ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee held on Monday 10th January 2011

Present: Cllr F Keegan (Chairman), Cllrs M D Lloyd, M W Maczkowiak, D G Herald

M H Williamson, N Schofield, P P Tomlinson

In attendance: 1 representative from the press (alderleyedge.com); no members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

Received from Cllrs A Jones, Y Wrinch and C Andrew (Cheshire East).

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2010.

Approval proposed by Councillor A Jones, seconded by Councillor M W Maczkowiak and carried (at the Parish Council meeting of 8th November 2010 – point 6 on page C13).

3. Matters arising.

None.

4. Recommendations for expenditure.

a) To retrospectively approve the following items:

£

- By-Pass Opening Event - Lunch

2,500.00

Payment proposed by Councillor M H Williamson, seconded by Councillor M W Maczkowiak and carried, with one abstention (Councillor D G Herald).

b) To consider any other recommendations/requests.

None.

5. To approve the Schedule of Items paid.

Approval proposed by Councillor P P Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor M H Williamson and carried.

6. To approve the Statement of Accounts.

Approval proposed by Councillor P P Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor M H Williamson and carried.

7. To approve the Summary of Operations for the Festival Hall.

Approval proposed by Councillor M H Williamson, seconded by Councillor P P Tomlinson and carried.

8. To agree the Festival Hall budget for 2011/12.

The proposed budget figures had been issued prior to the meeting.

There was some discussion as to the likely income and expenditure for the ensuing year.

It was decided to increase the proposed expenditure to account for the possibility of appointing a marketing/hall manager on a paid basis – up to £15,000 as a part-time role.

It was also decided to show in the main budget (see next point below) a contingency sum of £40,000 to cover possible expenditure on the Hall roof as concerns remain that work on it will be needed at some point.

Councillor M D Lloyd then proposed, Councillor M H Williamson seconded and it was carried that the figures represented a sound budget based on the known facts and use of the building seen to date and expected over the coming months.

The suggested income and expenditure would be carried into the Parish Council budget to be considered as the next item.

9. To agree the Parish Council budget for 2011/12 and set a Precept.

Councillor F Keegan invited comments on the proposed budget figures which had been issued prior to the meeting, (but now needed adjustment in respect of the Festival Hall figures) explaining the rationale for the amounts included where necessary.

Changes were agreed as follows:

- Adjust the Festival Hall expenditure figure by £15,000
- Adjust the Christmas Lights figure to £21,000 reflecting the new quote for refurbishment
- Add a contingency for the Festival Hall roof £40,000
- Amend the proposed precept figure to £90,000

The councillors felt that the reduction in the precept from last year's £120,000 to £90,000 was justified and produced a balanced budget.

Otherwise, the amounts as stated in the papers circulated were felt to reflect the expected expenditure as far as could be predicted at present. *The updated summary of the figures is enclosed for parish councillors.*

Accordingly, Councillor M H Williamson proposed, Councillor M W Maczkowiak seconded and it was carried that a precept of £90,000 be requested to be collected by the Cheshire East Council.

10. Report from relevant councillor regarding Internal Controls.

Councillor A Jones undertook the check on 7/10/10 and confirmed all was in order. The clerk advised that a further check was needed towards the end of January.

11. Notices and Correspondence.

None.

12. Reports from Councillors.

None.

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For
Clerk	Request precept to be collected by Cheshire East Council	By 14/1

Councillor F Keegan CHAIRMAN