

BRERETON AND RAVENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Hall and Property Management Committee held at the Parish Hall, Ravenhill Park, Brereton, on Thursday, 12th May 2022.

Present

Councillors Mrs P Ansell, K Ansell, Alderman R Easton, Mrs DM Easton, Mrs G Harvey, JC Harvey, Miss C Hodgkiss and Mrs L Johnson.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor DR Johnson.

Mrs R Davies [Clerk to the Committee] and Mr J Smith [Caretaker and Finance Officer] were also present.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Alderman R Easton be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest given at the commencement of the meeting.

3. APOLOGIES

Listed above.

4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor Mrs P Ansell be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7th April 2022, be approved and signed as a correct record.

6. MATTERS ARISING

Water Rates

The Clerk reported on a telephone conversation that had taken place between herself and Mr Tom Walsh [Parks and Open Spaces Manager], regarding correspondence that had been sent to him in respect of the Parish Council's excessive water charges. Charges included water used in the outside toilet and the park-keeper's toilet. Mr Walsh suggested that valves might be an option to control the amount of water flowing from the taps but he did stress that during the Covid pandemic the amount of footfall in the park had decreased and, therefore, the outside toilet would not have been used so it had not been a contributory factor in the increased water charges. The Committee had suggested port-a-loos for any outside events, ie Circus, Fairs, Brereton Carnival and events organised by Brereton Million. The suggestion was not taken up and, therefore, the situation had not been resolved.

Paddling Pool

Mr Tom Walsh from Cannock Chase District Council had confirmed that the pool would be opened by 4th June 2022.

Bar

Regarding the bar equipment, the Committee Clerk reported that she had not received a reply to the letter that had been sent to The Miners Arms. She was asked to follow up with a telephone call to ask if any of the equipment was needed and, if so, to request that this be collected as soon as possible.

7. NEWMAN GROVE ALLOTMENTS

The Committee Clerk had contacted the Estates Department at the District Council. The Housing Maintenance Manager had offered two dates to meet with the Chairman on 18th or 19th May. The Chairman stated that he would not be available on either date. Councillor JC Harvey was nominated as the Committee's representative to meet with the officer from the District Council. The Clerk would contact the Housing Maintenance Manager to confirm that Councillor JC Harvey would meet him at the allotments on 19th May [time to be confirmed].

8. PARISH HALL PROGRESS REPORT

↓ Hire Fees

The Clerk reported on the hire fees to 30th April 2022, which amounted to £1,304.49.

↓ Cathedral Leasing

The Clerk confirmed that the contract with Cathedral Leasing was for a term of 5 years.

↓ Request for discount of hire fee

The Clerk updated the Committee on a request by a Mrs Hall to use the Parish Hall on Carnival Day [9th July] to serve refreshments, the proceeds of which would be donated to the Alzheimer's Charity.

The Committee were in agreement that Mrs Hall should be invoiced at the charitable rate less 20%.

The Clerk was also asked to contact Mrs Hall to explain that it would only be the Main Hall and kitchen for hire – the Conference Room was not included. Eating and drinking was strictly prohibited in the Conference Room. It should also be pointed out that there may be some display boards in the Main Hall, ie The Landor Society and information regarding the Parish Council.

9. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

Alderman Easton brought to the attention of the Committee the lightweight fencing around the area where the Miners' Memorial was going to be situated. It was agreed that during the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the fencing could be stored in the office at the Parish Hall.

10. FAMILY NIGHT / HALLOWEEN PARTY

Suggested date: 29th October 2022 – 7.00 pm until 11.00 pm. The plan would be to bring your own food. There would be a disco and drinks would be available to purchase.

Everyone present at the meeting agreed that further discussion was needed at the next meeting of the Committee.

11. FINANCE REPORT

The report presented by John Smith, showing the income and expenditure of the Parish Hall as at 12th May 2022, was submitted for information and noted.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

That the next meeting be held on Thursday, 9th June 2022, at 7.30 p.m.

[Chairman]