

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLE
BROMWICH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2010
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr Mrs. P Allen

Councillors: Cllr M Hayes Cllr J Horne-MacDonald Cllr Mrs. L Smith
 Cllr Mrs. A Haywood Cllr J Riordan Cllr J Whelan
 Cllr I Hiley Cllr Ms. J Smith Cllr Mrs. B. Wilkins

Officer: Mrs C Tibbles

Guests: Ms A Bettison, Mr G Morrice, Licensing Team - Solihull MBC [Items 1-6 only]

Public: 2 members of the public [Items 1-19 only]

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr R Amos, Cllr E Knibb, Cllr M Rashid, Cllr A Terry and Cllr Miss J Ward were noted for the reasons given.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

None declared.

3. Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Cllr Mrs. L Smith

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the signed declaration of acceptance of office be received. On behalf of the Council, the Chairman congratulated Cllr Mrs. Smith on her appointment and welcomed her to the parish council. **IT WAS AGREED** that a Cllr Mrs. L Smith join the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

4. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Cllr Horne-MacDonald, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hayes, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 27th October, 2010 be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

5. Guest Speakers: Licensing Issues.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms Bettison and Mr. Morrice addressed the meeting, explaining how the Licensing Act brought in 5 years ago affected residents and interested parties, like the parish council, with licensed premises. Old legislation had been brought together under one new Act, which the Borough Council reviewed periodically to assess effectiveness. Helpful information was made available for residents and advice was offered that when they made representations to the Borough Council to remember to always focus on how the licensing objectives would (or would not) be met by the applicant concerned. The 4 licensing objectives were the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. The Borough Council were responsible for issuing licenses to people and to premises, with six responsible authorities who were entitled to comment on all applications by making a representation to the Licensing Committee. Clarification was being considered by the government to define ‘vicinity’ in more detail. Representations had to be written and not frivolous or vexatious. Types of applications were explained, as were the review procedures which were helpful to residents if they were suffering distress as a result of licensed activities. Residents were encouraged, if they felt able to, to make a direct approach to the licensee, otherwise the Borough Council had a duty to negotiate with licensees to resolve problems when representations were made to them.

ACTION

The importance of real evidence was stressed, as hearsay was not a valid objection. In some circumstances the only valid objections allowed had to be made by the police on grounds of prevention of crime and disorder. The SMBC website was highlighted as the source of information giving application details and procedures. Helpful clarification was given to questions about definition of public nuisance (litter, noise and obnoxious smells), level of nuisance (subjective assessment), definition of vexatious (not trifling or futile or put forward for the purpose of annoyance or oppression). The Chairman thanked Ms. Bettison and Mr. Morrice for attending the meeting and their most helpful information. The Clerk undertook to make information available to absent councillors.

6. Questions from the Public.

In accordance with Standing Orders, the meeting was temporarily suspended so that members of the public could ask questions. Mr. Holland expressed his thanks to the Council for the excellent service and Parade on Remembrance Sunday and also the hospitality afterwards. He also thanked the Parish Council for providing extra attendance of the Mobile Warden at the Village Green, which had made a noticeable improvement to the litter problems and overflowing bins. He asked the Leisure Services Committee to consider relocating the white bin to the other end of the Green to enhance the appearance of the War Memorial and new sensory Peace Garden. He felt that currently it was most difficult to take photographs without the wheelie bin featuring in them so aesthetically it would be better placed elsewhere. He had noted some interest being taken in the empty Diktron building and also vehicles parking on the small green. The Clerk asked for details of dates, times, model and registration numbers which would be kept on file as notification letters were issued to owners of vehicles when possible. The Clerk was pleased to let Mr. Holland know, as one of the many voluntary Parade safety marshals, that chocolates had been brought to the office from a member of the public to thank all helpers at the Parade service, which she was endeavouring to distribute.

7. Questions from Councillors.

None submitted.

8. Communications.

Members noted the information listed.

9. To review appointment of Statutory or Standing Committees.

Cllr Hayes explained, for the benefit of new members, that the change to standing order 43 had been in operation for 12 months. **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to allow any councillor willing to volunteer to serve on both Leisure Services Committee and the Finance and General Purposes Committee to do so. The Clerk reminded members that the maximum number of serving members would need to remain one less than the full council membership.

10. Solihull MBC– Consultations.

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

- a) Question 3 – the preferred method of publicising the cost of Standards Complaints should be all 3 options to avoid excluding some people from the information (notification via SMBC Standards page website and a letter to the complainants and councillor and a notification to the Parish Council with a request for the matter to be reported to the meeting for information. Question 4 – a total figure for the whole process should be presented.
- b) The matter be deferred to the next meeting to enable members to speak to parishioners and neighbours who may have knowledge of local flooding

problems. Areas of potential concern could be Old Croft Lane, Springfield Road and Water Orton Road. Problems were sometimes linked to drainage capacity, high water table, non-porous driveways, increased water usage in addition to rainfall.

- c) The invitation to the key stakeholder event on Thursday 2nd December was noted but unfortunately with prior commitments no members were available to attend. The Clerk would email absent members to see if anyone was able to attend and gather information for the Parish Council.

ACTION
Council
15/12

Clerk
26/11

11. Steering Committee – Pavilion Redevelopment.

Following discussion of the suggestions, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that a small but committed Pavilion Redevelopment Steering Group should be formed, comprising 3 Cricket & Sports Club representatives, 1 borough councillor and 5 parish councillors volunteered to serve – Cllrs Hayes, Hiley, J Smith, Whelan and Wilkins. Cllr Ms. L Smith volunteered to serve as secretary and support the members in their endeavours. The first meeting was suggested for Monday 10th January 2011, at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion. Ward Cllr Mike Robinson was able to confirm his willingness to serve on this group. **IT WAS AGREED** that hirers and parish council staff could be invited to meetings when needed. Dates, frequency of meetings and draft terms of reference would be drafted at the first meeting for submission to the Council, with meetings sensibly being arranged 7-10 days prior to scheduled Parish Council meetings to enable their recommendations to be considered. The Group would effectively operate as a working party and have no delegated powers.

12. Website Disclaimer Policy.

Following consideration, the draft wording was to be reduced and the matter referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Clerk

13. Parish Council Projects.

Cllr Whelan reported he was willing to lead a review of the 2001 Community Appraisal and instigate the development of a parish plan for Castle Bromwich. He had spoken to Cllr Mrs. Haywood who had been involved in the Appraisal Project and he would be interested in speaking to others before inviting fellow councillors to establish a steering group at the January meeting. Cllr Mrs. L Smith had volunteered to lead the formation group for the University of the Third Age and the Clerk confirmed that she had begun distributing invitation letters to local groups and organisations for a pre-meeting taking place on Tuesday 11th January, as detailed in the letter tabled for members.

Council
26/1/11

14. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 3rd November 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 RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesdays, 27th October and 10th November, 2010, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

16. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Cllr Riordan reported that he had attended the Solihull Area Committee meeting on 18th November at Chadwick End Village Hall, where two guest speakers attended. Faisal Hussain, SMBC Head of Community & Voluntary relations spoke on the Compact Plus 2008 – 2013 which was a formal agreement to improve relations between the Solihull Partnership and the Third Sector. The aim was to improve the benefits to the community, saying that parish councils had great local knowledge of their community groups, in particular those that used their buildings. If the Council knew of a specific need that such groups required, Mr. Hussain would be happy to look at supporting them. The second speaker was Dave Simpson, SMBC Head of the Sustainable Development Team. He spoke on the Emerging Core Strategy which was a vision of what Solihull would look like in 2026. The plan is required to meet the Borough’s needs for housing until 2026, which could mean the building of 10,500 extra houses. Over 200 sites had been listed as possible locations, detail of which could be seen on the Local Development framework website. Public comments on the Emerging Core Strategy were invited until 10th December and the responses would be used to develop the final Core Strategy. If members would like copies of the paperwork accompanying these speakers’ presentations, please contact the Clerk.

Cllr Mrs. Wilkins reported that on Saturday, 13th November she had attended the half-yearly meeting of the Dame Mary Bridgeman Trust, with Cllr Alison Haywood. Apologies had been received from the Earl of Bradford, as Chairman, but Rev. Stuart Carter had been inducted as a new Trustee in his post as Vicar of St. Clements Church. Letters of thanks had been received for grants made in May 2010 and new applications considered for the three main areas covered – ecclesiastical, educational and community. The Doles for the Richard Knight Trust were also agreed with cheques being sent to recipients to help towards Christmas expenses. The next meeting date set for 14th May 2011.

Cllr Whelan reported that on 27th October he had attended the Environmental Monitoring Working Group meeting at the renamed and rebranded Birmingham Airport. Reports were given on air traffic levels, which were lower than those operating in 2009, with no growth in passenger numbers anticipated for 2011. Complaints were at the lowest level for 5 years, even though night flights had increased. Daytime activities were down and dispensation could be required as night flights should not exceed 5% of these levels. Initiatives were being taken on the environmental impact of aviation on climate change and noise, with targets set. In summer 2011 the instrument landing system would be replaced and a new line of approach for flights for 3 weeks, although since the recent accident some equipment would be replaced sooner. An eastern approach would also be used for some flights over the winter period, to reduce emissions. He said if anyone at the parish council had concerns about airport issues, he would be able to take matters to the committee on their behalf. He had been pleased to have a tour of the airport after the meeting.

Cllr Mrs. Haywood reported that on Tuesday, 9th November the Joint Liaison Group of the Council and Cricket & Sports Club had met with Tina Kite, Hall Manager, to discuss the Club licence, its operations and their implications for the parish council. Hiring and timing of bookings were also discussed, prior to the agreement to form a new steering group, possibly encompassing the role of the JLG. However, the licence was a different priority to the pavilion redevelopment and therefore that issue would be better dealt with separately. Tina Kite and Clerk would be reporting further on licence matters to LSC.

TK/Clerk
Asap

The Chairman reported that on Thursday 28th October she had attended Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens as a Trustee for their Halloween Day.

On Tuesday 2nd November she had attended the Youth Parish Council meeting and reminded members, as previously reported by the Clerk, that they had been challenged to a Skittles Night on Tuesday 4th January, 2011.

17. Clarification of appointment of representative to Solihull Partnership.

Members noted the report.

18. Report of the Officer of the Council.

The Clerk asked members to consider volunteering to talk at a future WALC training event next year, to promote parish and town councils and encourage interest from potential election candidates for May 2011. When a date was fixed for the event, likely to be at Arden Hall, the Clerk would seek assistance from 2 members. Park Hall Academy had made some tickets available for a production of Narnia from 13-15th December and if members wished to attend the Clerk would enquire about availability.

Members
Tba

19. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman reported that on Friday 12th November she had attended a Chris Beebee production and had a most enjoyable evening. She thanked them for their kind invitation. On Friday, 19th November, accompanied by the Clerk, she had laid a poppy wreath at the memorial in Solihull on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Chairman formally expressed her thanks to Councillor Eric Knibb on behalf of the Parish Council, for being the Link Councillor to the Youth Parish Council and representing the Parish Council as a governor at Castle Bromwich Junior School. Members were reminded of the Carol Concert taking place on Tuesday 30th November and tickets that had been ordered should be collected from the Clerk (£1 each) prior to that date.

The Chairman was sad to report that due to illness she had not been able to attend the Remembrance Parade and invited Cllr John Riordan to report on the event. She expressed her thanks to him for stepping in at very short notice. Cllr Riordan reported that on Sunday 14th November, he had attended the annual Remembrance Service as Vice Chairman, accompanied by other councillors at the War Memorial. The Service commenced with the dedication of the new memorial to those who had fallen in conflicts since 1945. It had been an honour to take the salute from the services marching at the Parade. He expressed his thanks to all involved in this well organised event.

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

Under confidential terms, members discussed the draft contracts. The Council's surveyor had clarified matters to the solicitor and the Clerk was asked to request the agreements be re-issued, with corrections made to the fee, costs and clarification of who the purchaser/owner of the premises were, who the developer would be and pictures of the outline development currently proposed. The developer/purchasers would be invited to the January council meeting and the council's solicitor invited to a pre-meeting of the Council on 15th December at 6.30 pm. A question was to be asked about the status of neighbouring negotiations.

Clerk
29/11