CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE Held on 25th February 2010

PRESENT Councillors N J Bayley (Chairman)

G Baxendale
G R Edwards
D Martin
D Murphy
D A Parker
E Clarke (Mayor)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from, D T Brown (Deputy Mayor).

2. MINUTES

FAP/36/0910 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 7th January be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr G Baxendale declared a personal interest in item 6(iii)

4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

There were no outstanding actions.

5. GRANT APPROVALS & COMMITMENTS 2009/10

The Committee noted the grant expenditure and commitments for 2009/10 and noted that £6625 is still available in the budget for grants.

6. NEW APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The following applications were considered for financial assistance:-

i) Mossley Old School Trust, Community Centre

Correspondence from Mossley Old School Trust requesting a grant towards the cost of purchasing an external notice board, however because of the healthy reserves enjoyed by the Trust this was not considered appropriate.

ii) Mencap

A letter from Mencap requiring financial support was considered, but as no local benefit to the community was apparent, this was declined.

iii) Congleton Carnival Committee

Congleton Carnival Committee requested grant support for the Carnival Parade and Fun Day in the Park on the 10th July 2010. It was noted that this event satisfied goals 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Town Council's Strategic Goals.

FAP 37/0910 RESOLVED that a grant of £3750 p.a. be provided for the cost (£7500 in total)

7. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

i) Amenities and Services Committee

<u>FAP 38/0910 RESOLVED</u> the allocation of £3000 for a storage cabinet be approved, but, proposed that this should be funded via a virement from the grant fund rather than the Town Hall budget.

ii) Community and Environment Committee

FAP 39/0910 RESOLVED that

- a) A grant of £105 be approved to cover the cost of the Energy Technology Trust hiring the Town Hall.
- b) That the setting aside of £1500 from the Regeneration Budget be approved to support the small Hydro-Power Generation Scheme at Mill Weir.

8. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT VISIT

The Clerk reported that there wasn't sufficient support to organise a visit the European Parliament in March, however, Cllr Whitehurst intends to organise a similar visit in September 2010. The committee endorsed the notion of visiting the European Parliament with the Youth Council and encouraged councillors to attend to support the Youth Council.

9. TO CONSIDER APPOINTING ADDITIONAL COUNCILLORS AS BANK SIGNATORIES

The notion of appointing additional Bank Signatories was discussed by the committee and it noted that it was sometimes difficult to get cheques signed as there are insufficient accredited cheque signatories

<u>FAP 40/0910 RESOLVED</u> that Cllrs S A Holland; D Martin and D Murphy be appointed as bank signatories.

10. Corporate Business Plan 2010-11

The revised Corporate Business Plan and accompanying Monitoring Report was discussed by the members.

FAP 41/0910 RESOLVED that the Corporate Business Plan for 2010/11 be approved and adopted.

11. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR APRIL - JANUARY 2010

A report produced by J Potts on the status of the Accounts for April 09 to January 10 was considered. The committee requested that their thanks and appreciation be passed onto the Support Manager for her hard work and for producing an excellent report.

FAP 42/0910 RESOLVED that the report be received.

12. Any Other Business

Cllr Murphy commented that the Pub Watch Group were organising a Jazz Festival in the Town in 7 or 8 pubs. Cllr Baxendale suggested that he may be able to get some publicity for the event through CEC.

<u>FAP 43/0910 RECOMMENDED</u> that Pub Watch be contacted to ascertain whether financial support is required and if appropriate should apply for a grant which may be available up to the value of £500.

N J Bailey CHAIRMAN