

ALSAGER TOWN COUNCIL

**FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE**

MEETING HELD IN THE ALSAGER INSTITUTE  
ON TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2011

Present: Councillor W H Stevenson (Chairman)

Councillor R Ashley  
Councillor C V Burgess  
Councillor Mrs D Burgess  
Councillor Mrs M Camm  
Councillor D I Hough  
Councillor Ms H Robinson

Mr. T Fitton (Town Clerk)

1 member of the press  
No members of the public

11/64 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs J Burgess and R Tyson.

11/65 Declaration of Interests

There were no Declarations of Interests.

11/66 Minutes of the Meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Resolved: That, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purpose Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

11/67 Public Participation Period

There were no matters raised.

11/68 Grants Panel

The Committee considered the report of the meeting of the Grants Panel held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011, together with a schedule of recommended Grants to Voluntary Organisations under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the financial year 2012/13, as contained in the Budget Book 2012/13, in the sum of £15,790,

In addition, a request from the Rotary Club of Alsager for a grant of £250 towards the cost of the Annual Senior Citizens Show was considered for inclusion in the list of Grants for 2012/13.

Resolved: a) That, subject to the inclusion of the grant to the Annual Senior Citizens Show in the sum of £250, the report to be received and this Grant be taken from contingencies shown in the Grants Budget for 2012/13.

b) That, those present at the meeting be amended to read:-  
Councillor C V Burgess for Councillor Mrs J Burgess and Councillor Ms H Robinson included.

11/69 Alsager Walking Maps

Resolved: That, the request from Alsager Chamber of Trade for a financial contribution towards the next edition of the Alsager Walking Maps be agreed to be financed from the Earmarked Reserves for Footpaths (£750)

11/70 Accounts for Authorisation

Resolved: That, the report be received, the income noted and the payments authorised. (Appendix A)

11/71 Budget Monitoring Statement to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Resolved: That, the Budget Monitoring Statement of estimated income and expenditure to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011 be received and noted. (Appendix B)

11/72 Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That, in accordance with the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960 the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information.

11/73 Draft Budget 2012/13

In accordance with the Terms of Reference, the Committee considered the Draft Budgets for 2012/13 in respect of the Alsager Institute and the Town Council.

In respect of the Town Council, two Budgets had been prepared as follows:-

- Budget for Town Council administration including the costs of the proposed transfer of services from Cheshire East Council i.e.
  - Alsager Civic Hall
  - Public Conveniences, Crewe Road
  - Alsager Allotments
  - Alsager Market
  - Offices, 3 Lawton Road
- Town Council administration only without transferred services

The Institute Draft Budget has been considered by the Institute Committee and contained their recommendations.

The Committee then gave detailed consideration to the proposed spending plans and in particular the proposed growth items and it was:-

Resolved: a) That, the Institute Budget for 2012/13 be recommended for approval by the Town Council.

b) That, the following amendments be made to the Town Council Draft Budget (including Transferred Services) for 2012/13

Reductions in expenditure:

- Transitional costs £30,000 be used to reduce the Budget for 2012/13
- Anticipated outturn £10,000 be used to reduce the Budget for 2012/13
- Alsager Partnership Funding be reduced by £8,000 from £30,000 to £22,000
- Salaries Budget be reduced by £6,000

Additional Expenditure:

War Memorial Maintenance	£2,500
Institute Committee	£2,000
Christmas Tree/Lights	£500
Increase in contingency	£10,000

c) That, the unspent provision for Wood Park be retained as an Earmarked Reserve.

d) That, the Town Clerk be instructed to prepare a report providing further information on the staff working hours.

e) That, the amended Budget Book for the Town Council be considered at the Town Council's Budget Briefing on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2011 and then by the Town Council on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011 for final ratification.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and concluded at 9pm.

Councillor W H Stevenson  
Chairman