employment matters.

Clerk
26/5
JW/JHM
asap

AT/JHM/
EK/MH
31/3

9. Payments.

Following discussion, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments, as tabled, be approved. Members noted the clerk would be assessing the Village Green costs to advise the Youth Council accordingly. Staff software training would shortly be taking place.

10. Clerk’s Report.

Members noted that the arrangements for the civic service were in hand and that the Clerk would request the Hall Manager and staff to arrange the refreshments for the reception. The Royal British Legion would be supplying details for some additional invitations. Members noted the tabled information on an alternative memorial design and location for consideration at the next council meeting. The audit notice was on display and the internal auditors visit had been satisfactorily completed. Useful information had been exchanged on procedures, software, etc. and the payroll year end returns completed, with 2 adjustments for pension and tax required. The Youth Council had met on 4th May and a new member co-opted, leaving two vacancies remaining. At their meeting, much discussion had taken place on the Village Green Sensory Garden project, with more working parties arranged, supported strongly by Cllr Mrs. Allen. The guest speaker arranged for May had been deferred to a future date. Members were informed of the Borough Council consultation on the proposal to replace Archbishop Grimshaw Catholic School with an Academy. Following consideration, the Clerk was asked to invite a guest from the North Solihull Regeneration Team to the June council meeting to talk about the Lanchester Park project.

Asst Clerk
Asap

Asst Clerk
19/5