

Hurst Lane Place improvements. The Clerk would provide details of the two defended liability claims at the next Leisure Services Committee meeting.

ACTION

9. Register of Pecuniary Interests.

Members confirmed they had reviewed their Register entries and that details were correct. The Clerk had received one form which she would submit.

Clerk
asap

10. Standing Orders.

Following consideration of advice received from WALC, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Standing Order 4 should be finalized as: “(a) The Standing Committees are Leisure Services Committee and Finance and General Purposes Committee and membership will comprise a minimum of 9 members and up to a maximum of 14 and be open to all members to join.

Clerk
asap

11. Consultation – Solihull MBC School Organisation Plan 2014.

Members noted this document with interest.

Asst Clerk
30/1

12. Consultation on Local Government Financial Settlement.

Members noted the consultation had been launched late in December and closed prior to this meeting. The Clerk was requested to submit an appropriate response from the Council, noting the unrealistic timescale for this late consideration.

Clerk
asap

13. Parish Plan.

As requested at the last meeting, there were no members volunteering to lead on implementation of the Parish Plan. The Chairman therefore wished to keep the topic on future agendas. Members suggested that local organisations be contacted and asked if they wished to become involved in any of the aspects, possibly establishing a parish plan committee or working party at a future date.

Asst Clerk
20/2

14. Budget Plan 2015-2016.

Following consideration and subject to minor amendment of the future Parish Plan allocation to £2000 and professional fees to £4500, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Budget Plan be adopted and the Staff Working party explore the 2016/17 budget to scrutinize operational efficiency, with a temporary delay in confirming future booking requests for that year to allow the council flexibility for smarter working practices. Cllr Upton understood the council’s desire to increase income but believed there was some scope for saving expenditure, which he would continue to explore. The Clerk reminded members of recent changes by the Hall Manager to evening hire functions that had increased cost effectiveness. Cllr Knibb thanked the Chairman for his work on the budget who in turn thanked Cllr Riordan and everyone who had attended meetings to discuss the budget.

15. Precept 2015-2016.

On the basis of the indicative information provided by Solihull MBC, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the precept for 2015-2016 should be £221,395. This meant no increase to the Band D charge which would remain the same as the current year - £57.73.

Clerk
30/1

16. Elections.

Information was being received and additional advice would follow in due course. Members noted the importance of correctly following procedures and the Chairman offered to co-ordinate ward representation if members informed him of their preferences.

MH/
Members
asap

17. North Area Neighbourhood Ward Action Plan.

Members discussed the issues of concern. **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman,

SECONDED by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that Standing Order 3 (aa) should be suspended for 30 minutes to allow the meeting to be concluded. With the permission of members, a member of the public pointed out legislative changes being introduced by Birmingham City Council. Members suggested the existing priorities for Castle Bromwich should be continued, with the addition of tackling antisocial behaviour. It was also suggested that an invitation be extended to the Neighbourhood Coordinator to host a future review meeting at Arden Hall. A member asked about the monitoring process of these plans.

ACTION

Asst Clerk
9/2

18. Finance and Payments.

a) Members noted the latest income and expenditure report and Cllr Upton volunteered to scrutinize and sign the latest bank statements and reconciliations and VAT return.

b) Following clarification of questions about invoices to the Clerk, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Horne-MacDonald, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments as listed be approved.

Clerk
29/1

19. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesdays, 7th and 21st January 2015, having been circulated, be received and noted.

20. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Horne-MacDonald, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 14th January, 2015, having been circulated, be received and noted.

21. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Cllr Knibb's report on the Annual Meeting, followed by the Quarterly meeting of WALC County Committee, held on 20th January at Royal Leamington Town Hall had been circulated and was taken as read. The next meeting would be on 22nd April 2015.

Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that she had attended the Carol Concert at Castle Bromwich Junior School on 19th December which had been most enjoyable.

22. Report of the Officer of the Council.

There were no urgent matters for the Clerk to report.

23. Report of the Chairman.

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

24. Staff Working Party.

Under Standing Order 3c, **ON THE PROPOSITION** of the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest, as if members of the public were present during the consideration of such business, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information under paras 1 and 11 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act, that the public be temporarily excluded and be instructed to withdraw for this item and the remainder of the meeting. The Chairman reported that two members had received a communication. Members also noted a report that had been tabled. Following brief discussion of the council policy clarified on 26th November, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Staff Working Party (represented by 2 members) should urgently relay the full details of the relevant policy to the member of staff and request that any concerns should be specifically detailed. **IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Staff Working Party consider these concerns by meeting at 7 pm on 4th February in the Council meeting room.

MH/IRH
urgent

Staff WP
4/2