

the 13 officers in the Solihull response team could be diverted to other incidents. The log showed this had happened 4 minutes after an officer had been sent to a recent incident. Current problems in Castle Bromwich were theft and motor vehicle crime and a leaflet drop was being done locally by officers to raise awareness. Shift patterns for the team had also been changed to enable them to tackle the problems. Councillors asked questions on addressing quad bikes problems on Water Orton Road, being asked to supply patterns of behaviour if possible to help identify the timing; problems with delinquents and whether policing levels were sufficient or drained by Olympic pressures, being told that some resources were taken away although overtime was available currently; how were children being protected, being told that officers engaged with playgroups, youngsters in parks and tried to divert youths into summer activities organized by Solihull MBC; a serious local incident had been reported by several callers but which the police had not attended. A member then asked about the sale of Coleshill police station and the shutting of Chelmsley Wood station which left people wondering where to go to find the police. Sgt. Mirza said the front desk, staffed by civilians, had been re-located to the Bluebell Centre and Mrs. Magee added that Chief Supt. Bourner wanted feedback about the changes. The Chairman summarized that members of the public felt abandoned by the changes, even if they were intended to reach more of the population. Mrs. Magee heard of the concerns that the shopping centre was only open at certain times, that not everyone was familiar with the centre and that facilities for prisoners and access to officers was unclear. Sgt. Mirza said it was important to feedback these views if people felt that the move was having an adverse effect for them and a significant impact on their community.

5. Questions from Councillors.

None submitted.

6. Questions from the Public.

In accordance with Standing Orders, the meeting was temporarily suspended at 7.55 pm so that members of the public could ask questions. A resident from the Beechcroft ward commented that Sgt. Mirza was the 8th person to hold the post since he had been at parish council meetings. Sgt. Mirza acknowledged that retirements had caused some changes. A resident from the Bradford ward referred to the hostility from youths in Castle Bromwich at times and asked what number of officers were available to respond to incidents when calls were made. Sgt. Mirza replied there were 5 officers and 3 PCSO's in the team serving Castle Bromwich and Smiths Wood and when they were off duty the Community Priority Action Team of 12 officers took over responsibility to attend. There were no further questions for the guest speakers, who were thanked by the Chairman for attending the meeting and the helpful information they had given.

A resident from the Beechcroft ward referred to Cllr Hiley's question raised at the May meeting and asked if the parish council had well organized regular press releases as part of an effective marketing tool? He expanded further on the ideas he had. The Chairman replied that the marketing working party had started to consider such matters. Cllr Mrs. Haywood thanked the resident for his timely question and added that the working party was organising a new event on 9th October. A Business Breakfast, with a guest speaker, was being held at Arden Hall and further planning meetings taking place in August to develop plans to invite local businesses to work together.

The Chairman of Castle Bromwich Cricket and Sports Club outlined the aims of the Club that was established 59 years ago and stated he had sought to keep his promise in January to rebuild a relationship with the parish council. However, last Saturday the Club had not been allowed access to the dressing rooms until 1.30 pm for the cricket match

and he asked for an explanation why and if the Council would work with him to educate and nurture young people through sport? The Chairman replied that the Council would need to debate their response at the agenda item at the end of the meeting. Mr. Afzal then referred to the Project Footprint scheme and reported on the different aspects being faced. He asked if the Council would provide a free-of-charge indoor room in the event of bad weather for the fitness group operating for 20 members in the park? He asked the Council to consider the effect on the Club's bar revenue by not allowing drinking outside? He asked for the suspension of their new bookings to be lifted and for the Council to again re-examine the membership list as it had not been correctly submitted previously? He asked why the parish council was not consistent by charging children to play cricket in the park and asked for it to be free of charge to continue the Clubs excellent work? He asked for a new licence agreement to be put in place to help the club access funding? The Chairman asked members if they required any clarification on the questions asked and members had no questions for Mr. Afzal. The Chairman informed Mr. Afzal that members would need to consider his questions carefully and respond in due course.

7. Communications.

Members noted the information listed. Cllr Mrs. Allen commended the Park Hall Academy charity event that she had attended.

8. Code of Conduct.

Members noted the changes made in July by Solihull MBC to the draft code that had been circulated by the Clerk. After discussion, the Clerk undertook to re-issue the Code of Conduct in the format adopted by the parish council which could then be signed by members, with a review agreed after six months once training had been received.**ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Knibb, **SECONDED** by Cllr Amos, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Register of Interests form, as supplied by Solihull MBC, be adopted. The Clerk confirmed that no new Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms were to be signed, although the new design would be used in future.

Clerk
Sept.12

Council
Jan.13

9. War Memorial Safety Work.

Members noted that at the site visit, it was discovered that the circular slab design was not suitable as a replacement and that a staggered rectangular design would be laid as an alternative. The Clerk believed this should still give the desired improvement for disabled access and drainage.

10. Solihull Local Development Framework: Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document - Preferred Options.

Members noted the plan did not have a direct impact on Castle Bromwich.**ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hiley, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Council strongly disagreed with the use of green belt land but if such developments did proceed they should be better utilised.

Clerk
asap

11. Finance and Payments.

Cllr Hiley withdrew from the meeting. After resolution of queries to the Clerk, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Miss Ward, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments as listed be approved. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Terry, **SECONDED** by the Chairman, **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the usage and opportunities at Hob Farm recreation ground be discussed at the September Leisure Services Committee.

Admin
Asst
26/7

LSC
09/12

12. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Allen, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT**

WAS RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 4th July 2012, having been circulated, be received and noted.

ACTION

13. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Terry, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hicks, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 27th June and 11th July 2012, having been circulated, be received and noted.

14. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Cllr Riordan reported that Councillor Knibb, the Clerk and he had attended a WALC Solihull Area Committee meeting at Fentham Hall, Hampton in Arden on 12th July. The meeting opened with guest speakers: - Philip Lloyd-Williams, Monitoring Officer SMBC and Deborah Merry, Deputy Monitoring Officer SMBC who spoke on the new standards regime and what it meant for Parish & Town Councils. Solihull Borough Councillors had formally adopted a new Code of Conduct on Tuesday 10th July, which was drawn up by Solihull Council in collaboration with Coventry and Warwickshire Councils. It had been written in the first person singular as a promise by the Member to the community as to how the Member would undertake their duties. Solihull MBC still had the responsibility to consider complaints that a parish councillor had breached their local code. Solihull Council would have to make suitable arrangements for receiving, investigating and determining complaints. They intended to produce a procedure that was fair, efficient and proportionate. There would be a strong emphasis on informal resolution where possible. Hearings, which would be open to the public, would be conducted by a sub-committee of the Governance Committee. No parish councillors would be permitted to sit on this committee but they would endeavour to arrange for a Borough Councillor who was also a parish councillor to be a committee member if a parish council complaint was being dealt with. The cost of operating the new standards regime would be borne by Solihull Council. Councillors would continue to be required to complete a register of interests, which must be published on the parish council's website. Copies would also appear on SMBC's website, with each parish council having its own dedicated web page. The concept of 'personal' and 'prejudicial' interests was abolished and replaced with a statutory requirement to register and disclose certain specified pecuniary interests as defined in Government regulations. SMBC had adopted a form to cover Member's interests encompassing the statutory minimum requirements, although parish councils could go beyond the basic minimum if they wished. If a councillor should feel they have a conflict of interest in a council meeting which is outside of the statutory disclosable pecuniary interests, they could declare that in the meeting and this would be recorded in the minutes but would not need to be on the member's register of interests. There was no requirement to declare gifts and hospitality but SMBC members considered it good practice to do so and would therefore continue to declare such gifts in excess of £25. Solihull MBC intended to review the operation of their standards regime after 12 months. The next item on the agenda was a discussion about the high speed railway HS2. At the previous meeting it was decided that SAC would write to Solihull MBC asking for information and answers to questions relating to HS2. The reply to this letter was discussed and agreed that the answers were generic in nature and that SAC would write again for more specific answers. It was stated that a recent development was that Solihull MBC was seeking talks with the Secretary of State for Transport to press for specific design improvements to the HS2 scheme in order to minimise the impact for Solihull residents. It was also agreed at the last meeting that the updated SAC version of the

Charter document would be issued to Solihull MBC for their comments. It was reported that Solihull Council Overview & Scrutiny Board would consider the document in September. The meeting concluded with AGM items and appointment of positions on the Solihull Area Committee. The next meeting would be at Arden Hall on 18th October.

On the 17th July Cllr Riordan had attended a meeting of the North Solihull Partnership Forum at Kingshurst Evangelical Church when two presentations had been given. The first one had been on Health Service changes presented by Dr Stephen Murray, Director of Public Health. He talked about the Government changes to the NHS, public health and social care, which had now become law and had to be implemented. Patients would not necessarily see day to day changes with their GPs and hospitals as it was the organisation behind these services that had changed. New responsibilities had been given to local authorities and he outlined Solihull's response. The second presentation had been on Neighbourhood Planning in Solihull given by Sarah James, Principal Planning Officer SMBC. Neighbourhood planning was part of the Government's Localism agenda and was a new way for communities to shape the future of their area. Where an area was parished, the Parish Council would take the lead in this. She outlined the 8 key stages in formulating a Neighbourhood Plan. A guidance document was being compiled by Solihull MBC and would be available very soon. A copy of the two presentations could be obtained from the clerk. The next meeting would be on 31st October.

Cllr Knibb reported that he had attended the WALC quarterly meeting held in Leamington Spa Town Hall on 16th July. The meeting had covered some important ground, especially the possible and probable future for town and parish councils. WALC had hosted numerous workshops to assist councils getting started on their Neighbourhood Development plans, the last of the current series concluded this evening. However, he was sure another series was being planned and would focus on the rash of changing requirements coming out of government at the present time. Targets were agreed for 2012-13 for WALC activities and a Strategic Plan of Key Activities for 2012-16 was agreed. The WALC end of year financial statements and end of year accounts were approved and accepted. The new Standards Framework and Code of Conduct were heavily discussed, as was the WCC and SMBC working with Parish & Town Councils and the exchange of information between them. Members also heard from NALC and other local CALC's on increased level of co-operation and possible future mergers of like minded organisations and WALC agreed to contribute to the contracting of a consultant to investigate the practicalities and advantages of doing so. The next meeting would be on 10th October, again at Leamington Spa Town Hall.

Cllr Knibb also reported on a training event that he had attended on 21st July.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that on Tuesday 3rd July the Youth Council meeting discussed the Picnic in the Park Jubilee event. The Youth Council had also been invited to visit the Switch Radio station in Castle Vale. It was hoped they may have the new camcorder funded by their successful grant application to record the visit. After the Youth Council meeting there was a skittles match with Coleshill Youth Council. It was disappointing that only three youth councillors attended but there were nine from Coleshill and a good evening was had by all. On Wednesday 1st August she would accompany the Youth Council to the Birmingham Children's Hospital to present them with a cheque.

On Thursday, 19th July Cllr Mrs. Allen had attended a meeting of Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens Trustees that was held to approve the accounts. Two Trustees had resigned due to health reasons.

15. Report of the Officer of the Council.

ACTION

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

The Clerk reported that Solihull MBC had acknowledged the parish council's request for financial information about road and parking maintenance/improvements (amended to 2012/13) which they hoped to supply in September, an invitation sent to Solihull MBC for a site meeting regarding pedestrian crossing assessment and a request about consultation on funding arrangements for localising support for council tax had been made. A new government consultation had just been received regarding abolishing the requirement for two councillors to sign every payment and she was willing to respond as the councils RFO, in consultation with the Chairmen, as the closing date was prior to the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting. The Clerk thanked Cllr Mrs. Allen, Cllr Mrs Haywood, Cllr Knibb, two youth Councillors and Mr. Haywood for their assistance with the reception for the Solihull in Bloom judges that had taken place on Monday. She requested advice on the cost of refreshments and members felt this should be borne by the parish council. A Pension Consultation had been received but the workshop booked by the Clerk had unfortunately been cancelled on 19th July. She felt unable to respond to the consultation as she was a member of the Scheme. The Clerk then reported that she had security concerns on a council issue which required her action and, after a confidential discussion, she undertook to make further investigations.

Clerk
3/9

Clerk
8/8

Clerk
8/8

16. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman reported that he had not attended any events on behalf of the council since the last meeting.

17. Hirer Issues.

After careful consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Allen, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the matter be discussed under confidential terms. The questions posed by Mr. Afzal were in addition to the letter he had submitted to Council and tabled for members (due to its late arrival). Members recalled their previous consideration of youth cricket charges and that decision would stand. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that Standing Order 1a be suspended to allow the matter to be discussed. After consideration of these and other problems, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Amos, **SECONDED** by the Chairman, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Clerk invite the hirer to supply the membership records to be verified for the third time against the electoral roll, again with a statement signed by the Chairman that the records were complete and accurate; that councillors on the Liaison Group meet with the Club Chairman and Club Secretary, with the addition of either Cllr Mrs. Wilkins or Cllr Hiley, to explain the issues that were not clear, to re-iterate matters already decided and to put remaining matters to Council for further consideration in September.

Clerk
Asap

Liaison
Group
Asap

Council
26/9