

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLE
BROMWICH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 25TH APRIL 2012
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr M Hayes

Councillors: Cllr Mrs. P Allen Cllr E Knibb Cllr A Terry
 Cllr Mrs. A Haywood Cllr M Rashid Cllr Miss J Ward
 Cllr E Hicks Cllr J Riordan Cllr J Whelan
 Cllr I Hiley Cllr Mrs. L Smith Cllr Mrs. B Wilkins

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

Public: 1 member of the public

1. Apologies.

ACTION

The apologies from Cllr J Horne-MacDonald were noted for the reason given. Cllr R Amos was absent.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Cllr Riordan, SECONDED by Cllr Rashid, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 28th March, 2012 be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

4. Questions from Councillors.

Cllr Miss Ward asked if there had been any confirmed change to the plans for McCarthy & Stone to build a retirement development in Castle Bromwich. There had been no formal notification of any change to the Parish Council.

The Chairman asked if members wished the recent presentation shown on work being undertaken in Castle Bromwich by the parish council to be expanded and there was a consensus that this would be useful for the Annual Parish Meeting being held on 1st May at 8 pm.

5. Questions from the Public.

In accordance with Standing Orders, the meeting was temporarily adjourned so that members of the public could ask questions. A parishioner raised two matters for the council to consider: that the parish council could make an application to the local 'Community Chest' for a dome style camera to help the police and partners in the community deal with hot spot issues; that the parish council prepare to put Castle Bromwich on the map with improved signage and possibly re-opening the Birmingham Road to allow traffic to enter the village. Cllr Whelan said that more detailed information on the latter proposal would likely be part of the Parish Plan Steering Group. The Clerk offered to find information on a specialist scheme installed successfully in other Midlands locations. Feedback reported on previous requests was that the wheelie bin sticker scheme and noticeboard requests were still being researched.

6. Communications.

Members noted the information listed.

7. Campaign for Mitigation – HS2.

The visit by members to view the large scales maps had not yet taken place. The Clerk was hopeful that a date would soon be confirmed.

Asst Clerk
asap

8. Notice of Audit 2011/12

ACTION

Members noted that the notice of audit had been duly received and displayed.

9. Finance and Payments.

Following resolution of queries on cleaning bills and lemons, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Terry, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments as circulated, be approved.

Admin
Asst
26/4

10. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Allen, **SECONDED** by Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 4th April 2012, having been circulated, be duly received and noted.

11. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Terry, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesdays, 28th March and 11th April 2012, having been circulated, be duly received and noted.

12. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that on Sunday 1st April she had attended the opening of the new season at Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens. Unfortunately it wasn't very busy as the weather was not very good. On Saturday 7th April she had again attended Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens for the Easter Event. This was very well attended although the weather had been a little chilly, it was a very pleasant afternoon. On Thursday 19th April she had attended the Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens Trustees meeting. As with every other organisation, they needed financial support with more funding. She hoped the weather would keep fine so that they could have lots of visitors to promote the gardens. At the meeting she was thanked by the Trust for the hard work she had done with decorating at the Visitors Centre.

Cllr Riordan reported that Cllr Knibb, the Clerk and he had attended a WALC Solihull Area Committee meeting at The Parish Hall, Marston Green on 12th April. The majority of the meeting was taken up with a discussion about the high speed railway HS2, in particular the "what was described as remote stance" taken by SMBC as opposed to the proactive stance taken by our neighbouring council in Warwickshire. It was decided that Solihull Area Committee would write to SMBC asking for information and answers to questions raised in the HS2 discussion. A copy of this letter would be available to members in due course. The next Standards Committee meeting was scheduled to take place in the next few weeks and it was expected that SMBC would then present a report describing the new standards regime that SMBC will adopt following the abolition of the previous statutory regime. It was decided to invite the Monitoring Officer to the next Solihull Area Committee meeting on 12th July to discuss this topic. The Solihull Area Committee Charter Working Group had updated the current Charter document and produced a revised draft version. The Charter document focused on how Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and Parish and Town Councils can better work together. The updated version will be issued to SMBC for their comments.

Cllr Terry reported that on Monday 2nd April, he and Cllr Mrs. Wilkins had attended the Community Forum meeting on HS2. He had expressed concerns about the impact on wildlife and the need to include the relevant organisations, like RSPB Wetlands and

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

Wildlife Trust, to be involved in the Forum. Maps had been shown with HS2 possibly using an open platform at the old Castle Bromwich station. It was disappointing to note that the decisions to proceed with HS2 had been made in a disjointed and un-coordinated fashion, with no assessment made of the ecological implications.

13. Report of the Officer of the Council.

The Clerk reported that the latest Police Crime Briefing had been received, although members noted that a known violent burglary seemed not to be on the listing. On 31st May a Local Authority Law Conference was taking place in Birmingham, with places costing £50. This included a valuable session on the latest situation with Judicial Reviews and Governance, which was changing rapidly due to the Localism Act and Standards Board abolition.

14. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman reported that on 7th April he had attended the Easter Event at Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens, when sadly the weather could have been a little better. He had found it quite daunting to help to judge the Easter Bonnet competition and feared upsetting the many children who had worked so hard with their creations. He thanked the Trust for the hospitality he had received and particularly enjoyed being shown around the gardens by David Adams.

DRAFT