

ALSAGER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE ALSAGER INSTITUTE  
ON TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2009

Present: Councillor Mrs T E S Jones (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs D Burgess  
Councillor Mrs M Camm  
Councillor D I Hough  
Councillor W Howell  
Councillor S Roberson  
Councillor A Snape  
Councillor W H Stevenson  
Councillor R Tyson  
Councillor Mrs J Williams

Mr. T. Fitton (Town Clerk)  
Mrs. C A Jennings (Assistant)

12 members of the general public

Councillor Tyson opened the meeting with prayers.

09/863 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C V Burgess, Mrs G Burgess and Mrs J Burgess.

09/864 Declarations of Interest

Councillor A Snape declared a personal interest in all Planning Applications as a local contractor.

Councillor S Roberson declared an interest in Planning Application No 09/0491C

09/865 Minutes – Town Council

Resolved: That, the Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2009, Pages 1 – 6, and Appendices A & B be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

09/866 Matters Arising from the Town Council Meeting – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2009

Bus Service – First Potteries Service 20 (09/852)

The Chairman reported that after consultation with Cheshire East Council, First Potteries had agreed initially for 3 to 4 weeks to put a shuttle bus service connecting with Service 20 to Leighton Hospital on Sundays.

However after the initial period a full through service would be reinstated between Potteries, Crewe and Leighton Hospital.

#### Pedestrian Crossing/Bus Shelter Sandbach Road South

Councillor Fletcher indicated that he had nothing further to report on this issue but would continue to pursue the matter.

Councillor Howell stressed the need for drivers on Station Road to be warned of pedestrians crossing on Sandbach Road South going to the Primary Care Trust Health Centre.

09/867

#### Chairman's Announcements

25 <sup>th</sup> March	Last Meeting of Congleton Borough Council
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Presentation awards of Triton Hockey Club
29 <sup>th</sup> March	Service of Thanksgiving by Congleton Borough Council and Cheshire County Council
1 <sup>st</sup> April	First Mayor Making of Cheshire East
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Ladies evening at the Bank Corner to raise funds for Alsager in Bloom and other Charities
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Photo call at Bank Corner Bus Stop regarding cuts in No.20 bus service
6 <sup>th</sup> April	Competition at Alsager Bowling Club for the Town Council Trophy
6 <sup>th</sup> April	Annual Celebration of County Girl Guides
18/19 <sup>th</sup> April	Sandbach Annual Transport Festival

09/868

#### Public Participation

Sgt Steve Shepherd introduced the latest PCSO Sarah Jinks for Alsager and gave a progress report on policing in Alsager. It was agreed that Sgt Shepherd would attend a future Council meeting to give a comprehensive report and answer members questions on issues affecting Alsager.

The Chairman introduced Jason Price Town Handyman who reported on the jobs he had undertaken in the Town since he commenced his duties on 6<sup>th</sup> April. It was noted that he would make regular reports to the Town Council and members were asked to report any issues to him direct.

09/869

#### Cheshire East Car Parking Strategy

The Chairman reported that earlier that day Cheshire East Cabinet had approved the car parking charges and would be holding a public consultation exercise on the introduction of car parking charges on car parks across Cheshire East.

In the meantime, Councillor D Brickhill Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services Cheshire East had asked to meet the Town Council and representatives of certain organisations in the town to explain the strategy implications and to get the views of the local community on the car parking charge regime relating to Alsager car parks in particular Fair View Car Park.

After an informative discussion it was:-

Resolved: a) That, arrangements be made with Councillor Brickhill for an early meeting with the Town Council and a representative from local schools, organisations etc on this issue.

b) That, the Town Councils initial response to the Car Parking Strategy be agreed as follows:-

Alsager Town Council is opposed to the introduction of parking charges on car parks in Alsager and call for Cheshire East Council to conduct a comprehensive public consultation exercise before car parking charges are introduced so that the local community can have their say.

Furthermore, Alsager Town Council strongly urge Cheshire East to defer the introduction of car parking charges until the Town Centre Plan and the proposed supermarket development by Kimberley/Co-op have been settled as these major town centre developments could have an affect on the future number of spaces on Fairview car park.

09/870 Adoption of Mayoral Status for Alsager

Further to Min. 08/831(f) dated 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2009 the Town Council considered whether or not to adopt mayoralty status for Alsager.

During the ensuing debate members discussed the various historical and financial implications of any decision and it was:-

Resolved: That, a decision on the adoption of mayoralty status for Alsager be deferred and reviewed prior to the AGM in May 2010.

09/871 Alsager School Trust

Members will recall at the Council Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2009 (Min. 09/839 refers) David Black and John Girbow gave a presentation indicating that the schools in Alsager were each looking at becoming Foundation Schools and setting up Shared Trust for Alsager Schools.

As part of the consultation exercise, the Town Council is asked for its views and if members are mindful to support the change in the schools status, to appoint a Trustee to serve on the Trust, together with representatives of the other parties and a governor from each of the schools involved.

Resolved: That, Councillor W Stevenson be appointed as the Town Council representative on the Board of Trustees for Alsager Schools.

09/872 New Committee Structure – Amended Meetings Schedule 2009/10

Resolved: That the amended Schedule of Meetings for 2009/10 be approved.

09/873 Fairview Car Park – Supermarket Proposal

Resolved: That, the update note regarding the on-going discussions with Kimberley/Co-op be received and noted.

09/874 Commons Registration Act 1965 – Village Green Application

Further to Min 09/854 dated 24<sup>th</sup> March 2009 it was noted that there was no further information to report.

09/875 Alsager in Bloom/Civic Pride Meeting

Resolved: That, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Alsager in Bloom Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009 be received and noted.

09/876 Alsager Partnership

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Partnership held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2009 were submitted.

The Town Clerk reported that through SECE he had submitted a number of schemes in Alsager for consideration for funding from Cheshire East's Recession Task Group.

Resolved: That, the Minutes of the Meeting of Alsager Partnership held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2009 be received and noted.

09/877 Cheshire East issues.

Councillor Fletcher reported that Cheshire East had set up a Leisure Facilities Sub committee to look at leisure centres within Cheshire East and would keep the Town Council informed of any recommendations affecting the Alsager Leisure Centre.

09/878 Financial Issues

a) Internal Auditors Statement dated 20<sup>th</sup> March 2009

Resolved: That, the Internal Auditors Statement be received and noted. (Appendix A)

b) Chairman's Charity Account

Resolved: That, the Chairman's Charity Account be received and noted. (Appendix B)

c) Accounts for Authorisation

Resolved: That, the report be received and the payments authorised. (Appendix C)

d) Alsager Together Community Event – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Resolved: That, a budget of £200 max be made available from General Reserves in respect of the Town Councils involvement in this event.

e) Disposal of old Copier

Resolved: That, authorisation be given to the disposal of the old copier free of charge to Alsager Scout Group.

09/879 ChALC Training Courses April and May 2009

Dates of training courses were circulated to members and members were asked to inform Mrs C Jennings Assistant clerk if they wished to attend.

At this point in the proceedings the Chairman vacated the Chair in favour of the Vice Chairman Councillor S Roberson for the consideration of the planning applications.

With the permission of the Town Council Councillor J Williams took the Chair for the consideration of Plan 09/1491C because of the Vice-Chairman's declaration of interest in this application.

09/880 Planning Applications

The Town Council considered Planning Applications registered with Congleton Borough Council as follows:

Week ending 27/03/09 (None for Alsager)

Week ending 03/04/09 (No list)

Week ending 10/04/09

Week ending 17/04/09

Resolved: That, the Town Council's formal comments on all applications registered with Congleton Borough Council up to week ending 17<sup>th</sup> April 2009, be forwarded to the Head of Planning and Estates, Congleton Borough Council. (Appendix D)

**NOTE:**

Councillor D I Hough and Mrs S Jones were not present whilst Planning Applications were discussed and so did not take part in the decision-making process.

Councillor A Snape declared a personal interest in all Planning Applications as a local contractor and took no part in the discussion and did not vote on each application.

The Chairman returned to the meeting and declared the meeting closed.

Councillor Mrs T E S Jones  
Chairman