

**ALSAGER TOWN COUNCIL**

**PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**  
**COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN ALSAGER INSTITUTE**  
**ON TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

Present: Councillor R Fletcher (Chairman)

Councillor S Bishop  
Councillor S Helliwell  
Councillor D I Hough  
Councillor T E S Jones  
Councillor C Pletscher  
Councillor R Tyson

N Clarke (Town Clerk)

1 Member of the Press  
2 Members of the Public

The Chairman read out the fire action procedure in the event of discovering a fire in the building.

PEC18/128 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Burgess, D Burgess, M Gruse, D Keen, H Robinson, J Smith and P Williams.

PEC18/129 Declarations of Interest

Councillor D I Hough declared his interest as a member of Cheshire East Council and a member of their Strategic Planning Board, he further declared that he would not be providing an opinion or voting on any application that he considered may be the subject of determination by the Strategic Planning Board. He declared an interest in Planning Application 18/2522C and left the room during the discussion.

Councillor R Fletcher declared his interest as a member of Cheshire East Council.

Councillor C Pletscher declared her interest as a member of ANPSG.

Councillor R Tyson declared his interest in Planning Application 18/5421T as the applicant.

Councillor S Helliwell declared her interest as a member of Friends of Wayside Linley.

PEC18/130 Quality Council Status

Councillor R Fletcher informed the Committee that Alsager Town Council have been awarded Quality Council status by the National Association of Local Councils. The Committee expressed their thanks to the Town Clerk and congratulations to the

staff for the achievement. Councillor T E S Jones and Councillor D I Hough reiterated the award is confirmation that the Town Council conforms to the correct Governance.

PEC18/131 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting dated Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were referred to and it was: -

Resolved: That, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Environment and Community Services Committee dated Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

PEC18/132 Matters Arising

The Town Clerk clarified issues on correspondence from Cheshire East Council on highway issues at Close Lane.

Councillor S Helliwell informed the Committee that further to PEC18/121 she took the motion to a Cheshire East Council Cabinet Meeting. Cheshire East Council will support living walls for new planning applications and any conditions imposed will be determined on an individual basis.

PEC18/133 Public Participation

The Chairman read out Standing Order 2 in respect of Public Participation.

The following issues were raised: -

- 1) A resident queried the cost of the proposed Town Centre Manager.
- 2) A resident complained about flooding at the top of Brookhouse Road/ Station Road and that leaves are not being cleared on the only pavement in the area, making it dangerous to walk.

Resolved: The Town Clerk to action where necessary.

PEC18/134 Planning Applications

The Planning, Environment and Community Services Committee considered Planning Applications registered with Cheshire East Council as follows:

Week ending 02/11/18  
Week ending 09/11/18  
Week ending 16/11/18 (to be circulated)

Resolved: That, the Planning, Environment and Community Services Committee's formal comments on all applications registered with Cheshire East Council up to week ending 16/11/2018 be forwarded to the Planning Officer, Cheshire East Council. (Appendix A)

PEC18/135 Decisions List

The Chairman referred to the circulated decisions list as received from the Planning Authority, Cheshire East Council up to week ending 16/11/2018.

Resolved: That, the Decisions List be received and noted.

Councillor D I Hough left the meeting.

PEC18/136 Planning Application 18/2522C

Resolved: The Committee approved a statement urging refusal of the application to be read on behalf of Alsager Town Council at Strategic Planning Board on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018. Appendix B.

Councillor D I Hough returned to the meeting.

PEC18/137 Neighbourhood Plan

Resolved: That, the Minutes of the Alsager Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held on 5<sup>th</sup> September and 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018 are received.

PEC18/138 Budget Monitoring Statement

The Chairman made reference to the Budget Monitoring Statement for October.

Resolved:

- i) That, the Budget Monitoring Statements for P7 FY2018/19 (October 2018) be received.
- ii) That, the requested budget virements be recommended to Council for approval.

PEC18/139 Draft Planning, Environment and Community Committee Budget 2019/20

The Committee considered the Draft Budget 2019/20. Queries were raised on PCSO provision and Neighbourhood Plan costs.

Resolved: That,

- (a) To note the budgetary position for FY2019/20 with regards to CCTV provision, to acknowledge the risk involved, and to recommend to Finance, Policy & Governance Committee that general reserves be identified as the source of funding for additional CCTV provision in the budget year, should the need arise.

- (b) To note the budgetary position for FY2019/20 with regards to Christmas Tree sponsorship, to acknowledge the risk involved, and to identify to Finance, Policy & Governance Committee the impact on general reserves if the risk is recognised.

- (c) That, the Planning, Environment and Community Committee put forward the Draft Budget for FY2019/20 as proposed, total net expenditure of £36,024, to Finance, Policy

& Governance Committee for inclusion in the overall budget, on the understanding that there may be some further marginal changes prior to Finance, Policy & Governance Committee should any new information come to light.

PEC18/140 Cheshire East Council Telephone System

The Committee considered a request from a member of public that Cheshire East Council change 0300 numbers to 0800 to remove any charges to phone calls. Councillor S Helliwell reported that she had received a response from the leader of Cheshire East Council, Councillor R Bailey saying she has asked the housing team to look at potential solutions.

Resolved: That, i) The Town Clerk write to Cheshire East Council to urge the Council to move to free telephone calls to Cheshire East Council at no cost.

ii) That the Town Clerk write to Fiona Bruce MP to ask her to lobby government to ensure all homeless charities provide free to use phone lines.

PEC18/141 Cheshire East Council Budget Consultation 2019/20

The Committee considered the Draft Budget.

Resolved: That, a working group open to all members meet to prepare a response to be approved at the next Planning, Environment and Community Committee Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

PEC18/142 Cheshire East Council Crewe Hub Station Area Action Plan

The Committee noted the consultation.

PEC18/143 Members Item – Councillor S Helliwell – Wayside Linley Play Area

Further to resolution TC17/102 of 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 the Committee received a recommendation from Councillor S Helliwell to create an Earmarked Reserve for Wayside Linley Play Area.

Resolved: i) To recommend to Full Council the creation of an Earmarked Reserve from General Reserves of £905 for Wayside Linley Play Area, relating to unutilised ‘activities for young people’ budget from FY17/18.

ii) Funding from the £905 will have to be applied for via a grant application which will be considered following the approved procedure.

PEC18/144 Members Item – Councillor C Pletscher – Town Centre Manager

Further to resolution PEC18/119 of 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018, Councillor C Pletscher introduced the item to include funding in the Draft 2019/20 Budget for provision of a Town Council Manager.

- Resolved:
- i) To recommend inclusion of £16,618 in the 2019/20 Town Council Draft Budget to identify as funding for a Town Centre Manager and support their activities. The sum is calculated at actual salary for 6 months (3 days per week) and £5,000 to support activities for 6 months.
  - ii) To recommend the creation of an Earmarked Reserve to transfer any balance remaining in the Neighbourhood Plan Budget when the plan is completed to be identified as funding for a Town Centre Manager.

PEC18/145 Member Item – Councillor R Fletcher – CEC 17/18-62 Waste Collection

Councillor R Fletcher introduced the proposals by Cheshire East Council to change Waste Collections to allow food waste to be collected, garden waste to be collected for 12 months and a change to collection times.

- Resolved: To send a response to support the improved collection times but concerns about early collections due to noise issues.

PEC18/146 Cheshire East Fire Authority Budget Consultation 2019/20

The Committee considered the consultation.

- Resolved: That, the same Working Group from PEC18/141 prepare a response to bring to the next meeting to be submitted to the Fire Authority.

PEC18/147 HS2 Growth Strategy

The Committee noted the consultation and potential impact on Alsager.

PEC18/148 Highways Issues

The Committee noted the following:

- i) Correspondence from a resident on highway issues at Close Lane/ Dunnocksfold Road.
- ii) Councillor S Helliwell informed the meeting that horses, apparently abandoned on a field at Crewe Road have been visited by the RSPCA twice to check their welfare and are satisfied they are healthy. BAE Systems are due to visit the site.
- iii) Councillor T E S Jones spoke of the poor state of the pavements at the junction of Lawton Road/ Crewe Road/ Sandbach North and South Roads. Despite promises by Cheshire East Highways no work has taken place.
- iv) Councillor S Helliwell asked for an update on signage at Meadowcroft.

- Resolved: That, the Town Clerk action where necessary.

PEC18/149 Licensing Issues

None reported

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and concluded at 8.45pm.

Councillor R Fletcher  
Chairman

F E M A L E