

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLE
BROMWICH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2010
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr Mrs. P Allen

Councillors: Cllr R Amos Cllr I Hiley Cllr A Terry
 Cllr M Hayes Cllr M Rashid Cllr J Whelan
 Cllr Mrs. A Haywood Cllr J Riordan Cllr Mrs. B. Wilkins

Officer: Mrs C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council/RFO

Guests: Mr. J Flint – Agent for Peveril Securities [Items 1-18 only]

Public: 4 members of the public [Items 1-18 only]

Prior to the meeting, Sgt. Hewitt, Castle Bromwich Neighbourhood Policing Team, gave an update on recent crime issues with vehicles, theft of lead and opportunist bag snatches at local shops. There had been concern about the conditions of a recent drinks licence variation for a local pub and he would alert the Clerk when he had received confirmation of the conditions. He urged everyone to take personal measures to prevent theft of vehicle contents and/or Christmas presents. He also announced the start of the WM police seasonal anti-drink/drive campaign and changes to senior officer roles. Sgt. Hewitt was unable to confirm to members further details on the campaign or about effects of budget cuts on staffing, although that decision was expected the following day.

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr E Knibb, Cllr J Horne-MacDonald, Cllr Mrs. L Smith and Cllr Miss J Ward were noted for the reasons given. Cllr Ms. J Smith was absent.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 24th November, 2010 be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

4. Guest Speaker: Jonathan Flint, Agent for Peveril Securities.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Flint explained he had been invited to update the Council on the piece of land owned by Peveril Securities, who had acquired Sonic Communications some years ago. An agreement had been reached with the owner of County Garage, adjoining the site and he gave details of the potential development of 12/14 residential detached houses at this location between the Bradford Road and the Village Green. A drawing of a possible scheme was available to view and informal discussions had taken place with the Borough Council Planning and Highways Departments, with helpful advice being received. It was possible that a planning application could be made to the Borough Council in February/March 2011, who would have ultimate responsibility for approving the design aspects. The timescale currently being worked towards would be for the 12 month development to commence in autumn 2011. Members noted that the Parish Council and local residents would be encouraged to make their views known as part of the normal consultation process of the Borough Council's planning process. Members received clarification on number of parking spaces

ACTION

planned for each property, plans for front lawns to houses, when the building work may start, removal of any ground contamination from petrol garage, prevention measures to stop children straying from Village Green onto private road, possible variation in style design of houses and provision of turning circles. The Chairman thanked Mr. Flint for attending the meeting and his most helpful background information on the project.

5. Questions from the Public.

In accordance with Standing Orders, the meeting was temporarily suspended so that members of the public could ask questions. Mr. Placentino, Old Croft Lane, asked if barriers should be necessary on the whole Village Green to stop children running into traffic when they were playing? Cllr Mrs. Wilkins replied that children were not used to traffic along the private access road and that was where ball games were often located. Bor. Cllr Richards, Marlborough Road, asked why the parish council's budget information was not publicly available like Solihull MBC documents were? The Chairman confirmed that it was publicly available and the Clerk handed him a copy of both committee budget recommendations and the precept calculations which she took from the public files on the communications table. Bor. Cllr Richards, on behalf of the Borough Council, took the opportunity to wish everyone at the Parish Council and the attending public, a Merry Christmas and thanks were expressed for all the efforts being made for Castle Bromwich.

6. Questions from Councillors.

None submitted.

7. Communications.

Members noted the information listed.

8. Solihull MBC– Consultations.

Following careful consideration, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that:

- a) Flood Risk Management responsibilities – following deferment at the last meeting and additional information on categories of flood operated by the Borough Council, the danger of inadvertent blight on properties should be borne in mind. Therefore, in the absence of a clear definition of 'flood', **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the document be noted with interest and that future concerns of parishioners notified to the Clerk would continue to be logged but in addition they be invited to alert the Borough Council also. Roads of potential concern mentioned in discussion were Old Croft Lane, Springfield Road, Water Orton Road, Cranmore Road and The Green. Problems were sometimes linked to drainage capacity, damaged drains, high water table, non-porous driveways and increased water usage in addition to rainfall. It was further suggested that any new development on the former Sonic site be conditional that driveways should be permeable to help prevent additional flooding. Mr. Flint confirmed this could be considered but that Severn Trent required evidence on soakaway capacity but that houses facing The Green would have permanent connection to drains.
- b) the formal response to survey on views on Alcohol Restricted Zones/Areas was that the consultation map of existing areas was not sufficient and that Castle Bromwich residents and businesses needed additional protection. **IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** a request be submitted for all open spaces in Castle Bromwich, both Parish Council and Borough Council, should be designated as Alcohol Restricted Zones.
- c) the reminder to members to review their entries on the Register of Interests within 28 days of any changes taking place by writing or emailing Solihull MBC was noted.
- d) following consideration of the review of Polling Districts and Polling Places,

Clerk
23/12

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

members suggested that alternative locations for polling stations may encourage more people to vote or that using Arden Hall for the whole parish would enable three local schools to remain open. This would mean less disruption to the education of children/parents and also save polling costs for the Borough Council as it paid for one site instead of four. The Clerk undertook to pass these suggestions on.

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9. Members Allowances 2011/2012.

Following consideration of the statutory provisions and the unchanged recommendations of the Parish Remuneration Panel, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the existing provision be continued of £103 per annum for each elected member. The Clerk reminded members that historically this allowance had not been personally claimed but on some occasions donated to the Chairman's Charity Fund, which in turn was then awarded to local groups and organisations annually by the retiring Chairman.

10. WALC Promotional Event – Parish Councillors.

Following consideration by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, volunteers were requested to speak at the above event planned for 16th February 2011. The offers from Cllr Hayes and Cllr Whelan were accepted, with Cllr Hiley offering to be a reserve speaker, subject to work commitments.

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11. Royal Wedding.

Following consideration, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Youth Council be invited to consider a parish event, possibly holding a community 'Picnic in the Park'

YPC
Jan.11

12. Birmingham City Council – Draft Supplementary Planning Document for Places of Worship and Faith Related Community and Educational Uses.

Following consideration, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the document be noted.

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13. Precept 2011/2012 and Hire Charge Review.

Members noted that additional background information on year end balances tabled by the Clerk. Following consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Hire Charges for council services be increased by 5%, with figures for room hire being rounded down to the nearest 50p or whole pound. **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the hire charges for the Pavilion Clubroom be brought into line with those of the York Room, with increases being made over a phased 3 year period. The Hall Manager was delegated the task of revising the special residents rate for Friday and Saturday evenings. The setting of the precept was therefore deferred to the January meeting, as the effect of the hire charge 'rounding down' would need recalculating to give an average increase which could consequently affect the forecast income. Cllr Hayes expressed his thanks to members for their sterling work done at committee meetings when every individual budget line was carefully and seriously considered in turn.

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14. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hiley, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 1st December 2010, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

15. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT**

WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesdays, 24th November and 8th December, 2010, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

16. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Cllr Riordan reported that on the 25th November he attended the Solihull Partnership Forum meeting held at Kingshurst Evangelical Church. The meeting was addressed by Melanie Lockey, Head of Partnership commissioning, who said that as part of Solihull's Sustainable Community Strategy, the Partnership wanted to hear views about what partners such as the Council, Police and the voluntary & community sector should be working on together over the next 3 years. An evidence based list of 24 priority issues had been compiled and the Forum was asked to consider what they would class as the nine most important and to rank their importance. The next part of the meeting concerned three Solihull consultations currently taking place or planned. Those consultations were the Solihull Core Strategy consultation, the Local Economic Assessment and the West Midlands Local Transport plan 3. The final part of the meeting concerned progress made since the last meeting and issues to be discussed at the next meeting. All paperwork associated with this Forum meeting could be obtained from the Clerk.

Cllr Whelan's full report of the Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee meeting on 24th November that he had attended had been circulated so he gave a précis of it. A presentation had been given on the 'One Terminal Project' detailing the re-branding of the airport, which was a major thrust to project a confident and global business which was constantly seeking to expand. The Airport connected to some 500 destinations using the hub operations of major operators Emirates, Air France and Turkish to supplement its own direct route structure. It was planned that the re-branding would attract more airline customers and with them, more destinations. The word "International" had been dropped from the name as it was considered superfluous and not in keeping with an operation which saw itself as a global airport. The new logo was a circle representing the globe with a number of circles around it representing travel. The colours were blue representing Planet Earth. The key concept was "Hello World" and this would feature in signage around the Airport. The Chief Executive, Paul Kehoe gave an overview of operations beginning with a brief reference to the accident which happened on 19th November. He praised the fire and ambulance services who, by their actions, saved the two crew and also a donor organ which was later transplanted successfully. The accident closed the Airport until noon the next day when investigations were completed and caused the cancellation of 80 flights affecting 12,000 passengers. Whilst there had been a slowdown in low cost short haul travel it was clear that Emirates continued to prosper and Dubai was now the number one route from Birmingham, displacing Dublin. It was estimated that 70% of passengers travelling to Dubai were using it as a stepping stone. One area of concern arose from the merger of United and Continental Airlines and the possible impact on the New York flights. In keeping with the Airports new name, Mr. Kehoe confirmed that Network Rail had been requested to re-name Birmingham International Station and to call it Birmingham Airport Station. In answer to questions Mr. Kehoe confirmed that the new pier at the Airport had cost £50m and the One Terminal Project had cost £13m, including the rebranding costs. He emphasized this investment was essential if Birmingham was to succeed in establishing itself as the confident global business envisaged in the rebranding.

The Chairman reported that on Sunday 5th December she had attended Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens as a Trustee for their Christmas Fayre, which was a cold but most enjoyable occasion.

On Tuesday 7th December she had attended the Youth Parish Council working party meeting when applications for funding the continuing Village Green project were being drafted. This was followed by a KFC Party.

17. Report of the Officer of the Council.

The Clerk had not received any working party reports and was not aware of any meetings being held. This would be an agenda item as usual at the next meeting so she asked members to let her know of any dates when they were arranged, so that rooms could be booked. The Chairman confirmed that the Events Working Party would meet in January, although a date was not yet set. Members noted the notification of a temporary change to some flight paths affecting Castle Bromwich over the few weeks whilst essential repair work was undertaken.

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18. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman reported that on Friday 30th November the Council held the annual Carol Concert which had been very well attended and raised £185 for Age Concern. She thanked members of the Youth Council for selling raffle tickets which raised £122.01 for the Chairman's Charity Fund. She thanked volunteers from Age Concern and Castle Bromwich Lions for their help on the evening and also Cllr Mrs. Haywood, Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, Cllr Riordan, Cllr Whelan and Mrs. Whelan for their valuable help on the evening.

On Saturday, 11th December she attended Age Concerns Christmas Party when she was pleased to present Margaret Turner with the cheque for £185. She had a most enjoyable afternoon and thanked them for their kind invitation.

On Tuesday, 14th December she had attended Park Hall Academy for their production of Narnia, accompanied by George, the Clerk and Barry. A very enjoyable evening and thanked them for their kind invitation.

19. Proposed Sale of access road – land adjoining Village Green.

Under confidential terms, members discussed the documents tabled as a replacement to the draft contracts previously circulated. The Council's solicitor was still seeking final agreement from the purchaser to the revised documents. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hayes, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the matter be delegated to the Clerk to sign the option agreement when details were complete, clarified and clear. Members were pleased with the positive presentation and wished the matter to be concluded quickly so that progress could be made by the developer.