

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE
BROMWICH ON WEDNESDAY 13TH
NOVEMBER 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 5 – end]] Cllr A Terry
 Cllr E Hicks Cllr J Horne-MacDonald Cllr J Whelan
Officers: Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO
Public: None.

1. Apologies.

None.

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 Cllr Hicks, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings held on Wednesdays, 25th September and 9th October, 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 public but there were none in attendance.

6. Planning Applications.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Whelan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the recommendations to Solihull MBC should be as followed:

Application No	Applicant	Location	Type
Recommendation to the Borough Council			
The Redcroft DIY & Building			
2013/1761	Ltd	286 Chester Road	Minor Full Appl
Should be approved.			
2013/1843	Mr Zafar Iqbal	44 Clayton Drive	Minor Full Appl
Could be approved subject to any neighbours comments.			

7. Working Parties and Steering Group.

Cllr Whelan reported that the Parish Plan had been forwarded to the Clerk to prepare for the next council meeting. The Clerk confirmed that this was being arranged and outlined the timescale being aimed for. Members agreed that planning for implementation would need to be budgeted for and options could be discussed at the forthcoming Budget workshop training. The Chairman apologised to council that due to the ongoing pressures of work, which would continue, he had been unable to assimilate the revised Standing Orders to the new NALC electronic model. Following consideration, it was suggested that the Assistant Clerk be asked to undertake this task.

8. Residents' Concerns.

ACTION

Admin Asst
14/11

Members
23/11

Asst Clerk
13/12

Members discussed with interest the information previously circulated

9. Training.

The request for training from Cllr Knibb and suggestion for 4 others to attend the Data Transparency and Freedom of Information course was considered but members felt there were procedures already in place for the clerk to deal with enquiries, and the preference of members was to support group attendance of the Annual WALC Briefing Day on Saturday 1st March instead. The request was therefore not supported.

Clerk
asap

The report from Cllr Knibb on the Budget Setting course he had attended was noted, as was the report from the Clerk on her attendance at the SLCC National Conference at Hinckley. She had also that day attended an excellent training by the Local Council Advisory Service on Contractors and Partnerships, Grounds Maintenance and health and safety myths.

10. Clerk's Report.

The Clerk reported that the satisfactory completion notice from Solihull MBC Building Inspector had been received on the new council office. The joint agency parking letter had been sent to the Castle Bromwich Gazette and the parish council's website to try and reach as many parishioners as possible. Two residents had contacted the council office as a result of letters being distributed. Sgt. Mirza had been asked for his views on the parking issues at Park Hall Academy. The Co-operative Bank had announced it would no longer be prepared to service accounts with councils. A new shorter-term investment opportunity was available to the council from CCLA but members felt it prudent to seek an alternative. The possible call for a judicial review by developers in Cheshire to challenge a neighbourhood plan was noted with concern. Following consideration, members **AGREED** to change the date of the January meeting due to New Year's Day falling on a Wednesday. The Committee would now meet on 8th January at 6.30 pm before the Leisure Services Committee meeting. The clerk had written to the Chief Superintendent to commend the diligence of two PCSO's from the local neighbourhood team. Confirmation had been received from the Big Lottery accepting the financial return from the Footloose Project. Cllr Mrs. Haywood referred to parking issues in the parish and members agreed to consider budgeting for bollards to prevent further damage to The Green. The Clerk informed members that the Youth Council Chairman, Cllr Miss Jessica Browne, would be presenting a workshop on How To Set Up A Youth Council at the SLCC conference in February. The Community Café sub-Committee invited two members of Finance and General Purposes Committee to join them but there were no volunteers.

Members
to note