

<b>SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL</b>
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held at 7.15 pm on 10 March 2005 at the Mayor's Room, Westfields.

**PRESENT** Councillors: M R Sherman, Chairman  
 Mrs D E Alcock  
 E A Lea  
 D Lloyd-Griffiths  
 J J Moore  
 B E Moran, Vice-Chairman  
 W W Scragg  
 R W Sutton (for item 6.2)

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors: Mrs M E Smith, Chairman of the Council  
 Mrs P E M Price  
 N T Price

**2. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR APPROVAL**

**RESOLVED:** that the statement be approved.

**3. BUDGET PROJECTION FOR APPROVAL**

**RESOLVED:** that the projection be approved.

**4. CONFIRM STATEMENT OF 'EAR MARKED' RESERVES**

The Clerk stated that an order had been placed for the last road sign with Prismo at a cost of £128.90.

The Clerk was asked to contact the new Highway engineer to enquire about plans for the cobbles in the Market Square.

The Clerk was asked to get details of the Warmingham P C source of Cheshire fencing renewal and to propose assistance to Joint Highways to repair the damaged section of Cheshire fencing near the junction of Church Lane and Congleton Road.

**RESOLVED:** that the statement of 'ear-marked' reserves be approved.

**5. CHEQUES FOR PAYMENT**

The following cheque was approved for payment: -

Cheshire County Council – Library notice board	£50.00
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**RESOLVED:** that surprise is expressed to the Library on the need for this payment following the Council's generous contribution to the Library extension.

## 6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5 FEBRUARY 2005

### 6.1 Town Crier Competition and Sandbach Festival of Transport

**RESOLVED:** that the £1,000 allocated to the Transport Festival be re-allocated to the Town Crier competition for the year 2005.

### 6.2 RHS, Tatton Park

Cllr Alcock declared an interest as a member of Sandbach in Bloom and took no part in the debate. Members felt that since Sandbach in Bloom were not directly involved the declaration was not necessary.

CBC had intended to enter a garden based on a Sandbach theme. The Town Council agreed that the Finance Committee should consider making a sum of £2,000 or more available for the project. Cllr Sutton spoke on behalf of the project believing that it would provide invaluable advertising for the town. However, he had been informed that CBC wanted the Town Council to underwrite the cost of the project to the level of £14,000.

**RESOLVED:** that the recommendation to grant £2,000 towards the project is endorsed subject to the resolution of the problem of the additional funding at a meeting to be organised between Cllrs Sherman, Moran and Lloyd-Griffiths for the Town Council and the Public Services Director and the Community Portfolio Holder for the Borough.

## 7. NATIONAL AGREEMENT ON SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

NALC and the SLCC have negotiated the terms of a new National Agreement on terms and conditions of employment for clerks and other officers of town, parish and community councils. This agreement, which replaces the agreement established in 1996, comes into force on 1 April 2005 following its recent formal adoption by both organisations.

Cllr Lloyd-Griffiths agreed to examine the document.

**RESOLVED:** that this agreement is received and passed to the Quality Committee for recommendation to the Town Council.

## 8. INTERNAL AUDITOR

**RESOLVED:** that the engagement documents are received.

## 9. SANDBACH LITERARY INSTITUTION

The Clerk read out minutes of a meeting with the architect and the trustees held the previous Tuesday, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Cllr Lloyd-Griffiths had prepared a second draft of the proposed lease that it was intended to give to the trustees.

**RESOLVED:** that the report be received and that progress reports are submitted to the Quality meeting on 31 March and the Town Council on 7 April.

## 10. LETTERS OF THANKS FOR DONATIONS

### 10.1 Brereton Hand Bell Ringers

**RESOLVED:** that the letter of thanks with plans for the future is received.

**10.2 South and East Cheshire Special Olympics**

**RESOLVED:** that their letter of thanks is received.

**10.3 Sandbach Voices**

**RESOLVED:** that their letter of thanks is received.

**11. APPLICATIONS FOR DONATIONS****11.1 Annual donations**

It was noted that the Council's application form had been sent to both Camshaft and Relate but that no replies had yet been received.

**11.2 CVS – General Funds**

They requested a sum of £1,060 for the financial year 2005/6. It was pointed out that the money be used to reinforce their already healthy revenue reserves. It was not the Council's policy to provide core funding for the organisation's normal operation. Members would have been more sympathetic if the money had been sought for a specific project.

**RESOLVED:** that no grant is made.

**11.3 Sandbach Arts Concert 15 April 2005**

**RESOLVED:** that a donation of £100 is made towards the cost of promoting the concert to be held on 15 April.

**11.4 Sandbach High School and Sixth Form College Sports College - Senior Citizen Christmas Lunch and Concert**

**RESOLVED:** that a grant of £150 is made towards the cost of the event in 2005.

**11.5 Wesley Centre – Renovation of Chapel Street Building**

**RESOLVED:** that a grant of £15,000 out of 2005/6 funds is made towards the projected cost of £530,000. The money is not to be spent on fees and will be available on demand after the building work has begun.

**11.6 First Sandbach Guides – International Guide Camp in the New Forest**

**RESOLVED:** that a grant of £150 is made towards their cost of transporting the guides to and from the event.

**11.7 Lions Youth Brass – Relocation to Sandbach School**

**RESOLVED:** that a grant of £600 is made towards their unbudgeted costs resulting from their relocation to Sandbach School.

**11.8 ChildLine North West**

Members were not prepared to support charities that could afford to advertise on prime-time television.

**RESOLVED:** that no donation is made.

## **12. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **12.1 Sports Relief**

They are a source of funds for sporting organisations. Copies have been sent to SRUFC and SUFC.

**RESOLVED:** that the letter is received.

## **13. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** that the next Finance Committee Meeting will take place on 28 April 2005 at the Mayor's Room, Westfields.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

M R Sherman  
Chairman

Ref: FCM100305