
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLE
BROMWICH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2007
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr Mrs. B. Wilkins

Councillors:

Cllr Mrs. P Allen
Cllr A Bull
Cllr E Knibb
Cllr Mrs. T Knibb

[Item 3-end]

Cllr Mrs. A Haywood
Cllr J Riordan
Cllr Mrs. J Smith
Cllr A Terry
Cllr Miss J Ward

Officer: Mrs C Tibbles

Public: 4 members of the public

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr D Franklin, Cllr M Rashid and Cllr S Ward were accepted for the reason given. Cllr D Feasey was absent. [Clerk's Note: Apologies submitted but delayed in reaching Clerk.]

2. Declarations of Pecuniary or other interests.

There were no interests declared.

3. Co-option of new member for Timberley Ward.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mrs Terrie Knibb explained she would like to work with members on the Parish Council and hoped she could assist in achieving good things for Arden Hall and the community of Castle Bromwich, as explained in her statement already circulated. **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Smith, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Mrs. Terrie Knibb be co-opted as a councillor for the Timberley Ward. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed and the Chairman welcomed Mrs. Knibb to the Parish Council. The Clerk advised that vacancies existed on the Finance and General Purposes Committee and Cllr Mrs. Knibb duly took her seat.

4. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 28th November, 2007 be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

5. Questions from Councillors.

There were no questions.

6. Questions from the Public.

Standing Orders were suspended for a maximum period of 15 minutes so that members of the public could ask questions. Following an explanation of procedures by the Chairman, members of the public were invited to state their name and address prior to asking their question. There were no questions.

7. Propositions from the Chairman to regenerate and improve Arden Hall/Castle Bromwich:

The Chairman suggested that her proposals as stated be voted as a block and no objections were made. She invited questions and Cllr Riordan asked for clarification on the amount of the loan

proposed and when it would be applied for. At the invitation of the Chairman, Cllr Knibb replied that up to £500,000 could be applied for from the Public Works Loan Board and reminded members that, by law, the Parish Council had to be solvent and advice received on the minimum level of reserves had to be met indicating contingency/reserves of £100,000, especially with the increasing cost of diseased trees, maintaining open spaces and the building problems of Arden Hall. He explained that repayments would be made the following financial year in 2 instalments of £18,000 and that next year a further application for £500,000 would be needed to regenerate Arden Hall and the community. Cllr Riordan thanked Cllr Knibb for this clarification. As there were no further questions, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, the following propositions were **RESOLVED**:

No.1 That a new committee be formed consisting of a maximum of ten (10) councillors and named Arden Hall Management & Promotion Committee.

No.2 That this Council authorises the immediate formation of Arden Hall Management & Promotion Committee with willing councillors so that it becomes operational for its first assembly on Wednesday 16th January 2008 & every third (3rd) Wednesday of every month except August thereafter.

No.3 That this Committee shall consist of the same format as both Leisure and F.&G.P Committees but it is an additional committee not a mandatory committee as per a service duty requirement.

No.4 That the new Arden Hall Management & Promotion Committee be granted full delegated powers to enact their resolutions with immediate effect.

No.5 That this Council makes an immediate application for approval from WALC to apply for a loan of up to the maximum level of £500,000 under Public Works Loan Board rules for Parish Councils and then, if approved and expenditure is required, apply for and draws down a loan of the relevant amount and places the funds in a Parish Council account before the end of the financial year.

No.6 That the loan be allocated to a special "Arden Hall Community Regeneration Fund".

No.7 That all monies & grants raised as a result of Arden Hall Management & Promotion Committee events and efforts be added to the "Arden Hall Community Regeneration Fund.

No.8 That at full Council in April 2008 this council considers making a further application to the Public Works Loan Board for up to £500,000 to enable the Arden Hall Management & Promotion Committee to complete the planned Arden Hall regeneration programme as authorised by full Council. [Clerks Note: see also Item 15.]

8. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Smith, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 5th December 2007, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

9. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 12th December, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

10. Report of the Staffing Panel.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Terry, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Staffing Panel held on Thursday, 6th December, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

11. Parish Survey.

This item was deferred.

12. Report and future meetings of Working Parties/Friends of Arden Hall.

No reports given.

13. Election of Chairman – Finance and General Purposes Committee.

With the agreement of Cllr Bull, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that Cllr Bull be elected as Chairman of this Committee. A new Vice-Chairman would need to be elected at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting.

14. Members Allowances.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that allowances would remain at the current level with no increase being applied.

15. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that on Monday 3rd December she had attended a meeting of the Solihull Partnership Forum but it was unclear for the majority present what the purpose or aims were for the group. A further meeting was planned for February and she hoped that there would be greater clarity and understanding at that meeting so that her involvement could be more focussed.

At the request of the Vice-Chairman, the Chairman formally clarified the earlier proposals for the new Arden Hall Management and Promotion Committee. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the following members serve on the Committee: Cllr Mrs. Knibb, Cllr Mrs. Allen, Cllr Riordan, Cllr Mrs. Haywood, Cllr Knibb, Cllr Mrs. Smith, Cllr Bull, Cllr Mrs. Wilkins and Cllr Miss Ward and Cllr Mrs Knibb was elected as Chairman to formulate the committee. Cllr Terry expressed difficulty in attending these meetings but would endeavour to do so where possible. Absent members would also be welcome to attend on 16th January. **IT WAS FURTHER PROPOSED** by Cllr Bull that the draft Terms of Reference (as tabled) be agreed at the Committee meeting and returned to the January Council meeting for ratification.

16. Report of the Officer of the Council.

The Clerk tabled a notification received from Solihull MBC about signage improvements at the junction of Marlborough Road and Manor Park Road following their investigation of concerns raised by a parishioner and passed on by the Parish Council. She hoped that safety for everyone would improve as a result. Members were informed of a major problem with burst pipes under the Spencer Hall floor that had sadly caused considerable damage, still to be resolved. The cost was unknown but meeting had been arranged with the loss adjustor. She had also sanctioned emergency repairs to a leak on the Windsor cellar roof, costing approximately £270. The Parish Council had received many Christmas cards from friends, local organisations and businesses and hoped members would enjoy seeing them after the meeting. Details of help and services for homeless people had been received from the Borough Council. The expected grant aid application form (tabled) had been received from Castle Bromwich Scout Group and she apologised for not managing to include in on the agenda due to pressure of business. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Bull, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS RESOLVED** to delegate the Clerk authority to grant the requested amount of £250 as the tabled finance summary clearly showed that funding was available and that members would have looked upon the grant favourably. The correspondence to members from Cllr Feasey regarding building proposals at Lanchester Park was noted but the Clerk was still awaiting details from the Borough Council.

17. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman promised members a brief report. On Saturday, 15th December she had attended the lunch given by Age Concern, at the invitation of Margaret and Albert Turner. It had been a lovely afternoon with the Mayor and Mayoress of Solihull and our MP, Caroline Spelman. The entertainment was excellent and the work that Albert and Margaret put into organising these events was enormous. She thanked them for the invitation and for all the hard work they did for this community.

On Monday 17th December, she had attended the Year 6 Christmas Concert at Castle Bromwich Junior School. This was the X Factor to end them all with the children being marvellous. It had been obvious they were thoroughly enjoying themselves singing and dancing and of course the

'Simon Cowell' production won. She was delighted to have been there.

The Chairman wished everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year and invited everyone to join her for seasonal refreshments as the meeting was now closed.

ACTION

ACTION

AMP
16/1/08

Clerk
Dec.07

ions presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of Castle Bromwich Parish Council unless explicitly stated otherwise. The Parish Council may monitor the contents of email sent and received via its network for the purposes of ensuring compliance with its policies and procedures.

ACTION

Clerk
Dec 07

Council
30/04/08

FGP
9/1/08

of the individual to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient please notify the sender immediately and then delete the message.

Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of Castle Bromwich Parish Council unless explicitly stated otherwise. The Parish Council may monitor the contents of email sent and received via its network for the purposes of ensuring compliance with its policies and procedures.

