

# CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009

PRESENT Councillors N J Bayley (Chairman)  
G Baxendale  
Mrs L Bossons  
Mrs S A Holland  
D Murphy  
  
E Clarke (Town Mayor-ex officio)

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D T Brown (Deputy Mayor), D Martin and D Parker.

### 2. MINUTES

FAP/11/0910 **RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2009 be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr G Baxendale declared a personal interest in Items relating to Cheshire East Council.  
Cllrs N J Bayley and G Baxendale declared a personal & prejudicial interest in Item 8(a)-Astbury Mere Trust-as Trustees.

### 4. ACTION ON MINUTES

There were no outstanding items.

### 5. GRANT APPROVALS & COMMITMENTS 2009/10

Committee noted the grant expenditure and commitments for 2009/10.

Following a discussion on the balance of the Grants budget which was available for distribution during the remainder of the financial year, it was:-

FAP/12/0910 **RESOLVED** That all current and future applicants be advised that the Committee only has limited funds left for distribution during the next 6 months and that, accordingly, requests for substantial grants cannot be accommodated to the degree of expectations. However, the Committee will scale down awards to contribute to as many worthwhile projects as possible.

### 6.. LETTER OF THANKS

A letters of thanks from St Peter's Church was noted.

## 7. DEFERRED APPLICATION-HOMESTART

As requested at the last meeting, a representative of Homestart attended the meeting and gave a short presentation on their bid for funding.

FAP/13/0910 **RESOLVED:** That a grant of £1000 be made towards operating costs.

## 8. OTHER DEFERRED APPLICATIONS

The following deferred applications were considered for financial assistance:-

FAP/14/0910 **RESOLVED:** That the following actions be approved:-

- a) Astbury Mere Trust-Approve grant of £750 towards operating costs (Councillor Bayley vacated the chair for the discussion of this application and took no part in the proceedings. The Vice Chairman-Councillor Mrs S A Holland took the chair for the item)
- b) Congleton Youth Projects Ltd-Approve grant of £1000 towards various 2009/10 projects.
- c) Holy Trinity Church, Mossley-Defer to next meeting for a decision on the application made by the church to Garfield Weston

## 9. NEW APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The following applications were considered for financial assistance:-

FAP/15/0910 **RESOLVED:** That the following actions be approved:

- i) Dane Valley Scout Group: Approve grant of £1000 towards building project..
- ii) Warrior Martial Arts: Refuse on the grounds that the organisation does not meet the approved criteria.
- iii) Congleton Operatic Society: Defer until the 2008 claim has been settled to the satisfaction of the Town Clerk
- iv) Church of St James The Great: Approve grant of £900 towards improvements to the heating system.
- v) Victoria Mill Arts Group: Approve grant of £450 towards Arts Centre Project.
- vi) Kiss Group-Noted but propose to deal with grant application for free use of Town Hall.

## 10. CONGLETON TOWN HALL

FAP/16/0910 **RESOLVED:** That the following applications for concessionary use of the Town Hall be approved:-

- i) Macclesfield and Congleton District Scout Group-Charities Fayre-£85
- ii) Congleton Town Council and Congleton Community Projects-Christmas Lights event-£400
- iii) St Stephens Church-Christmas Fair-£105
- iv) Congleton in Bloom-"A Splash of Red"-£200 and request full details of the event
- v) Congleton Kiss Group-Careers Exhibition-£776

## 11. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR APRIL-JULY 2009

FAP/17/0910 **RESOLVED:** That the report and Accounts now submitted by the Support Manager be approved and that the revised format be continued.

## 12. 2009/10 BUSINESS PLAN

FAP/18 /0910 **RESOLVED:** That the progress report now submitted by the Change Management Consultant be received

13. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were none

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) FAP/19/0910 **RESOLVED:** That the proposals now submitted by the Town Clerk for expenditure within the approved budget for the 2009 Town Centre Christmas Illuminations be approved
- b) The Town Clerk reported that the Audit Commission had completed the Annual Audit in respect of the Accounts for 2008/9 and had issued a clear report, subject to the level of fidelity insurance cover being reviewed. Committee expressed its satisfaction with this position and authorised the Town Clerk to undertake the review.

N J Bailey  
CHAIRMAN