



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

held on **Monday 15th April 2024** at 7.00pm

This meeting was held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Gravel Hill, Wombourne, WV5 9HA.

Present – Committee Members -

Councillors: Mike Davies, Mark Evans, Elizabeth Keeling, Dan Kinsey BEM, Vince Merrick, Matt Powell, Mary Roberts (Chairman)

Present – Non-Committee Members - Councillors: Alan Peace, Martin Perry, Ian Sadler, Daisy Tait

Absent without apologies – None

Clerk – Rachael Wright

Members of the public – One resident from Apse Close

22/24 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Barry Bond MBE and Jan Evans.

23/24 – Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mark Evans declared an interest in item 7 (Joan Williams Civic Award) noting one of the nominees was a personal friend. He also noted dealing with a demanding situation with another nominee recently, which he felt should remove him from the discussions.

Councillors Dan Kinsey BEM and Mary Roberts also declared an interest in item 7 (Joan Williams Civic Award) both noting they also had personal friendships with nominees, as well as Councillor Kinsey BEM being a Trustee of a Committee of one of the nominees.

24/24 – Approval of last Committee Meeting minutes from 18th March 2024

Members approved the minutes of the last meeting.

25/24 – Matters arising from 18th March 2024

None.

26/24 – Newsletter

Councillor Elizabeth Keeling informed members some of the working group had met that evening and would be producing a Spring newsletter to be published online no later than the end of May. The group had agreed there was enough content to produce a Summer edition too, which will include photographs and a summary of the forthcoming Community Showcase Event.

Two hand drawn pictures had been received from students at Blakeley Heath Primary School, so one would be used for the Spring edition and one used for the Summer edition.

Councillor Mary Roberts thanked members of the working group for their work on the project.

27/24 – Social Media Policy

Members approved the Social Media Policy.

7.06pm - Councillors Mark Evans, Dan Kinsey BEM and Mary Roberts left the room and in the absence of the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Mike Davies chaired item 28/24.

28/24 – Joan Williams Civic Award

- a) Members noted the list of previous winners.
- b) Members discussed several of the nominees noting their dedication to the village through various projects and community groups they are involved in.
Councillor Vince Merrick proposed Helena Plater should be given the award for 2023 for the countless hours she spends litter picking in the village. He noted she had formed a working relationship with South Staffordshire Council through the reporting of gas cannisters and spends time tending to the planters in the village too. She had also assisted the Parish Council with events in the last two years.
Councillor Elizabeth Keeling seconded the proposal, noting there was no wrong choice for the award, but she supported Councillor Vince Merrick’s proposal and agreed Helena was a worthy winner, particularly for assisting the Parish Council with their own events.
All members were in favour.
- c) Members agreed the other nominees should receive a shout out on social media for their nomination, after the Award for 2023 had been presented.

7.14pm – Councillors Mark Evans, Dan Kinsey BEM and Mary Roberts re-entered the room.

The meeting closed at 7.14pm.

Signed:

Dated: