

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE
BROMWICH ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH JANUARY
2015
AT 7.30PM**

Those present:

Vice-Chairman: Cllr J Riordan

Councillors: Cllr Mrs. P Allen Cllr Mrs. A Haywood Cllr J Horne-MacDonald
Cllr M Hayes Cllr I Hiley

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

Public: None.

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr A Terry and Cllr B Upton were accepted for the reason given. Cllr E Hicks and Cllr K Okanta-Ofori were absent. [Clerk's note: apologies were later received from Cllr Hicks.]

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 Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Horne-MacDonald, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings held on Wednesdays, 26th November and 10th December 2014 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 standing orders to invite questions from members of the public but there were none present.

6. Planning/Licensing Applications.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF the Vice-Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hayes, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the following recommendations be submitted to the Borough Council:

Application No	Applicant	Location	Type
2014/2133	Mrs. L Bagshaw	23 Musborough Close	Minor Full Appl

Recommendation to the Borough Council
 Could be approved subject to any neighbours comments
 Total Service Station, 296 Chester Road
 2014/2150 Rontec Watford Ltd
 This council stands by its earlier decision on 11/12/13 and recommends this application SHOULD BE REFUSED as council strongly object that this is out of character for Castle Bromwich which does not require 24/7 retailing; sufficient provision already elsewhere at Chester Road in both directions outside the Parish; immediate neighbours would face noise and disturbance to unacceptable levels; potential for public disorder if alcohol was on sale 24/7.

ACTION

Clerk.
15/1

11. Broadband Provision in Arden Hall.

At the request of the Vice-Chairman, members considered this item before setting the budget, as extra provision could be needed. Following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hiley, **IT WAS**

Clerk

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to upgrade the ASDL broadband to Fibre, costing an additional £224.04 per annum to enable staff/IT support to undertake functions that were currently not possible.

15/1
ACTION

7. Budget Planning 2015/2016.

Members recapped on the previous recommendations and scrutinized the wages budgets and code 4421/201 for broadband. Following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** OF the Vice-Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Horne-MacDonald, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to reduce the wages allocation by £1440 and increase the broadband allowance by £112 for the Council Office cost centre. It was noted that Arden Hall will require the same amount added to its broadband budget. **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the council should include a review of the office salaries and the Clerk should report monthly to the Committee if extra hours had been worked over and above the contracted/costed budget. This would include variation against budget and number of hours scheduled.

Clerk
monthly

8. War Memorial.

Members considered carefully and sensitively the request to add the name of a former parishioner who had died in Iraq in 2005 to the war memorial and **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Allen, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to observe the earlier council decision and explain that the additional stone tablet installed in 2010 with the inscription of “In Memory Of Those Who Have Fallen in Conflicts Since 1945” already covered the sacrifice made by Sgt. John Paul Jones. Members **AGREED** that the Rector would be asked to add this name to the list of those additional parishioners known to us. This list of names is read out by the Rector at the annual Remembrance Service. The Clerk undertook to send a photograph of the memorial when she notified the family of the council’s decision.

Clerk
28/1

9. Recording of Meetings.

Members reviewed the additional information and advice that had been received and **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** the Vice-Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to observe the advice from NALC that the legislation did not automatically apply to the Youth Council and that it would not be appropriate for the young members to have their meetings recorded by members of the public. Members wished to consider the draft media policy at the next available agenda.

Clerk/
Youth
Council
3/3
Members
4/3

10. Arrangements for public meetings.

10.1 Following consideration, Cllr Hayes offered to host the public Community Speedwatch meeting in the Windsor Room at 7 pm on Wednesday 18th February and Cllrs Mrs. Allen and Horne-MacDonald committed to attend also. It was **AGREED** to keep the meeting informal, explore together what the scheme could achieve and importantly outline what volunteers would not be allowed to do. Refreshments would be provided by the council.

MH
18/2

10.2 Members **AGREED** that the Personal Resilience awareness event was perhaps in need of a different name to attract the right audience. Unfortunately the dates suggested were not convenient and asked that a meeting be held in the daytime at either 10 am or 2 pm, possibly on a Wednesday. The Clerk would endeavour to make arrangements.

Clerk
28/1/15

11. Working Parties.

No meetings had taken place.

12. Residents’ Concerns.

Members noted the list of concerns previously circulated.

13. Training.

The Clerk confirmed that training courses had been booked as previously approved by members. Cllr Upton had requested a place on the WALC New Councillor induction on 24th January, which the Clerk had actioned (as this was strongly encouraged within the

existing policy). Cllr Upton and the Clerk had attended Unity Trust Bank for an overview of the electronic banking and this would be explored further at the next meeting 11th February. The Clerk would attend the SLCC Practitioner's Conference on 5th March. The Standing Orders training ('self-review') was re-arranged for Wednesday, 18th March at 7.00 pm and the Clerk was asked to attend.

14. Clerk's Report.

Members noted the papers tabled by the Clerk for future meetings and the newly released hire charges from 1st April, information was available on bank charges and interest received since 1st April. Members noted that information regarding elections would be available soon and there could be an opportunity to change representation of wards as vacancies needed to be filled. The Council Office had unfortunately been closed for one day as there was no cover available and the Clerk had been attending a funeral. The Clerk was grateful for help from a councillor to complete production of the Youth Council promotional DVD's, which had now been mostly distributed around the country and messages of thanks were being received.

Members
11/02
ACTION
Members
18/3

DRAFT