

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLE  
BROMWICH PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH  
ON WEDNESDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2008  
AT 7.30 PM**

**Those present:**

**Chairman:** Cllr J Riordan

<b>Councillors:</b>	Cllr Mrs. P Allen	Cllr E Knibb	Cllr A Terry
	Cllr R Amos	Cllr Mrs. T Knibb	Cllr Mrs. B. Wilkins
	Cllr Mrs. A Haywood	Cllr M Rashid	

[Items 1-16]

**Officer:** Mrs. C Tibbles

**Public:** 8 members of the public [including 1 member for Items 8-end only]

**1. To elect a Chairman.**

Cllr Riordan, as Vice-Chairman called for nominations. **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Cllr Riordan be elected Chairman of the Parish Council for the remainder of the Civic Year 2008 - 2009. Councillor Riordan signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was duly witnessed by the Clerk. The Chairman received the Chain of Office and retained the Chair. Cllr Rashid, on behalf of members, congratulated Cllr Riordan on his election.

**2. To receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of the Chairman.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Knibb, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of the Chairman be received. Councillor Riordan thanked the Council for voting for him to become their Chairman and undertook to fulfil his duties to the best of his ability.

**3. Apologies.**

The apologies from Cllr Mrs. J Smith were accepted for the reasons given. Cllr Miss J Ward was absent.

**4. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.**

None declared.

**5. Co-option of new member for Whateley Ward.**

At the request of the candidate, this item was deferred.

**6. Minutes of the previous Meeting.**

**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Amos, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2008 be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

**7. Questions from Councillors.**

None submitted.

**8. Questions from the Public.**

Standing Orders were suspended 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. A summary of the questions asked is appended for members only as the final page and the meeting continued.

**ACTION**

Candidate  
22/10

#### 9. Anti Social Behaviour in Castle Bromwich.

Members noted the formal request that had been submitted by the Parish Council to the Safer Community Strategic Board which had been acknowledged by Solihull MBC. Following a request from the Clerk, Cllr Mrs. Allen volunteered to deliver copies of the letter to members of the public who had signed in at the last meeting and residents at the Village Green.

PA  
30/9

#### 10. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Allen, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2008, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted, subject to the addition of the last sentence on page 5, [tabled for members only as confidential].

#### 11. Report of the Staff Panel.

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Terry, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Staff Panel held on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2008, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

#### 12. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

**ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Amos, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesdays, 30<sup>th</sup> July and 10<sup>th</sup> September 2008, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

#### 13. Report and future meetings of Working Parties.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that the 4 young volunteers from Park Hall School were working very hard with the Duke of Edinburgh community work. She praised their efforts with painting kerbstones in the car park, clearing clutter from the Sports Pavilion and planting shrubs in the Garden of Memory at the Playing Fields. She reminded everyone that not all youths of today were bad and the next task for the Working Party would be helping Cllr Terry improve disabled access at the War Memorial. No dates were set for other meetings.

VG WP  
Oct.08

#### 14. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Outside bodies attended since last month on behalf of Parish Council.

Cllr Knibb reported he had attended several meetings on behalf of the Parish Council including: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - the Castle Bromwich Youth Council meeting where grant funding & environmental projects were the main topics of discussion; Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September - a Bar-B-Q at the Castle Bromwich Junior School Chair of Governors home to recognise and acknowledge the dedicated work and achievements of the retiring Vice-chair of Governors, Mr. Gordon Griffin (who was also a previous parish councillor). The event was well attended and Gordon's service to our community would be sadly missed; on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September - Castle Bromwich Junior School governors' meeting of the F & P committee where we allocated £35,000 for ICT spending on laptops and a wireless internet facility and another £16,000 on sheltered and covered recreation facilities for the children's playground areas. I am also pleased to say that the school future budgetary requirements were adequately catered for; on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September - further Governor training at the Civic suite in Solihull on Special Educational needs & Disability Discrimination Law; on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September - Castle Bromwich Traffic Calming measures meeting hosted by Castle Bromwich Parish Council at Arden Hall; on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Castle Bromwich Junior School Curriculum & Community committee meeting when 3 new parent governors and a new staff governor were introduced to the committee. The main topics on the Agenda were Homework, Pupil/Parent Survey results, our Bullying & Behaviour policies, and our school attendance levels; on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September - further Governor training at the Civic suite in Solihull on ICT learning platforms. That concluded his report but he would be pleased to expand on any of these topics later if asked.

## Castle Bromwich Parish Council

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

Cllr Mrs. Knibb reported that on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September Cllrs Mrs. Allen, Knibb and herself had attended the meeting instigated by Prof. Birch in response to his letter to the Gazette about traffic problems in Castle Bromwich. There were 4 main locations highlighted: height of the speed bumps in Green Lane, Hurst Lane/Chester Road shopping area, The Green and request for a crossing outside Arden Hall. Solihull MBC would investigate the concerns and report back. Bor. Cllr Richards who had chaired the meeting, thanked the Parish Council for providing the venue.

### 15. Roles for Councillors.

At the invitation of the Chairman, members noted the advantages of this suggestion but **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Amos, **SECONDED** by Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that members become more proactive in promoting the Parish Council in an effort to generate interest in filling the current vacancies. Members felt they already had specific areas of interest but Cllr Mrs. Wilkins was sad that many parishioners were either not aware of the existence of the Parish Council or its role. Members agreed this item should be considered again next month.

Clerk  
22/10

### 16. Report of the Officer of the Council.

Following a meeting attended by Cllr Mrs. Allen and the Clerk with the Safety Advisory Group, the new route for the Parade had been given approval in principle. The Clerk appealed for volunteers to deliver letters about Remembrance Parade Road Closures (50 letters to Chestnut Drive and 80 letters for Village Green residents) and this was jointly undertaken by Cllr Mrs. Allen and Cllr Mrs. Wilkins. The Clerk confirmed that invitations would shortly be sent to local organisations about the Parade and Village Green service, which would be slightly extended this year. Playground safety works and inspections had now been completed and emergency tree work was being clarified at Whateley Green. As mentioned earlier, thanks had been received from Bor Cllr Richards for the use of Arden Hall by the Borough Council to discuss traffic problems in Castle Bromwich with residents. Following the appointment of the new Chairman tonight, and recently the new Hall Manager, the Clerk would now proceed with ordering new stationery and Christmas cards. Following the Staff Panel meeting, advice was later received from NALC regarding employment matters relating to the Clerk. The NALC advice was tabled for all members and future consideration if required. Under confidential terms, a staff matter was tabled for information, without further discussion at this stage.

PA/BW  
30/9

Members  
to consider

### 17. Report of the Chairman

The Chairman reported that in his capacity of Vice-Chairman he had represented the Parish Council at the celebration event by Friends of Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens to mark the raising of £100,000 by the Friends. A cheque was presented by The Lord Mayor of Birmingham and the Mayor of Solihull to the Chairman of the Trustees to bring the total fundraising to £100,000. The Chairman thanked the Friends for inviting the Parish Council to this event and congratulated them on a marvellous achievement.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Council, formally thanked Cllr Mrs. Wilkins for her work whilst Chairman of the Parish Council, a role she had most competently carried out.