



**7. TOWN CRIER COMPETITION**

**RESOLVED:** that since the Town Crier competition for the year 2005 is not to take place the £1,000 allocated to the competition is returned to Revenue Reserves.

**8. RHS, TATTON PARK**

It is understood that the necessary funding was not available and therefore the project would not go ahead. A CBC press release was tabled that confirmed this understanding but that made no mention of the £2,000 offered by the Town Council. The Clerk was instructed to contact Mr David Dingle to ask why he had had no reply to his proposal to a meeting to consider funding.

**RESOLVED:** that the £2,000 in Earmarked Reserves is transferred to General Reserves.

**9. SANDBACH LITERARY INSTITUTION**

Cllr Moore declared an interest as a Trustee and took no part in the debate.

Cllr Lloyd-Griffiths gave a report on the progress made by the council working group. They had had a meeting with Trustee representatives and their solicitor, Mr David Cowgill. The lease agreement would be redrafted to reflect the Council's proposals. The basic rent would be based on £6 per square foot and would be discounted to recognise the major grant made towards the Institution's refurbishment. The discount would be 50% for the first two years, 25% for the third and 10% for subsequent years. The Council would pay £500 towards the cost of heating in the first year. This figure would be adjusted in future years in the light of experience. Electricity supply to the Council area would be separately metered. The Council would pay for the additional metering. The Council will pay for the cost of making the two rooms suitable for occupation except that the Trustees would contribute the value of the surplus furniture and £1,000. The £1,000 would be off-set against rent over a period to be agreed. The Trustees would manage the work on the premises.

The Clerk had received a quotation £612 for the installation of the electricity meter.

**RESOLVED:** that approval for a budget of £12,000 should be sought from the next Council Meeting and that a detailed estimate should be prepared as soon as possible for the cost of making the two rooms suitable for occupation.

**RESOLVED:** that the electrical work is implemented at the above price.

**10. LETTERS OF THANKS FOR DONATIONS****10.1 The Guide Association**

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

**10.2 The Wesley Centre**

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

## 11. APPLICATIONS FOR DONATIONS

### 11.1 Sandbach Clean Team

Members supported the general initiative of the Clean Team but were unhappy about certain aspects of the application. The Council did not have powers to fund publicity and therefore could not support the first three items on the list. In view of the support that they were giving to the CBC environmental services it was surprising that consumable items were not available from the Borough.

Members were also curious about the Clean Team's interaction with other groups such as the Sandbach in Bloom and the Friends of Sandbach Station.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk writes to Mr Macaulay with the above comments and invites a response.

### 11.2 Wheelock Primary School

Following their grant application to the meeting on 18 November they submitted a letter detailing the proposed work. Members felt that the size of the scheme was much greater than that with which the Council could be involved. We are not normally in a position to be the major funder of projects. If they had they sought a smaller sum we could have been more helpful.

**RESOLVED:** that the application is refused.

### 11.3 Friends of Sandbach Station

It was noted that they have asked for and have been supplied an application form.

### 11.4 The 1651 Committee

They seek a grant of £2,000 towards an event to be held in 2006. Members had not changed their attitude to the event. Long-standing residents of Sandbach were ashamed of the town's role in 1651 and did not believe that it was a cause for celebration. A periodic festival of this nature was not a useful addition to the Town calendar.

**RESOLVED:** that the application is refused.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE

### 12.1 Joint Highways – Sandbach Market Square

The new District Engineer, Mr Wood had stated that no action is likely until next year. This was mainly because money had been allocated elsewhere. Members were very unhappy about the Town Council's efforts for partnership working being frustrated.

**RESOLVED:** that a letter is sent to Mr Peter Cocker, Director of Environment, with copies to Mr Steve Kent, the new County Engineer and Mr Wood expressing the Town Council's frustration at having its agreement to help fund renovation of the Market Place ignored, to demand that funds are reallocated back to the Sandbach Market Square project and to invite them all to a site meeting to take place in five weeks time.

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

**RESOLVED:** that the next Finance Committee Meeting will take place on 23 June 2005 at the Mayor's Room, Westfields.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

M R Sherman  
Chairman

Ref: FCM280405