

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLE
BROMWICH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN ARDEN HALL, CASTLE BROMWICH
ON WEDNESDAY 30TH JANUARY 2013
AT 7.30 PM**

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr M Hayes

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

Officers: Mrs. C Tibbles, Clerk to the Council and RFO

Public: 2 members of the public

1. Apologies.

The apologies from Cllr J Horne-MacDonald, Cllr Mrs. L Smith, Cllr Miss J Wardand Cllr J Whelan werenoted for the reasons given.Cllr R Amos was absent.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or conflict of interests.

None.

3. Dispensations.

None received.

4. Presentation of Award for Service to the Community – Megan McLaughlin, Park Hall Academy.

The Chairman reported that unfortunately Miss McLaughlin was unwell and the presentation would therefore be deferred to a future meeting.

5. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

Following acceptance of two minor printing errors on page 1 and page 2, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** CllrMrs. Wilkins, **SECONDED** by Cllr Riordan, **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 19thDecember, 2012be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

6. Questions from Councillors.

None received.

7. Questions from the Public.

In accordance with Standing Orders, the meeting was temporarily suspendedso that members of the public could ask questions. Two residents from the Bradford ward reported that vehicles had driven on the Village Green, which was a breach of the byelaws and requested that additional bollards be installed to prevent this. This matter, and other issues of dog fouling at the Green, new/extra signage and repairs to dog bins would be referred to the next meeting of the Leisure Services Committee. Requests for dog bins in other locations would be referred to the Borough Council. The Clerk undertook to obtain costs for a better design of dog bin which would deter tampering. A resident also asked again about the Old Birmingham Road being re-opened and tidied. Cllr Mrs. Allen said she had asked the Environment Champions to do litter picks again in Castle Bromwich and hoped this would be soon.Feedback was given by the Clerk on the response of the Borough Council to the parish council concerns about speeding traffic by the war memorial and the matter was referred to the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

8. Communications.

Members noted the information listed.The Chairman had been pleased to note the breaking news that the recommendation of the Boundary commission to change constituencies had been

ACTION

02/13
Tbc

LSC
6/2

FGP
13/2

defeated in parliament. The Chairman requested that members read the document from the Borough Council which gave advice on the details needed in their Registration of Disclosure of Interest and review the accuracy of their current entries. The CCLA investment opportunities were referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

ACTION

FGP
13/2

9. Budget Working Party.

Following discussion and explanations, the report of the Budget Working Party was duly noted and accepted.

10. Precept 2013/2014.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Cllr Riordan, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the draft budgets recommended by the Standing Committees be accepted. Members noted with regret that the changes by central government under the Localism Act to the system of Council Tax Benefit had caused great uncertainty due to the late decisions and the complexity on how it would be administered. After very careful consideration and some unease about future years, **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** Cllr Hiley, **SECONDED** by Cllr Rashid, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the precept for 2013/14 should be decreased to £210,989 and supplemented by part of the government grant being passed on by the Borough Council of £14,878. The Parish Council wished parishioners to know that this would result in a zero change for the council Precept income as it had absorbed increases in costs from reserves. Any increase to individual council tax bills was a consequence of the changes by central government to the tax base. Serious implications remained for future years and parishioners should know that for the first time the parish council precept had been directly affected financially due to central government changes. Parish and town councils were having to adapt now, and in future years, to changing financial conditions that were entirely out of their control. It was anticipated that in future years the Government grant, received this year in part at Castle Bromwich to help compensate for national decisions, would next year reduce or could completely cease. It would not be possible for the parish council reserves to continue to sustain 0% changes to precept income and parishioners were urged to bear their responsibility for getting involved with the parish council to shape their future and help to decide what the priority should be at this very local level. Views would be invited on Tuesday 7th May at the Annual Parish Meeting. Despite increases in operating costs, members had agreed prudent savings from the first draft budget of £21,790. The council had secured additional income of £10,529 via successful grant funding applications.

Parishioners
7/5 at 8 pm

11. Footloose Project.

Members noted the mini-consultation would take place on 1st and 2nd March in the Windsor Room and an appeal was made to all members to help. Cllrs Rashid and Knibb offered to help Cllr Amos on the Friday evening. Cllr Mrs. Wilkins offered to help on the Saturday morning. Cllr Mrs. Haywood could assist at either session and Cllr Mrs. Allen would help at both sessions. The Chairman and Cllr Hicks gave their apologies.

All
members
to confirm
asap

12. Access Request – Village Green.

The Clerk reported the council solicitor's advice and following consideration, it was **AGREED** that the previous plan of action agreed at Leisure Services Committee in May 2012 should be continued with to its conclusion.

Clerk
Feb/Mar

13. Pedestrian Crossing Request.

Members noted the letter received from Centro which indicated they had no objection to the removal of the layby outside Arden Hall. **ON THE PROPOSITION OF** the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the response be passed to the Borough Council with the request for a

new assessment to be made for a pedestrian crossing on Water Orton Road in the absence of other protection for pedestrians from the speeding traffic.

ACTION
Asst. Clerk
02/13

14. Revision of Standing Orders.

The Chairman asked for his assimilation of the revisions to the NALC electronic version to be deferred to the March Council meeting for adoption.

03/13

15. Finance and Payments.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Rashid, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Wilkins, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the payments as listed and discussed be approved.

Admin Asst
31/1

16. Report of the Staff Panel.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Knibb, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Staff Panel held on Wednesday, 9th January 2013, having been circulated, be received and noted.

17. Report of the Leisure Services Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Mrs. Allen, **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. Haywood, **IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on Wednesday, 2nd January 2013, having been circulated, be received and noted.

18. 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, 19th December 2012 and 9th January, 2013 having been circulated, be received and noted.

19. Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Cllr Knibb reported he had attended a financial training event on Thursday 17th January. Cllr Mrs. Allen reported that on Tuesday 8th January she had attended the Youth Council meeting and a new member had been co-opted. The Media Studies teacher and 8 students from Park Hall Academy had attended and agreed to support the youth council's latest project by filming and producing two DVD's to promote the Youth Council. It had been suggested to extend filming to include other civic and council events to promote the open spaces and Arden Hall. A working party would be held on Monday 18th February to prepare outline plans. Cllr Mrs. Allen also reported that Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens would be holding their annual Snowdrop event on 9th/10th February.

FGP
13/2

20. Report of the Officer of the Council.

Following the recent snowfall and extremely cold temperatures, the Clerk commended all staff for their successful endeavours in keeping facilities open as normal for customers, many by walking to work. There had been problems with frozen locks and gates, coupled with some snow damage to Arden Hall that would be reported further by the Hall Manager at the next Leisure Services Committee meeting.

21. Report of the Chairman.

The Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting, accompanied by the clerk, with the independent investigator appointed by the Council to outline the issues of conflict with the hirer. Unfortunately it was likely that progress had been delayed a little due to the weather. The Chairman reminded everyone of his forthcoming Charity Quiz Night on Friday 1st February in the Spencer Suite.