

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLE
BROMWICH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 26TH JANUARY 2011
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr Mrs. P Allen

Councillors: Cllr R Amos Cllr E Knibb Cllr A Terry
 Cllr M Hayes Cllr M Rashid Cllr Miss J Ward
 Cllr Mrs. A Haywood Cllr J Riordan Cllr J Whelan
 Cllr I Hiley Cllr Mrs. L Smith Cllr Mrs. B. Wilkins
 Cllr J Horne-MacDonald

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

Public: 3 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first full council meeting of the New Year.

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr Ms. J Smith were noted for the reason given.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Amos, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 15th December, 2010 be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

4. Questions from the Public.

In accordance with Standing Orders, the meeting was temporarily suspended so that members of the public could ask questions. A resident from the Park Hall ward raised concerns about regular drug activity taking place on church premises that had been reported 2 months previously to the police but was still happening. Cllr Mrs. Haywood confirmed that the church in question had been visited by the police and was endeavouring to work with them to get rid of the nuisance. Taxis had also been forbidden to park there and the post office contacted regarding antisocial nuisance emanating from their installation. Litter from takeaway packaging had also increased, although church members worked hard to clear the garden and other outside areas. A resident from the Bradford ward had witnessed suspected drug dealing by the Village Green and urged for identifying details to be passed to the police when spotted. He suggested the Parish Council consider encouragement of displaying large 30 mph signs by residents on dustbins, which he had noticed to be an extremely effective traffic calming measure he had seen in operation in another area. Councillors seemed to feel this idea was worthy of further investigation and the Clerk welcomed the opportunity to establish details.

5. Questions from Councillors.

None submitted.

6. Communications.

Members noted the information listed. At the request of Cllr Riordan, the request to consider providing land for allotments was to be placed on the Leisure Services Agenda. Cllr Terry asked about the Localism Bill and members noted the additional NALC briefing that had since been received and tabled for information by the Clerk.

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7. Parish Plan Steering Group.

Following careful consideration, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Amos, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the recommendations be adopted, namely Cllr Whelan to act as Chair, Cllr Mrs. L Smith to be secretary, Cllr Mrs. Haywood to be a member with a representative from the Youth Council being requested. Volunteers from the community would be invited to join who would be interested in crime and disorder, sport, education and environment or other topics. The Chairman thanked Cllr Whelan for chairing this initiative. Provisional aims would be to meet during the spring, canvass opinions from parishioners in the summer, analyse results and draft plan in the autumn and finalise plan for approval by Council in 2012.

ACTION

Youth Council

Steering Group On-going

8. Pavilion Development Steering Group.

Members noted the report by Cllr Hayes that the Steering Group had held its initial meeting and elected Bor. Cllr Robinson to be the independent chairman. Unfortunately, due to insufficient attendance, discussions were not commenced. Two dates were set for future meetings and 3 parish councillors from the 5 volunteers previously agreed were requested to attend each meeting.

MH, IH, JS, JTW, BW (LS) 21/2 & 21/3 Committee Room AH

9. Members Allowances 2010/2011.

Following earlier distribution of forms to eligible members, it was noted that they should be completed and returned to the Clerk by 10th February.

10. Precept 2011/2012.

Following the setting of budgets previously, members were reminded that the results of the Hire Charge Review were detailed in Item 9 of the Leisure Services Committee minutes. Since the last meeting the Clerk had received confirmation from the Borough Council of the tax base for 2011/2012 and, as this affected the precept levied on each household in the parish, revised calculations were tabled (with minor variations being pointed out). Members noted the healthy figures, the preparatory work undertaken by both committees, with the aim of an overall zero effect on the precept to be set. **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hayes, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that there should be no increase on the current precept, with the precept for 2011/2012 remaining £219,288, which for a Band D house would equate to the slightly lower amount of £53.03 per annum.

11. Working Parties.

Members noted the report by Cllr Mrs. Haywood of the Buildings Working Party that had met on 19th January 2011, the discuss the management of the Spencer Hall refurbishment, with work to be assessed for ceilings, windows, doors, stage, wiring, heating, air conditioning, kitchen and décor, with members agreeing that essential information was needed on ceiling, windows and doors before reporting to the March Leisure Services Committee. There had been no meetings of the Grants or Standing Orders working parties.

23/2

12. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 5th January 2011, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

13. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Hayes, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. L Smith, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance

ACTION

and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 12th January, 2011, having been circulated, be received, approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

14. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Cllr Riordan reported that on Thursday 20th January he had attended the Annual WALC County Committee meeting held in Warwick Town Council Offices. At this meeting a new Chairman was elected for a 2 year term of office and representatives on other bodies were appointed. The annual meeting was followed by the quarterly meeting of the WALC County Committee. Various financial matters were discussed including an alternative bank account to maximise return from WALC finances and member council's subscription rates for 2011-12 would be held at the same level as this current year. The NALC affiliation fee would also remain at the same level as 2010 -11. The meeting concluded with reports from WALC representatives. Copies of all the paperwork associated with these meetings could be obtained from the Clerk.

The Chairman reported that on Sunday, 16th January, she had attended a volunteers meeting at Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens, representing the council as a Trustee, when changes to the opening hours were agreed. The tour of Castle Bromwich Hall had been successful and she recommended keeping an eye on their website as this popular opportunity may be repeated with another guided tour before the Hall hopefully opened in March.

15. Report of the Officer of the Council.

Members noted the update from the Clerk regarding the information leaflet for parishioners that unfortunately could not be accommodated by Solihull MBC with their rates notifications, the on-going emergency repairs to the Sports Pavilion, the induction training by WALC on Saturday 9th April for newly appointed councillors (information tabled) and the delay in contract information for the land option. Members noted the insurance claim made by the Council the previous year had been fully settled. A budget printout was tabled for all members.

16. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman reported that on Thursday 16th December she had drawn the charity raffle at Dantans Hairdressers in Hurst Lane, which raised £210 for a Breast Cancer charity. Also on 16th December, the Clerk had accompanied her to the Park Hall Academy Presentation evening. She thanked them for their kind invitation to this most enjoyable occasion. On Friday, 17th December she had enjoyed attending the Age Concern Christmas Party, held here at Arden Hall. On Tuesday, 4th January she had attended the Youth Council meeting when a brief discussion had taken place about more planting of the sensory garden at the village green, planning a possible event for the Royal Wedding. Minutes of the Youth Council meetings were always available in the folder for anyone who would like a copy. The Skittles Night had been a most enjoyable occasion, which the Youth Council had won. On Wednesday, 19th January the Village Green working party considered the raised bed in the Garden of Memory, possibilities including azalea, roses for the Royal Wedding and Diamond Jubilee, poppy's for the British Legion's 90th anniversary, various ground cover plants.