

A Report of the Bell Centre Sub Committee to the Parish Council

The Committee met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 22nd February 2016** in Committee Room 1 at the Parish Hall in Great Baddow. Councillor Mrs V Sadowsky chaired the meeting.

Present: Councillors Mrs V Sadowsky, Mrs D Ronaldson, Mrs M Miller, K Liley, J Fuller, Mrs J Sosin, Mrs V Chiswell and Mrs C Shaw

In attendance: The Clerk of the Council and the Assistant Clerk
Cllr T Miller

723/15 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

724/15 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Pecuniary Interests or Registerable Non Pecuniary Interests.

725/15 Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting held on 28th September 2015 were signed as a true record by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky. Proposed by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky and seconded by Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson.

726/15 Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

727/15 Clerks Report

There was no written Clerks report as the matters for updating were on the agenda.

728/15 Update Report on Hall Hire Numbers

A report prepared by the Assistant Clerk had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that party bookings at the Bell Centre remained low, and one regular hirer has cancelled their twice weekly classes. Two new groups are about to commence at the end of February, and these will offer pre-school classes in science, and singing/phonics. The YMCA are also running a second session in the Bell Centre on Wednesday evenings.

729/15 Bell Centre Rebuilding/Refurbishment

The Clerk reported that following the meeting of the Bell Centre Working Group, and advice received from the City Council planning officer, Hurley Porte Duell have been asked to look at alternative options for the Bell Centre, including reconsideration of an earlier survey of the building carried out in 2006, and any other options to refresh the existing structure. A reply is awaited.

730/15 Matters for Information

There were no matters for information.

731/15 Private and Confidential

It was resolved that the meeting would be closed to the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted in the following item. Proposed by Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Sosin.

732/15 Bell Centre Lease

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Parish Council's solicitor has received an email from Essex County Council regarding progress on the lease, and he has been advised to proceed with caution whilst Hurley Porte Duell are reconsidering the options for the building.

Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson enquired whether any further information was available about the effects of damage to the walls and ceiling of the building due to indoor ball games. The Clerk is investigating this matter and will contact Hurley Porte & Duell to request that they carry out a survey of the roof area and identify any potential hazards, and possible solutions.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson and seconded by Cllr J Fuller.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.03 pm.

Signed..... Chairman Date.....