

important the consultees avoided vague or inaccurate assertions. It was the strength of the argument that was valid, not the strength of the opinion. Appeals were heard by the Planning Inspectorate and the Secretary of State could call appeals in as an alternative. Costs could be awarded and legal challenges had to pass the ‘Wednesbury reasonable test’. He explained about timescales for decisions, enforcement procedures, injunctions and formal action. Members then received helpful clarification on the following: useful to quote the guidelines when submitting views on planning applications; how to find information from planners and authorities; consultation with immediate neighbours, not required for near neighbours; option to register on SMBC website to be notified on applications in your vicinity; notices on lampposts for major applications; value of receiving local views based on local knowledge; offer to check development of concern if details were forwarded to officers; no current right for third parties to appeal against decisions although developers could; cost of appeals; how to register concerns about overdevelopment of properties and if relating to the policy for vehicle parking guidelines the parish council could ask it’s Ward members to see if that policy was set at the right level. On behalf of members, the Chairman thanked Mr. Palmer for his most thorough presentation and explanations.

ACTION

5. Questions from the Public.

Under Standing Order 3(d), the Chairman temporarily suspended standing orders for this item to invite questions from members of the public. A resident from the Bradford Ward mentioned problems with kitchen building extensions erroneously connecting to storm water drainage which caused environmental problems when contaminating rivers and brooks; asked about the new noticeboard for the Village Green (the Clerk confirmed that this was on a forthcoming agenda); reported more flytipping by the entrance to Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens (Cllr Mrs. Allen confirmed that SMBC were installing a CCTV camera); asked about the need to clear debris and vegetation on the old Birmingham Road again. The Chairman gave feedback on the matter raised at the last meeting about replacement street lighting by SMBC in the parish. Standing Orders were then resumed.

6. Questions from Councillors.

None.

7. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Cllr Hiley, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 25th February, 2015 be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

8. Communications.

Members noted the information listed, making particular reference to the new post office opening on Parkfield Drive, copy of template to be requested on community resilience, missing bank charges by Lloyds Bank and the potential for solar energy grants.

Asst. Clerk
asap
LSC
May/June

9. Length of Parish Council meetings.

Members concurred that meetings should conclude within 2 ½ hours and agreed that Chairmen endeavour to bear this in mind and move debates forward to meet this aim. However, the Chairman added that the presentation this evening had been so valuable and informative, it would have been counter-productive to restrict the time devoted to it.

MH/IRH/
AT/JR
04/15

10. Risk Schedule.

Following careful review, **IT WAS AGREED** that the Risk Schedule was an accurate reflection and it was accordingly signed by the four representatives of the council.

11. Revised Financial Regulations.

Members reviewed the draft document and agreed alterations and adoption of relevant clauses. Following completion, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr

Upton, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the revised Financial Regulations be adopted.

ACTION

12. Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 5th May 2015 in the Spencer Hall.

Following discussion, members felt that the meeting should be promoted in the normal way and if anyone wished to volunteer to design a poster, that may attract a wider audience than the traditional agenda. Two topics were to be included – Community Speedwatch and the update on the Parish Plan. All councillors were urged to attend.

Volunteer
urgent

13. Parish Plan.

Members noted the update from Age UK on the project for Castle Bromwich Library, that it was still endeavouring to obtain the necessary funding. Further information would be provided when timescales were known.

14. Finance and Payments.

a) Members noted the cost of ballot cards should there be a contested election and **AGREED** that they should not be requested. Should vacant seats need to be filled, the council could co-opt within 35 days of the election.

b) Members noted the latest income and expenditure report. A volunteer was required to scrutinize and sign the latest bank statements and reconciliations. Members authorised the provisional figures for earmarked reserves (subject to minor year end adjustments) for all of the normal cost centres, with the addition of the Community Project budget. The Clerk undertook to circulate final figures with the year end accounts (see appendix).

Member
25/3

Clerk
25/3

c) Cllr Hiley left the meeting, having declared a pecuniary interest in this item. Following clarification of questions about invoices to the Clerk, members noted the additions to the payment list and the latest salary payments concluded that week. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments as listed be approved. Cllr Hiley rejoined the meeting.

Admin Asst.
26/3

15. Report of the Staff Panel.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 2nd March, 2015, having been circulated, be received and noted.

16. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Hiley, **SECONDED** by the Chairman, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 4th March 2015, having been circulated, be received and noted.

17. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Terry, **SECONDED** by the Chairman, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 25th February and 11th March, 2015, having been circulated, be received and noted.

18. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

The Chairman reminded members that reports were only to be given for attending outside body events that this parish council appointed them to be its representatives.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that she had attended a volunteers meeting at Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens and would be attending a training event the next day.

Cllr Mrs. Haywood asked members to note that her reports for Castle Bromwich Junior School were only given on full governing body meetings.

Members noted with thanks the report provided by a resident who attended meetings at Birmingham Airport to represent Castle Bromwich. A member had researched additional information on airport data, which could be accessed via this link:

index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=30&Itemid=79.html

19. Report of the Officer of the Council.

The Clerk informed members of an unexpected resignation from a recent staff appointment. In light of the dual difficulties this created for staff to adhere to budgetary restrictions whilst working additional hours to maintain services for hire customers, the Clerk and the Hall Manager were in agreement on an alternative staff appointment that could be instigated quickly. This was discussed by members who gave differing views on the course of action they preferred to see. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hiley, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Standing Order 3(aa) be suspended for 10 minutes to enable the meeting to be concluded. The Clerk would make a decision under her delegated powers to endeavour to solve this unexpected problem. The Clerk would also request that arrangements be made for a Warden to work with the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust to measure the locations outlined and then attend planting days with other volunteers and community groups when the dates were set.

ACTION

Clerk
Asap

Hall Mgr
Asap

20. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman reported that he had not attended any events since the last meeting.

21. Staff Working Party.

Members noted the update from the Chairman on behalf of the working party. Although issues were not quite concluded, he remained hopeful that resolution would be reported at the next council meeting. He reminded members of the working party to check emails and respond accordingly.

Staff WP
asap

