



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

held on **Monday 1st July 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, Jan Evans (Vice-Chairman), Mark Evans, Elizabeth Keeling, Dan Kinsey BEM, Vince Merrick, Martin Perry, Mary Roberts (Chairman)

Present – Non-Committee Members - Councillors: Ed Hughes and Alan Peace (arrived 7.26pm)

Absent without apologies – None

Clerk – Rachael Wright

37/24 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Ian Sadler.

38/24 – Declarations of Interest

Councillor Dan Kinsey BEM informed members he was a member of the Best Kept Village Committee.

39/24 – Approval of last Committee Meeting minutes from 3rd June 2024

Members approved the minutes of the last meeting.

40/24 – Matters arising from 3rd June 2024

None

41/24 – Newsletter

Councillor Elizabeth Keeling informed members the final draft had been completed and she would share it with the Committee. The aim was to issue it no later than two weeks after the General Election.

42/24 – Christmas Lights Switch On Event

- a) Members noted St Bernadette's Primary School had agreed to perform
- b) Members noted 2 students from Cherry Trees School will attend to turn on the lights
- c) Members noted Paul Maddox would provide his usual PA system
- d) Members noted Fire Monkey Pyro have been booked to provide the usual firework display for £850
- e) Members noted the application for Christmas Lights has been submitted to EON and will be sent to Staffordshire County Council once their approval has been given
- f) Members agreed the Risk Assessment and rota for Councillors

43/24 – Small Business Saturday (Saturday 7th December 2024)

- a) The Clerk informed members both St Benedict Biscop Church and the United Reformed Church had agreed to open on the day to house performers. The United Reformed Church had also agreed for their Choir to perform on the day.

Unfortunately, neither the Rock Choir nor Got 2 Sing were available to perform that day. Members asked the Clerk to arrange for an advertisement to be put out on social media asking for performers and for contact to be made with the Schools to see if they were interested. In the mean time, Councillor Martin Perry agreed to make enquiries at the open mic night at the Round Oak public house and Councillor Ed Hughes agreed to enquire with family members.

- b) Members agreed for the Clerk and Councillors to make enquiries about performers and to report back at the next meeting.

44/24 – Request from Wombourne Best Kept Village Committee for litter pickers

Members agreed to donate 1/3 of their litter pickers to Wombourne Best Kept Village Committee when required.

45/24 – Engagement with residents in relation to the annual budget

Members agreed to seek specific feedback from residents in relation to the budget for targeted areas, such as Recreation and Amenities and High Street, using posts on social media and Microsoft Forms. The results will be shared with the relevant Committees prior to them agreeing their wish lists later in the year.

46/24 – Scarecrow Festival

- a) Members noted the festival will take place on Sunday 13th October from 12pm to 2pm
- b) Members noted that theme is the 80s in line with Kingsway Church’s 40th anniversary year
- c) Members noted the scarecrow can be placed outside the Civic Centre on Sunday 13th October or delivered to Kingsway Church on Saturday 12th October for them to put out the next morning
- d) Members noted the budget of £25
- e) No-one volunteered to create the scarecrow, so it was agreed the Chairman and Clerk should seek assistance from members of the public or community groups via social media

47/24 – Investment of Funds

- a) Members noted the recommendation in the Internal Audit Report, regarding the investment of funds
- b) Members received an update from Councillor Mary Roberts and the Clerk in relation to their call with CCLA
- c) Members noted the presentation pack from CCLA
- d) Members noted the feedback from other Parish Council’s in relation to CCLA
- e) Members considered the Clerk’s report agreeing with the recommendations contained within it
- f) Members agreed for the Clerk to invite CCLA to a Full Council meeting to receive their presentation and ask any appropriate questions.

The meeting closed at 7.38pm.

Signed:

Dated: