

ALSAGER TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD IN THE ALSAGER INSTITUTE
ON TUESDAY 8th JUNE 2010

Present: Councillor W H Stevenson (Chairman)

Councillor C V Burgess
Councillor W Howell
Councillor A Snape

Mr. T Fitton (Town Clerk)

10/33 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs J Burgess, Mrs M Camm and D I Hough.

10/34 Minutes of the Meeting – 13th April 2010

Resolved: That, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purpose Committee held on 13th April be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

10/35 Public Participation Period

There were no matters raised by members of the public.

10/36 Accounts 2009/10

Resolved: a) That, the Town Council Accounts and Statement of Balances for the year ending 31st March 2010 be approved.

b) That, the Institute Committee Accounts and Statement of Balances for the year ending 31st March 2010 be approved.

10/37 Local Service Delivery – Cheshire East Council

Further to Min/ 10/79 of the Town Council meeting dated 18th May 2010 and Min. 10/28 of the Finance and General Purpose Committee dated 13th April 2010, the Committee considered the Discussion Paper prepared by the Town Clerk regarding the financial impact on the Precept of undertaking additional services from Cheshire East Council and reviewed the Council's future financial strategy following HM Governments intention to introduce cuts in local government spending.

The Chairman then reported on the aggregate balances of the Town Council and a discussion ensued on financial measures that could be taken regarding the future level of precept and its was -

Resolved: That, the Town Clerk be requested to arrange a meeting of the Committee as and when information becomes available from Cheshire East Council regarding devolution of local services.

10/38 Accounts for Authorisation

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

10/39 Alsager Gardens Association Annual Show

The Committee considered a request form the Secretary of the Alsager Gardens Association for financial assistance towards hiring the Civic Hall for the Annual Show in September 2010.

The Town Council reported that the Gardens Association had received a grant from Cheshire East Council and accordingly did not now require financial assistance from the Town Council.

10/40 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.

10/41 Internal Auditors Report – Town Council Accounts 2009/10

The Committee considered the report of the Internal Auditors report following completion of the Audit of Accounts for 2009/10.

Resolved: That, the Internal Auditors report be received and noted.

10/42

Internal Auditors Report – Alsager Institute Accounts 2009/10

The Committee considered the report of the Internal Auditor following completion of the Audit of Accounts for 2009/10, together with the recommendations of the Institute Committee meeting held on 3rd June 2010.

The under-mentioned recommendations from the Institute Committee held on 3rd June 2010 were considered:-

- That VAT could not now be reclaimed and the accounts would reflect that position in future.
- Verification of goods received was now included in the accounts procedure.
- The current cash collection arrangements be confirmed and accepted as appropriate given the levels of cash involved at the Institute.
- Both Cash Collection and Health and Safety Risk Assessments were approved by the Institute Committee.
- Hirers are requested to send a copy of their Insurance Certificate with the booking application form and this condition is stated on the form.
- The Finance Committee be asked to undertake a full review of the Institute insurance arrangements.
- The Caretaker be instructed not to replace cash collected with a personal cheque when making his monthly bankings.
- The loss of income issues, referred to in the Internal Auditor's report, be accepted and approved as part of the normal hiring arrangements.
- The Institute Bowling Club be confirmed as owners of the paladin mower.

Resolved: a) That, the recommendations of the Institute Committee be approved.

b) That, the Internal Auditors report be received and noted.

10/43

Cash Handling Risk Assessment

Resolved: That, the revised Cash Handling Risk Assessment to be approved.

10/44

Civic Ball – Future Financial Arrangements

Resolved: That, further consideration be given to this matter following the receipt of a report to all Town and Parish Councils from ChALC.

The meeting commenced at 8pm and concluded at 8.45pm.

Councillor W H Stevenson
Chairman